



DEALER NEWSWIRE



LATE BREAKING INFORMATION FOR OUR VALUED DEALERS

February 2008

MONSANTO'S ROUNDUP READY 2 YIELD SOYBEAN COMPLETES REGULATORY APPROVAL PROCESS IN JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES AND TAIWAN

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the most anticipated soybean products is now one step closer to farmers' fields. Monsanto Company announced on Tuesday, Feb 5., that its next-generation soybean technology, Roundup Ready 2 Yield™ soybeans, has completed the full feed, food and environmental regulatory approval process in Japan, the Philippines and Taiwan. Asia is an important export market for the U.S. According to the American Soybean Association, in 2006 Japan alone purchased \$863 million of U.S. soybean and product exports.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

This announcement adds to the approval Monsanto already received this past summer from the U.S. and Canada. Both countries granted full regulatory approval of Roundup Ready 2 Yield. Although Monsanto has received these approvals, it doesn't intend to commercialize Roundup Ready 2 Yield until other key soybean importing countries with functioning regulatory systems have granted import approvals.

Monsanto is planning for a controlled commercial release in 2009 to allow growers the opportunity to experience the benefits of Roundup Ready 2 Yield first-hand on their farms. Then, a full commercial release is planned for the 2010 growing season.

Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans will be Monsanto's preferred platform for introduction of current and future agronomic and quality soybean traits. Examples of future agronomic traits include dicamba tolerant and intrinsic yield soybeans and future broad acre quality traits include Vistive® soybeans (low-linolenic, high stearate, low saturate, and mid-oleic).

As with Roundup Ready® soybeans, Monsanto intends to broadly license this new technology, so farmers have the choice to use Roundup Ready 2 Yield varieties from multiple seed companies. Asgrow® will be a leading provider of Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans in 2009. The Asgrow Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybean lineup is expected to range in maturity from 1.9 to 3.6.

WHAT TO KNOW?

Roundup Ready 2 Yield approvals

- These approvals mean farmers are one step closer to having improved yield they've been asking for in their fields.
- This breakthrough in soybean production will enable farmers to increase their productivity and profitability.
- Four years of field trials prove Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans have the potential to deliver a 7 to 11 percent yield advantage. For example, where average soybean yields are 50 bushels per acre, at \$12 per bushel soybeans, Roundup Ready 2 Yield could create an additional \$42 to \$66 per acre.
- In addition to improved yields, Asgrow Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans will continue to provide the simple, dependable and flexible weed control and crop safety that soybean growers expect from Monsanto's Roundup Ready system.
- Asgrow became the first seed company to begin crossing the Roundup Ready gene into soybean germplasm in 1989.
- In 2009, Asgrow will be a leading provider of Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans. This combination of Asgrow exclusive, elite germplasm with the Roundup Ready 2 Yield trait will provide farmers with a new yield experience.
- Asgrow continues to build upon its 144-year history of product leadership and innovation to meet the needs of farmers throughout the world with a full line of soybean products.
- Working cooperatively with the value chain, Monsanto is committed to robust product stewardship to control and contain pre-commercial development of the Roundup Ready 2 Yield product, until key international import approvals from markets with functioning regulatory systems are obtained.^{1 2}

¹ This product is not available for use or sale, and Monsanto Company does not promote or authorize promotion of sale or use.

² Any product produced from a Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybean crop or seed may only be used, exported to, processed or sold in countries where the necessary regulatory approvals have been granted. It is a violation of national and international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted. international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted.

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New Roundup Ready 2 Yield™ Logo

- As we bring this new technology to the market, we are introducing a new logo that maintains consistency with the Roundup Ready® brand.
- By maintaining close alignment to the Roundup Ready marks currently in the marketplace, we create an easier bridging of the equities in Roundup Ready soybeans directly to Roundup Ready 2 Yield Soybeans.



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Please direct any questions or comments that you may have to your local Monsanto representative.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What makes Roundup Ready 2 Yield a breakthrough?

Asgrow Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans offer farmers the greatest opportunity for increased yield in years. Through advancements in gene mapping and by using advanced insertion and selection technologies, Monsanto scientists have learned that when the Roundup Ready gene is situated in a high-yielding DNA region, the plant can produce up to 7 to 11 percent higher yields over Roundup Ready lines. This is a significant yield benefit. For example, if you are a soybean farmer in Illinois this yield increase would translate into 3.5 to 5.5 bushels per acre.

How did you increase yield?

Monsanto used a more efficient way of introducing the Roundup gene into the plant. We created a map of soybean DNA which told us where genes are in the plants that have the most favorable impact on yield. Then, we took best performing Roundup Ready plant/lines, mapped where the Roundup Ready gene was located, and chose the plant/lines where the Roundup Ready gene was located near the genes associated with increased yield. This resulted in a 7-11% yield advantage.

Will Monsanto cease selling or licensing the current Roundup Ready soybean product when this next generation product becomes available?

We continue to plan our commercial strategy associated with this new product and the transition from our current Roundup Ready soybean product to Roundup Ready 2 Yield. It is our intention to provide growers the best technology, and we believe most farmers will want to switch from Roundup Ready to Roundup Ready 2 Yield because of the yield benefit. Asgrow Roundup Ready soybeans will eventually be phased out of the product portfolio.

When can growers order Roundup Ready 2 Yield soybeans?

We anticipate that Asgrow dealers will be able to take orders in the fall of 2008 for seed delivery in the spring of 2009.



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