

A decorative border of wheat grains and beetles surrounds the text. The grains are scattered across the top and sides, while several beetles are positioned at various points, including a large cluster in the top right and individual ones near the bottom corners.

Diacon® IGR Protects Great Bend Co-Op's 2011 Wheat Stores

Treatments Help Lessen the Economic Hit from 2012 Drought

The 2012 drought had a devastating financial impact on many of America's farmers, and it will likely go down as one of the costliest natural disasters in U.S. history, with one estimate placing the losses at \$35 billion¹. The professionals with the Great Bend Co-Op in Kansas saw these damaging effects firsthand when it had its 2012 wheat crop rejected due to its drought-ravaged milling quality. But with the assistance of Diacon® IGR, a stored-grain protectant, the operation was able to soften the blow and earn a substantial return on more than 100,000 bushels of wheat held from a superior 2011 harvest.

"We've used Diacon IGR for more than three years, and we knew we could trust our crops with it," said Doug Crook, area manager for Great Bend Co-Op. "Even after 20 months in storage, the wheat came out practically bug free, and the return we earned justified our faith in the product."

According to Crook, the stored wheat from 2011 earned more than 80 cents per bushel more than 2012 wheat affected by the drought, earning a premium of nearly \$80,000 on its 100,000 bushels of held wheat.

Crook first learned of Diacon® IGR in 2010, after years of struggling with pest infestations in storage facilities across the co-op's 10 branches throughout Barton and Stafford Counties in central Kansas. Though the co-op, established in 1959, routinely cleaned storage areas and experimented with various premise sprays, they weren't able to control recurring infestations in their stored grains, primarily consisting of the lesser grain borer and red flour beetle. Crook says that all changed when they first used Diacon® IGR.

"Diacon IGR worked incredibly well for us from the start, and we were able to ship without any additional insect damaged kernels (IDK) from storage when our first batch of grain went out," said Crook. "Ever since then, we've used it to treat everything we store."

Alex Roth, elevator operator for Great Bend, said the wheat is treated with the Diacon® IGR liquid formulation as it moves up the elevator leg via a series of spray nozzles affixed inside of the leg. The Diacon® IGR is mixed in a 200-gallon container and used to treat nearly 3,000 bushels per hour. It's a process Crook credits for protecting the wheat held from 2011.

"I was amazed to find no insect activity at any time over the 20 months we held this wheat," he said. "When it was time to pull the wheat, we took almost 70 samples and only one showed even minimal IDK."



For the staff at Great Bend, Diacon® IGR offers a more appealing alternative to the unpleasant fumigation methods employed in the past. Fumigation was also significantly more expensive than Diacon® IGR needing multiple treatments at a cost of up to 2 cents per bushel. Crook estimates that the same wheat stored for 20 months would have required up to eight fumigation treatments for a total of nearly 16 cents per bushel. By needing only a single application of Diacon® IGR at a cost of 2 cents per bushel, Great Bend potentially saved more than \$14,000 in fumigation expenses.

The Great Bend team has also begun applying Centynal™ Insecticide from the makers of Diacon® IGR. The recently launched Centynal™ Insecticide offers a quick knockdown, and broad-spectrum insect control that was created to serve as a tank-mix partner with Diacon® IGR for control of stored product insects.

“We’ve had great success with our first uses of Centynal Insecticide, and we expect that to continue based on our results with Diacon IGR,” said Crook. “We’ll treat all of our crops with both Diacon IGR and Centynal Insecticide this year, and I would highly recommend the products to anyone that’s going to store grain for any length of time.”

Diacon® IGR, a liquid formulation, and Diacon®-D IGR, a dry formulation, are EPA-approved, tolerance exempt insect growth regulators (IGR) with the active ingredient (S)-methoprene used to control stored product insects by breaking the insect life cycle and preventing larvae from maturing into adults. Centynal™ Insecticide kills a broad spectrum of stored product insects on contact using the active ingredient Deltamethrin.

Used together as a tank mix, Diacon® IGR and Centynal™ Insecticide offer insect control from larva to adult against a broad range of insects including: almond moth, Indian meal moth, lesser grain borer, saw-toothed grain beetle, merchant beetle, red flour beetle, confused flour beetle, and others. Diacon® IGR and Centynal™ Insecticide can be applied directly to the grain stream or as an empty-bin treatment to protect stored rice, wheat, corn and more.

For more information about Diacon® IGR formulations and Centynal™ Insecticide call 1-800-248-7763 or visit online at www.bugfreegrains.com.



1. Drought estimate: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/weather/2013/01/24/global-disaster-report-sandy-drought/1862201/>

