



SOUTH DAKOTA GROWER CREDITS DIACON® IGR

FOR DELIVERING “PERFECT GRADES” ON PREMIUM COMMODITIES

Insect infestations within stored grain can have a significant financial impact on an operation. This is a fact second-generation farmer Chet Edinger of Mitchell, South Dakota knows firsthand after having three loads of sunflowers rejected in the past two years.

“I’ve experienced some major economic losses because of bugs found in the sample. Those three rejected loads resulted in a \$7,000 loss for us, not even including the loss of product,” said Edinger. “We’re shipping these sunflowers 350 miles, so to have it rejected when it gets there is extremely frustrating for us.”

Insects are of particular concern for specialty crop producers like Edinger, who along with his brother Charlie also grows winter wheat, corn and soybeans on their operation, Edinger Brothers Partnership. Rules and regulations have grown significantly more stringent since Edinger’s father first founded the farm in the 1960’s. This includes the recent introduction of stricter new regulations from the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) that now require animal and human feed to adhere to the same standards. These guidelines create a “zero tolerance” policy for insects within products intended for consumption, such as the sunflowers Edinger produces for a bird seed manufacturer. When his bins became infested with confused flour beetles and other stored grain bugs, Edinger’s bottom line was affected.

Faced with infestation issues and the exacting standards that come with premium products, Edinger sought a solution. He attended a presentation on Diacon® IGR from Central Life Sciences and immediately became interested when he learned the product was approved for use on sunflowers. Edinger decided to try it out on his own operation, and the results were soon noticed.

“Since we have started using Diacon on all of our commodities going to an end user, we’ve received perfect grades and no rejections. I love it,” said Edinger. “My drivers also like using Diacon a lot more than the dust we’d been using and no longer complain about a bad smell.”



Chet Edinger

Initially hesitant to work with a liquid formulation given his familiarity with dusts, Edinger now appreciates the ease of use he finds with applying Diacon® IGR to his stored products.

“Once you get used to handling the liquid, it’s a breeze,” he said. The recommended label rate calls for the use of 4 oz. of Diacon® IGR in an approved carrier, water or food grade mineral oil, per 1,000 bushels of commodity. Edinger applies Diacon® IGR directly to the grain stream as the commodity is loaded into storage.

Along with ease of use, Edinger cites the longevity of Diacon® IGR as a major draw. When applied at labeled rates, Diacon® IGR will protect stored grains for 12–18 months. This is especially important to Edinger as his operation typically stores commodities for up to one year. He says this length of storage can lead to several temperature fluctuations, resulting in hot spots which can help insect populations proliferate.

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Prior to using Diacon® IGR, Edinger Brothers Partnership used an insecticidal dust frequently. The farm was going through 2,500 pounds of dust per season, causing them to store the dust in a completely separate location. The farm now only uses about 3–4 jugs of Diacon® IGR per season and is able to store the product on-site. For Edinger, his investment in Diacon® IGR is an easy decision.

“We’re talking pennies spent per bushel with Diacon vs. dollars on rejected loads,” Edinger added. “To me, treating your products with Diacon is like buying an insurance policy for the grain in your bin.”

Diacon® IGR is a tolerance-exempt insect growth regulator (IGR) used to control stored product insects by breaking the insect life cycle and preventing larvae from maturing into adults. It can be applied directly to grain or used in fogging applications and is approved virtually everywhere stored product insects are a problem — farm storage, large silos, food processing facilities and more. The active ingredient, (S)-methoprene, provides effective control of a broad range of insects, such as the almond moth, Indian meal moth, lesser grain borer, saw-toothed grain beetle, merchant beetle, red flour beetle, confused flour beetle and other labeled insects.

Diacon® IGR is also available in a dry formulation, Diacon®-D IGR, offering versatile applications, including direct-to-grain or empty premise treatment. The recently launched Diacon® IGR *PLUS* adds the knockdown power of insecticide deltamethrin to the extended residual control of the insect growth regulator for control of stored product insects from start to finish. The products join Centynal™ EC Insecticide, PBO-8® Synergist and Pyronyl™ Crop Spray in the Bug Free Grains lineup of solutions from Central Life Sciences.



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To learn more, visit www.BugFreeGrains.com or call 800.248.7763.

