



NORTH DAKOTA FARMER RELIES ON DIACON®-D IGR TO MEET HIGH QUALITY STANDARDS FOR MALTING BARLEY

Doyle Lentz, of Lentz Farms in Rolla, North Dakota is an experienced fourth-generation farmer who knows the importance of keeping his grain insect free. His farm, first founded in 1898, produces a wide range of grains including wheat and soybeans, but none that face the stringent requirements placed on the malting barley he sells.

Lentz has contracts to produce malting barley for MillerCoors™ and Busch Agricultural Resources, LLC, and he says the companies have the highest, most exacting standards of any partner using his grain. The contracts contain specific quality requirements for acceptable malting barley, including minimum/maximum allowable values for protein, moisture, foreign material levels, skinned and broken kernels, sprout damage, color and plumpness. The malting barley must pass stringent tests for insects within the crop being delivered to the grain elevator. Most of the characteristics directly affect the brewing process, making contract specifications necessary for high quality beer production.

“The companies using my malting barley have the industry’s strictest purchasing and malting standards, so it’s important that there are zero bugs in the malting barley that ships out from my operation,” said Lentz. “We started using Diacon-D in all of our small grain last year and have not found one bug in our grain since.”

Diacon®-D IGR is an EPA-registered, tolerance-exempt insect growth regulator (IGR) product used to control stored grain insects. The active ingredient in Diacon®-D IGR, (S)-Methoprene, protects stored grains and raw agriculture commodities from damaging insects by interfering with the normal process of insect development and preventing reinfestations. It is approved for application on all commodities used for animal and human consumption, and grains can be used for feed or milling immediately after application.

Prior to the recent approval to use Diacon®-D IGR on malting barley, producers like Lentz had few options to treat the grain in storage. Lentz always implemented best sanitation and monitoring practices on his operation, but still found “bin bugs” in his stored malting barley in the past. Insects commonly found infesting stored malting barley can include the lesser grain borer, saw-toothed grain beetle, confused flour beetle and the Indian meal moth.

Lentz now incorporates Diacon®-D IGR into his Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, applying the product directly to the malting barley as it moves into storage. He follows the labeled rate of application of 10 pounds of Diacon®-D IGR per 1,000 bushels of malting barley. After using Diacon®-D IGR this last year, Lentz is seeing a clear improvement in the quality of malting barley that he ships.





“It’s important that when we are delivering grain, we are delivering the very best product possible,” said Lentz. “We can’t show up with a crop that contains insects because that is a breach of contract. Every hopper on the trailer is tested for bugs, and they’ve never found one in any of ours since using Diacon. There have been no heating issues. Even with a winter that was conducive to bugs, we simply saw no activity at all this year in any of the grains that we’ve treated with Diacon.”

The losses associated with rejected grain are magnified for Lentz whose shipments can require a 300-mile round trip valued at \$4 per mile. With an application cost of less than four cents per bushel, Lentz says that Diacon®-D IGR “pays for itself” in short time.

“It’s simply good business to use Diacon,” he added. “Not only does using Diacon give me peace of mind, but since using it I’ve never had a grain elevator turn away a load of our crops due to bugs. In the end, Diacon has saved me money.”

Diacon®-D IGR is a dry formulation for use on grain as well as an empty bin treatment. Diacon®-D IGR is approved for use by MillerCoors™ and Busch Agricultural Resources, LLC growers and other companies’ growers supplying barley to MillerCoors™ or Busch Agricultural Resources, LLC. Other malting companies are presently considering usage.

For other stored grains – including wheat, rice, corn and more – the liquid formulation Diacon® IGR can be applied directly to grain or used in fogging applications and is approved for use virtually everywhere stored product insects are a problem — farm storage, large silos, peanut bins, food processing facilities and more.

For more information about Diacon®-D IGR and the complete line of Bug Free Grains products, visit www.bugfreegrains.com or call 1-800-248-7763.

