



MAGNETIC SEED TREATMENT THE WINNER!

Richard Hilbert displays his first place ribbon from the Virden, Ill., High School Science Fair which he received for his project on the effect of treating seeds with a Bio-Mag. Trays in the foreground are divided down the center and show treated seed on the right and untreated on the left sides of each tray. The trays contain, left to right, wheat, corn, and soybeans. A Bio-Mag treater is shown in the right foreground.

Emergence Speeded Up By Magnetic Seed Treatment

Virden, Ill., — Most farmers regard getting a good stand as getting on first base when it comes to raising any farm crop. Now they are finding out that the simple process of magnetically treating seeds speeds up emergence. Magnetic treatment is even more dramatic when ground conditions are cold.

Richard Hilbert, Virden, Ill., high school student became fascinated with magnetic treatment of seed as a part time employee of Bob Dickey Sales, Auburn. He set up an experiment for his botany class project and it won him first prize. (Bob Dickey is widely known as the innovator of the Dickey-John seed monitor). Richard used the Bio-Mag magnetic seed treater.

The photo shows Richard Hilbert with a repeat demonstration of the effects of magnetism on seed and subsequent emergence, with Bio-Mag in front.

Tests have been conducted for several years on magnetic treatment of seeds at various universities in the U. S. and Canada. At Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill., in 1975, Dr. Safwat Moustafa found a higher emergence in seeds treated with electromagnet as compared to control seeds. Dr. Moustafa conducted laboratory experiments on corn planted under the simulated environment of that starting April 1, in McDonough County, Ill. He concluded that magnetic treatment is of benefit in emergence in cold ground and for extended periods of cold weather. In some cases emergence rate was up to double that of untreated corn.

In 1973, Dr. Moustafa reported on earlier experiments with magnetic treatment of seed. He reported that plant vigor and subsequent crop yield were improved by varying amounts. Experiments on magnetic treatment are new in this country and will continue.

The Bio-Mag magnetic treater, manufactured in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, is available to farmers in Canada and the United States for the 1977 crop.

FARM NEWS RELEASE