

News Releases/ Media Relations

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2005

DELTA FARM PRESS

31

NEWS OF AGRIBUSINESS

N-Hibit Cotton Seed Treatment for nematodes

N-Hibit Cotton Seed Treatment causes a substantial reduction in nematode eggs in a unique manner — it turns on the cotton plant's natural defense and growth systems, and they do the work. The result is an effective tool that isn't an insecticide, but that still helps cotton farmers reduce crop losses to the root feeding damage of nematodes.

N-Hibit was launched by Eden Bioscience Corporation during the Beltwide Cotton Conferences, where nematode control was one of the major topics. The National Cotton Council estimates that nematodes cost more than \$250 million dollars in lost bales a year across the Cotton Belt, said Rhett Atkins, Eden Bioscience president and CEO.

"N-Hibit Seed Treatment has a unique inside-out activity in that the harpin protein in N-Hibit binds with receptors on the outside of the plant, which in turn switches on the plant's growth and defense capabilities," Atkins said. "One result is a decrease in important aspects of nematode reproduction."

Plants have many ways to fight off and grow through stress situations and attacks from parasites such as nematodes, and scientists believe harpin proteins trigger one or more of them.

"We are continuing research into the precise biological mechanisms that interfere with the normally prolific egg laying of nematodes," said Atkins. "Meanwhile, research at the University of Arkansas, Auburn University, and by independent research contractors has clearly documented the effectiveness of N-Hibit."

"The University of Arkansas research found that N-Hibit Seed Treatment reduced root-knot nematode eggs per dry root weight by 55 percent. This and other related recent research findings were detailed in presentations at the Beltwide."

Atkins noted that other nematode con-

tion Harp-N-Tek foliar spray. When applied with glyphosate, it is shown to provide a substantial yield boost and other benefits, Atkins noted.

When ProAct is registered, which should be in time for the 2005 growing season, producers will be able to implement an under-and-over plant health program featuring N-Hibit Seed Treatment

followed by ProAct applied along with post-emergence herbicide.

N-Hibit Seed Treatment complements other nematode management tools and also is a good fit for IPM programs needing the added advantage of N-Hibit's environmentally preferable, non-toxic inside-out mode of action, Atkins noted.

N-Hibit costs a fraction of standard

plant protection products and is available as a commercial seed treatment applied by the seed dealer or as a hopper box formulation easily applied on the farm.

For more information about N-Hibit Seed Treatment, contact a local seed dealer or agri-retailer or visit the company's Web site at www.edenbio.com, or call the Eden customer service line at 888-879-2420.

LOOKING AHEAD

To list your organization's special event in the Delta Farm Press Calendar of Events, e-mail details, including contact person, phone number, etc., to: Ed Phillips, ephillips@primediabusiness.com.

Feb. 19-22: North American Grain Congress, Reno, Nev. The Grain Congress is the first joint conference of the National Grain Sorghum Producers and the National Association of Wheat Growers. Attendees will learn about the ethanol industry from Renewable Fuels Association President Bob Dinneen, who is slated to speak at the general session. An educational hearing following the general session will feature an ethanol manufacturer that utilizes both wheat straw and sorghum stalks to manufacture cellulose ethanol. Invited speakers include Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns, Rep. Jim Nussle, Iowa congressman and chairman of the House Budget Committee, Gary Blumenthal, and Ed Barlow. The Grain Congress will also give producers the opportunity to learn about new markets and products through tabletop displays and educational hearings. A research session will be held Feb. 22. Register online at www.grain-congress.org or call NGSP toll-free at 800-658-9808 to request a registration form. Grain Congress Web site: www.grain-congress.org. NGSP: www.sorghumgrowers.com, conference@sorghumgrowers.com. NAWG: www.wheatworld.org, wheatworld.org.

Feb. 21-22: Hedging with Options for Cotton Producers (workshop), Tunica, Miss. Jeanne Reeves, agricultural economist with Cotton Incorporated, will lead this workshop to help producers learn how to better market their cotton crops. Topics include: why options in cotton futures are critical to your business; what can options do for you and how, and fundamental and technical cotton overviews and possible price scenarios. Sponsored by the New York Board of Trade and Cotton Incorporated Registration

rust. CCA CEU credits will be awarded. For additional information contact: Mark Kurtz at 662-686-3227 or mekurtz@drec.msstate.edu.

Feb. 24-26: Commodity Classic, Austin, Texas. Combined convention and trade show of the National Corn Growers Assn. and the American Soybean Assn. www.commodityclassic.com.

Feb. 24-26: Catfish Farmers of America Annual Convention, Renaissance Arts Hotel, New Orleans, La. Annual meeting of America's largest aquaculture industry. Workshops and other events. For information contact Mike McCall at 601-714-5327 or email hmcalls1@jam.rr.com.

Feb. 25: Cotton Production Meeting, Hardeman County Fairgrounds, Bolivar, Tenn. Starts at 9 a.m. and ends with lunch. Production meeting. Contact: Jeff Via, 901-465-5233 or jvia@utk.edu; or Bob Vickers at 731-658-2421 or rvicker3@utk.edu.

Feb. 25: LSU AgCenter's 9th annual Greenhouse Tomato Seminar, LSU AgCenter's Red River Research Station, Bossier City, La. There is no registration fee for the seminar, which begins at 1 p.m. Topics will include: Using raised gutters for growing good greenhouse tomatoes; ways to optimize yields and profits from greenhouse tomatoes; greenhouse tomato diseases and control measures; and greenhouse tomato insects and control measures. A hands-on mini workshop will show greenhouse tomato growers better ways to produce healthy transplants and how to clean, disinfect and recycle the growing media they use in their greenhouses. H.Y. Hanna, an LSU AgCenter researcher at the station, will explain technology to reduce the labor involved in dropping and leaning tomato plants in greenhouses. The seminar will end with a tour of the LSU AgCenter's greenhouses. For more information, call Hanna at 318-741-7430 or e-



1776/2006 "A Critical Year"

