

Excessive Rainfall

Excessive rainfall this spring is taking its toll on farmers across the eastern US. Not only is it keeping them out of the fields, but it can set up problems that will present challenges throughout the season:

Late Developing Crops – Crops will have a hard time getting to the reproductive phase of development before summer heat arrives. If the crops are trying to pollinate during the hottest, and typically driest, part of the year, we could see an increase in aborted blooms and poor kernel development on beans and corn.

Depleted Nitrogen – Most of the applied nitrogen from earlier this season is gone. According to Joe Dedman, CCA, "If a farmer put out 200 units of N this season, he only has about 20-40 units still available." The challenge now facing farmers is deciding if they have the time and the resources to reapply nitrogen, and if so, when.

Anaerobic Activity – The water is compacting the soil, keeping oxygen out of the fields. This is changing the environment of the soil to one that favors harmful bacteria and depleting the population of needed beneficial bacteria. According to soil specialist Dennis Stephens, "This can lead to the development of fungus, disease, and other issues which will all serve to stress the crops and decrease yield."

Insects and Disease – Most insects and diseases that attack field crops are opportunistic and attack crops already under stress. Persistently wet conditions and cool temperatures are combining to create a perfect environment for both of these elements to flourish.

Monty's offers some tools that can help producers overcome these challenges. By utilizing a combination of Monty's Liquid Carbon and Monty's 8-16-8 farmers can:

- **Improve efficiency of applied nutrients** – holding them in the soil and speeding conversion.
- **Provide timed foliar nutrient applications** – helping crops deal with stress-related problems this season.
- **Reducing compaction related problems** – helping boost beneficial bacteria and restore aerobic activity.

Ryan Lee, a crop consultant from North Carolina, advises the following program this season:

1. Apply 32 ounces per acre of Monty's Liquid Carbon when you reapply nitrogen whether you will be dribbling it between rows, knifing it in, or can still apply it pre-plant.
2. With your traditional fertility program, use 24 ounces per acre of Multi Crop 8-16-8 as a foliar application throughout the season to help bring the crop to maturity more rapidly and bring it through periods of stress. This application can be tank mixed with most traditional chemical applications including glyphosate.
3. Farmers last season saw additional benefits to their crops and to their soil by 'spiking' their mid-season foliar applications and late season foliar application of Monty's 2-15-15 with Monty's Liquid Carbon. We recommend adding 16 ounces per acre per application to boost utilization by the plant.
4. Any time you are going to be in the field spraying anything, tank mix it with 16 to 24 ounces of Monty's 8-16-8 to deal with the damage already inflicted and aid the plant natural defenses more readily withstand attack.



For more information call (800) 978-6342