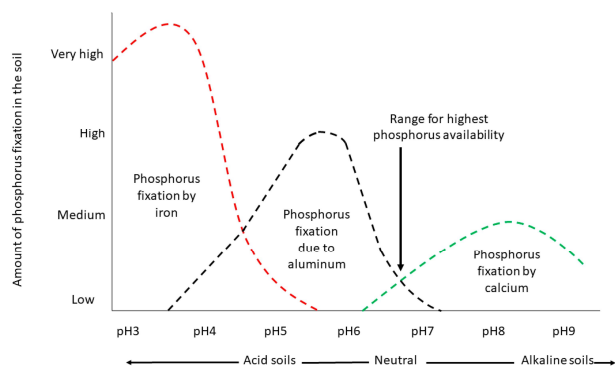
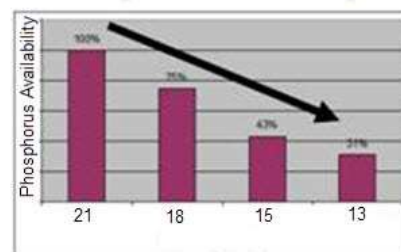


Watch out for low "P" symptoms

Given the underwhelming temperatures and growing conditions for most of May, growers should be on the lookout for signs of poor phosphate availability and uptake given cooler soil temperatures. If you've ever seen purple corn in May or early June then you probably have an understanding of this concept, particularly those relying on 100% broadcasted fertility programs. Phosphorus is a nutrient that is greatly needed for high yields in crop production. It stimulates root development, increases stalk and stem strength, improves flower formation and seed production, improves crop quality, and supports development throughout the entire life cycle of the plant. Phosphorus is very insoluble, so movement is very slow. Placement and maintaining good soil levels of phosphorus are essential. An example of this is if you have loam soil, Phosphorus must be less than 1/4" from the root to be taken up. Phosphorus does not readily leach out of the root zone. The loss of phosphorus mainly stems from erosion and run-off of fertilizer or soil-adsorbed P. When making recommendations, your crop advisor will be considering multiple indicators from your soil test including your soil pH values which dictates how available your soil phosphorus is to grow a crop in any particular year. The chart below shows where the "sweet spot" is for pH in terms of availability of phosphorus and how both higher and lower pH values can negatively affect the availability of this critical nutrient. Beyond soil chemistry, soil temperature also plays a significant role in providing early season adequate amounts of P205 for your crop.



Soil temperature and P uptake



Phosphorus availability is further reduced in cold soils

2025 Product Return Deadlines

We accept returns for any **unopened, undamaged** seed, skids, bulk bags or unopened chemical jugs. We do ask the following:

1. If we are picking up returns at your site, we prefer it if you can be there to help load. If you cannot be, please leave returns out for us, and if required, we will ask for approval to use your equipment.
2. If you are bringing returns to any of our locations, please ensure all products are on a skid to help ease the unloading process. Please call ahead to let us know you are bringing back returns.
3. **Corn and soybean seed returns are due by June 13th.** We are no longer accepting cereal and forage returns. Please call the office should you have questions. Please return all **unopened crop protection products** as soon as you are finished with the product or **by July 31.**



Holmes Agro Credit Update During Canada Post Labour Negotiations

To ensure timely receipt of your monthly Holmes Agro monthly statements, we recommend signing up for emailed statements and invoices. Please message: receivables@holmesagro.com

We suggest using alternate methods to send payments, including online banking, e-transfer or paying in person at our offices. Give us a call for assistance. Thank you!



Planting Progress & Scouting Update

Planting is well underway in our region, thanks to a favorable stretch of weather that allowed for significant progress. Many corn and soybean fields have now been seeded. However, the cooler temperatures we've been experiencing—particularly those dipping below 5°C at night—have had a downside, especially when it comes to weed control in wheat.

Phenoxy herbicides have shown reduced effectiveness under these cool conditions, which has impacted control of broadleaf weeds in wheat fields. It's important to monitor your wheat closely for any signs of poor weed control and consider whether additional action may be needed.

With most crops now in the ground, a large number of pre-emerge herbicides have also been applied. Recent rains have helped activate these products, improving their efficacy. As we move into the next few weeks, keep an eye out for any weed escapes—especially in fields that did not receive a pre-emerge treatment. This is the time to begin planning your post-emergence herbicide applications.

Wheat development is progressing, with most fields approaching the flag leaf stage. This means heading is likely about two weeks away. As heading begins, it's crucial to prepare for fusarium head blight (FHB) fungicide applications. The image below outlines the optimal timing for these sprays which is between 20-50% flower. The fungicides of choice are Miravis Ace & Prosaro Pro for FHB protection.

Optimal application timing for fusarium head blight (FHB) management in wheat.



¹ Can vary based on environmental conditions.

Clean Farms Collection Now Open

Clean Farms collections are NOW OPEN! To keep ahead of the volume of recycling bags growers MUST call ahead when they have jugs/bags to return.

As always, jugs must be triple rinsed, with lids and labels removed. Check cleanfarms.ca for container rinsing procedures and more information!



We Want to See Your Spring Pictures

It's never too early to send in pictures for next year's 2026 Holmes Agro calendar. We want to see your winter and spring scenes! Every year we are proud to be able to provide a calendar of grower pictures, all thanks to your great submissions. Send your calendar picture submissions to calendar@holmesagro.com.

Watch It Grow Signs

It's that time of year again, that you will start to see "Watch it Grow" signs placed along fields surrounding our three locations. If you would like a "Watch it Grow" sign by your field let a Holmes Agro rep know today!

Wheat

Watch It Grow!
Support Ontario
Agriculture



Soybeans

Watch It Grow!
Support Ontario
Agriculture



Potatoes

Watch It Grow!
Support Ontario
Agriculture



Corn

Watch It Grow!
Support Ontario
Agriculture



***** Please email media@holmesagro.com to sign up for our e-newsletter *****

Jeff Bill James Taylor Greg Liz Scott John Lydia Brooklyn Claire