

Forage Advisor

TerraLink Horticulture Inc.

Fall 2015

2016 Corn Booking Program

Early Booking Discount

TerraLink is now taking orders for the 2016 forage corn season. If you book before December 15th, 2015, you will receive a 5% discount on your corn order. Field corn is typically a special order and must be ordered by February 1st for the season.

Certain varieties may require either a Monsanto TSA #, a Syngenta TSA # or a Dow TSA number. All TSA information is required before orders will be delivered. Conventional and BMR (Brown Mid-Rib) corn varieties are also available.

Varieties	Crop Heat Units	Relative Maturity
3085	CHU 2275	RM 77
3093	CHU 2300	RM 78
8105RA (For trial)	CHU 2400	RM 80
HLR219	CHU 2350	RM 82
TMF 8106RA (New)	CHU 2425	RM 82
HLS 4120	CHU 2500	RM 84
TMF 86H77RA (New)	CHU 2550	RM 86
F2F298 (BMR)	CHU 2600	RM 90
F2F343 (BMR)	CHU 2700	RM 93
SR35	CHU 2750	RM 90
2164 (Conventional)	CHU 2500	RM 83

Cocktail Mixes of Forage

Increased Productivity with Forage Mixes

Diversity of plant species plays an important role in nutrient recycling and primary production in both natural and managed grasslands. It also ensures one or more of the species will be productive even during stressful conditions such as drought or pest outbreak. Ongoing experiments by Mike Schellenberg and his team at AAFC in Swift Current, Sask. have indicated that polycultures or cocktail mixes of annual forage plant species show improved biomass quality and productivity in comparison to monocultures. The forage scientists at AAFC have found that mixtures of species are showing better weed suppression likely due to increased competition between crops and weeds. They are of the opinion that the mixture enables roots of various species to extract nutrients and water from different soil depths thereby maximizing use of available resources. Under drier conditions, the crops with deeper root structures can access resources at a greater depth and typically bring moisture in the upper soil layers to make it available for other shallow rooted crops. Forage scientists Sanderson, Goslee and Soder demonstrated that a mixture of forage species can increase pasture forage yield and reduce weed invasion.

Richardson Seed has formulated an optimal combination of forage species based on soil and climatic conditions ideally suited for dairy growers in the region. Ask us about our Richardson Seed brand Forage Mixes most suitable for your growing conditions. Our line-up of blends includes several mixes suitable for coastal production, as well as a wide range of mixes for optimum production in the BC Interior.



References:

- *Adding Diversity and Productivity to Forages – by Donna Fleury, Top Crop Manager, September 2015.*
- *Biodiversity in Forage Stands – Matt A Sanderson, Sarah Goslee and Kathy Soder. Cool Forages – By Bittman & Hunt*

New Varieties

Fall 2015 Corn Trial Day

The Fall 2015 Corn Trial Days was a success with a lot of new varieties showing promise for future plantings. Total yield data is not available yet, but when comparing cob sizes there were definitely some that were better over all.

Rooted in your community.

TerraLink

Demonstration plots of the various varieties being tested were shown. A presentation regarding the use of Penegetic was given by Derek Pratt. Varieties that were grown with the addition of Penegetic did see a cob size difference but the final yields will tell more. A great lunch was shared by the attendees. The only downside was that since it was a beautiful day, there were cancellations as the farmers were doing as they do, and making hay while the sun shines!



Visitors at the 2015 Fall Corn Trial Day

Contact your TerraLink rep for more results as the corn is harvested this fall.

Silage Plastics and More

TerraLink's Bunk Fresh Product Line

TerraLink's BunkFresh Silage plastics assist dairymen and ranchers in optimal silage storage. Contact the TerraLink Sales Desk at 1-800-661-4559 for more info on this line of products.

Product	SKU #	Size	Description
BunkFresh Plastic Bunker Cover Roll	3774185	40' x 100' 6mil B/W	Primary covering on bunker silage. Protects fodder by eliminating exposure to light, air and water.
	3774820	40' x 150' 6mil B/W	
	3774830	50' x 150' 6mil B/W	
	3774840	120' x 200' 6mil B/W	
BunkFresh UV Protective Cover Tarp Multiple Uses	3773210	20' x 25'	Tough polyethylene woven design to protect fodder while providing an extra layer of protection from mechanical damage.
	3773220	30' x 35'	
	3773230	40' x 45'	
	3773240	50' x 55'	
BunkFresh Sidewall Liner	3774660	25' x 100'	For a clean side wall surface between the bunker wall and silage. Results in less feed spoilage.
	3774650	40' x 100'	
	3774690	33' x 100'	
BunkFresh O2 Barrier Film	3773250	23' x 164'	Oxygen barrier to improve freshness in silage by reducing oxygen penetration. Clear, co-extruded 5 layer blown film.
	3773260	33' x 164'	
	3773270	43' x 164'	
	3773280	53' x 164'	
BunkFresh Bunker Bags	7110473	Unit, 1 x 20kg	Used to weigh down plastics and tarps. Pre-filled with granular limestone.
	7110474	Skid-lot, 25 x 20kg	Buy pre-filled bags in units of 25
	3774950	Bundle of 50 unfilled	Buy empty bags to fill on the farm
Silage Wrap, White	3774100	75cm x 1500m	UV radiation protection for 12 months. Multi-layered, co-extruded quality film for optimal silage quality.
Silage Wrap, Green	3774200	75cm x 1500m	
Silage Bale Net	3774300	48" x 9842ft	Use where nets are required prior to bale wrap application.
Silage Inoculant	3425150	500g	One package treats 500 tonnes of silage. For corn or grass.

Plant Nutrition

Fall Limestone Application

The best time to apply limestone to your fields is in the fall. There are three main reasons for this. First, from an agronomic point of view it makes the most sense. What happens when limestone is applied to soil? In Fraser Valley soils there is an abundance of aluminum, which naturally reacts with water to produce hydrogen ions (H+). The presence of a concentration of H+ creates acidity. When limestone (calcium carbonate) is added to the soil, some of the calcium replaces aluminum at the cation exchange sites. Meanwhile, some of the carbonate combines with hydrogen to produce water and carbon dioxide. This reaction is not instant, especially if the limestone is not incorporated. Typically several months pass before the biggest change in pH takes place. If limestone is applied in the fall the pH should be increased just in time for fertilizing time in the spring.



Our Terragator spreading limestone.

The second reason for applying limestone in the fall is time. The fall is typically drier than spring so fields are better able to handle the weight of spreading equipment without damaging the soil. Application can be timed right after the last cut of grass or directly following corn harvest. Also, bad weather in the spring with wet soils often means we can't get to all the orders in time prior to planting. Inevitably, some are cancelled and yield and quality may be compromised. It makes far more sense to do some of the spreading in the fall when we can quickly drive across dry fields.

Third, the price of limestone applied in the fall by TerraLink is cheaper than this spring! (*Limestone spreading by TerraLink is only available in the Fraser Valley.*)