

Forage Advisor

TerraLink Horticulture Inc.

Country
Life
Insert

Spring 2014

Welcome Duncan Reid!

Dairy & Forage Crop Technical Field Representative

We are pleased to announce that Duncan Reid has joined TerraLink Horticulture as Dairy & Forage Crop Technical Field Representative. He replaces Lorne Campbell, who left TerraLink recently. Duncan is highly experienced in Fraser Valley dairy farming. He began at East Chilliwack Co-op and Coast Agri, followed by Ritchie Smith Feeds. Over all, he has worked for over 30 years selling feed and crop inputs. Duncan resides in Abbotsford with his family.

Silage Corn Seed

Do You Still Need Corn Seed?

If you haven't booked your silage corn seed, you're in luck. We still have some inventory in these Hyland varieties. If the heat units might work for your conditions, give us a call at 1-800-661-4559.

HLR 219	2400 Heat Units
HLSR 35	2500 – 2750 Heat Units
HLSR 22	2400 – 2650 Heat Units

Plant Nutrition

AVAIL® Phosphorus Fertilizer Enhancer

It's a fact: Up to 75-95% of the phosphorus fertilizer applied to your soil is unavailable to the roots of your crops. Instead, it locks up in the soil and binds to elements like calcium, iron, aluminum and magnesium. Phosphorus fixation is a problem with the soil, not with the crop. Let's face it, wasted fertilizer means wasted money.

Avail® Phosphorus Fertilizer Enhancer is a unique formulation. A water-soluble and biodegradable phosphorus-enhancement polymer product that breaks down during the 8 to 12-month period between field crops, with no residual effect on subsequent crops. It is designed to minimize fixation and maximize your fertilizer investment. You could use 20% less phosphate fertilizer. It is cheaper to use Avail® than to not use it.

By shielding applied phosphorus from the elements that lock it in the soil, more of it is kept available to the growing plant. This added efficiency can lead to healthier plants with better plant uptake, more flexibility in your application schedule and better overall value from your fertilizer investment.

Avail® is available for both granular and liquid phosphorus, and leaves no environmental footprint. More than 36 million acres have already put it to work, and growers across the continent trust Avail® as the strongest phosphorus protection on the market.

Avail® is effective on all crops, in any soil and in any climate. Avail® is currently being applied with proven response to alfalfa, cole crops, corn, onions, potatoes,

sweet corn, tomatoes and many other crops. Contact your sales rep or the TerraLink office to request the addition of Avail® to your phosphorus fertilizers.

Agri-Plastics

Bale Wrap and Bunker Poly

TerraLink once again is in the agri-plastics business. We now distribute bale wrap and bunker poly, under the brand name Benepak and supplied by BPS Industries. In 2013 we did field testing, and now are confident that the products are high quality and will stand up easily in all the varied British Columbia conditions – from the high rainfall of the Fraser Valley, to the long hot summers and the arid atmosphere of the BC Interior. Give us a call and try some of our new brand.

Benepak Silage Bale Wrap

- Multi-layered, co-extruded quality film for optimal silage quality.
- High tear and puncture resistance plus high adhesive strength for perfectly sealed bale wrapping.
- Superior stretch to ensure the film suitable for round and square bales.
- UV radiation protection for 12 months in all climate conditions.
- Available in white or green.

Benepak Silage Sheeting

- Superior mechanical properties and strong resistance to impact and tearing
- Excellent UV resistance.
- High resistance to weathering.
- Protect fodder by eliminating exposure to light, water and air.

Rooted in your community.

TerraLink

Fertilizer Technology

Wolf Trax®: Efficient Micronutrients

Up to last year, micronutrients used to be applied in granular fertilizer as individual ingredients. This means they were mixed in a blend of granular fertilizer as separate particles from the other ingredients. Some ingredients, like mono ammonium phosphate (MAP), supply more than one nutrient. In the case of MAP, nitrogen, phosphorus and a little bit of sulphur all come together in the same particle. Most major nutrients, however, have always come in separate particles. For a blend of N, P and K, there are very many particles, and both broadcast and banded applications result in a reasonable amount of nutrients in any one place.

It has been a different story for granular micronutrients. Because of the tiny amount of micronutrients required by most crops, the number of particles of micronutrient ingredients (boron, zinc, copper, manganese and iron) has always been very small (see diagram).



Typical granular zinc field distribution

2 granules of granular zinc based on 35% zinc at 5 lb/ac (15 x 5 x 3 inch soil profile)

Now, things are different.

TerraLink now has the ability to supply fertilizer that contains homogenous micronutrients. We can apply B, Zn or any other micronutrients directly onto the granules of N, P and K in the fertilizer blend, using Wolf Trax® innovative micronutrient technology. This means several things:

- First, micronutrients can now be distributed everywhere a particle of N, P or K falls, because there are micronutrients attached consistently to every granule.

- Micronutrients are much more available to the roots of the plants, leading to the opportunity for better, more uniform uptake, yield and quality. This process provides up to 50 times the interception points for root to access micronutrients, compared to the previous method with granular micronutrients.
- Because of the above two points, less micronutrients are now necessary to add to your blend, due to the increased availability of micronutrients to the crop from more efficient distribution in the root zone.



Zinc DDP EvenCoat™ Technology

153 granules of fertilizer throughout rooting depth, all coated with Zinc DDP, based on 150 lb/ac of 34-17-0 fertilizer blend (15 x 5 x 3 inch soil profile)

Although new to BC through TerraLink Horticulture, this is an established process and product line elsewhere in North America and worldwide. It is not new, and it works. Also, this product has been approved by, and therefore endorsed by the CFIA. When you place your order with TerraLink, make sure to ask for Wolf Trax® homogenous micronutrients and take advantage of this new technology in your grass and corn stands.



Richardson Seed

Relay Cropping

What is relay cropping?

Relay cropping is planting two or more crops in the same field during one growing season. Relay cropping is commonly done in corn crops with a fall forage grass; eg. Italian ryegrass. When seeded at the 3-6 leaf stage of the corn, the relay crop will grow until it is shaded out by the corn. When the corn is harvested, there is sufficient sunlight for the grass to grow again, well into late fall. Relay cropping is becoming increasingly popular in the Fraser Valley and the Pacific Northwest.

What are the benefits of relay cropping?

- Provides a quick turnaround from a corn crop to high yielding, high quality forage grass. This turnaround is much faster than with a fall seeding.
- Italian ryegrass will take up surplus nitrogen in the soil, and prevent it from leeching into the groundwater. It can take up approximately 100 kg N/ ha/ year.
- Saves labor since there is no need to work the field after corn harvest because the cover crop is already growing.
- Greatly reduces surface runoff after the corn harvest, especially on sloped fields.
- Provides excellent weed management.

Tips for successful relay cropping

- Plant the relay crop when corn is at the 3-6 leaf stage.
- The tetraploid biennial varieties of Italian ryegrass perform better than the diploid and annual varieties.
- Always irrigate after seeding.
- Leave the seed bed as level as possible to create a uniform seed distribution.
- Use early to medium maturing corn varieties to allow for good fall growth of the relay crop.

Contact us at 1-800-661-4559 or richardsonseed@tlhort.com for more information or to order seed.