











THE ANDERSONS, INC | TECHNICAL BULLETIN 02

# 6-24-6 OUTPERFORMS CONVENTIONAL STARTERS

Corn research at Kansas State University shows that using 6-24-6 as an in-furrow starter outperforms other liquid starters and fertilizer placement methods. Reasons for the superior performance were:

- Low salt index
- · Fertilizer close to the seed
- Added potassium

The results of this project suggest that 6-24-6 makes an excellent row-placed liquid starter fertilizer for corn.

# **LOW SALT INDEX**

6-24-6 is manufactured without chloride to keep salt indexes low. This characteristic distinguishes it from other types of NPK solutions. Additionally, it contains potassium, which gives it an advantage over 10-34-0 and similar products that don't contain K. Using a low-salt starter, like 6-24-6, allows the liquid to be placed more safely in the row.

## THE CLOSER THE BETTER

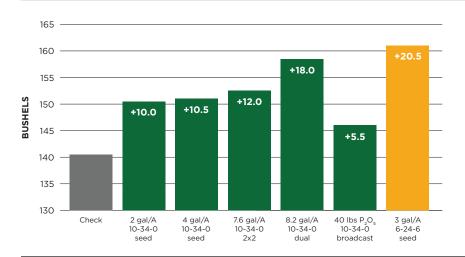
The study shows that the closer we place P-containing starter fertilizer to the young seedlings the better we generally do with small amounts. The three gallon of 6-24-6 in the seed furrow outperformed all other treatments. Many growers use 10-34-0 in the seed furrow as a low cost starter fertilizer program. In this experiment 10-34-0 improved the yield compared to the check, but didn't perform as well as the 6-24-6. Two gallons of 10-34-0 has roughly the same N and P as 3 gallons of 6-24-6. The 6-24-6 yielded 10 bushel/ acre more than the 10-34-0 treatments and about 20 bushels better than the check.

# **POTASSIUM BOOSTS YIELDS**

The addition of potassium to a row placed starter fertilizer is an important consideration. We see yield advantages to having K in the starter even on high testing K soils. Only the potassium phosphate form of potassium should be used in the row for maximum seed safety. 6-24-6 is made with potassium phosphate and has a salt index of only 11.5. 10-34-0 has a salt index of 20.0 and has no K.

# 6-24-6 OUTPERFORMS OTHER STARTERS AND PLACEMENT

Corn | Kansas



**Summary:** 6-24-6 placed in the seed furrow outperforms other common starter fertilizer programs. Two year average. Bray P1 was 12 ppm. Data from Kansas Fertilizer Research 2000, Report of Progress 868, Kansas State University at Rossville irrigated site west of Topeka.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Andersons, Inc. 800-831-4815 www.AndersonsPlantNutrient.com Download all technical bulletins at AndersonsPlantNutrient.com



GoldStart® 6-24-6 from The Andersons is a low-salt, 80/20 ratio of ortho-to-polyphosphate liquid fertilizer in the PureGrade® product line. It is 100% pure liquid fertilizer produced from the finest raw materials. GoldStart 6-24-6 is seed safe for in-furrow placement, 2x2 banding, or may be foliar applied.

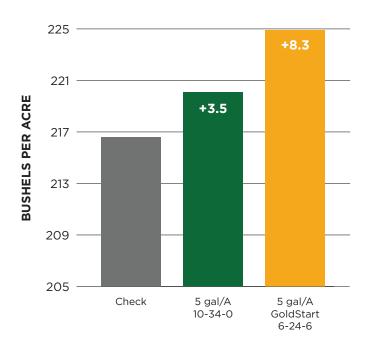
## **FINAL THOUGHTS**

Many growers who are attempting high yields on low P testing soil may want to combine the GoldStart 6-24-6 seed placed fertilizer with dual placed P from 10-34-0 for full season feeding. This method provides early season growth response from the starter plus mid-season feeding from the deeper dual placed band.

Note in the graph that 3 gallons of 6-24-6 containing about 8 lbs. of  $P_2O_5$  and placed into the seed furrow was more effective in raising corn yield than 40 lbs. of  $P_2O_5$  broadcasted on the surface.

### **GOLDSTART 6-24-6 OUT YIELDS 10-34-0**

Corn | Ohio 2016



**Summary:** In this research trial, 5 gal/A 10-34-0 placed in-furrow improved the yield compared to the check, but didn't perform as well as the 6-24-6 treatment, which was also placed in-furrow at a rate of 5 gal/A. The use of GoldStart 6-24-6 resulted in a yield increase of 8.3 bu/A over the check, which is 4.8 bu/A greater than when 10-34-0 was used. This trial was replicated four times to ensure accurate results.





