

# ZFS Select® Seed NEWS

A publication of Zeeland Farm Services, Inc.®

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## Quality control counts come harvest time

*By Ben Glass, ZFS Seed Sales Manager*



ZFS photo by Jared Dykstra

**QUALITY COUNTS:** Though planting season is still fresh on most farmer's minds, it's not too early to begin thinking about how to keep cereal grains and foreign material from mixing with soybeans during harvest.

If there is one thing that is constant among all markets, it is that a supplier must provide a buyer with what the buyer requires.

As Zeeland Farm Services, Inc. continues to explore additional markets, we must understand and meet these

new customers' expectations, as well as adjust to changes in existing markets. Attention to record keeping and documentation continues to be a focus point, but I want to touch on two of the quality issues that have cropped up: Cereal grain and foreign material.

While we have historically suggested wheat as a way to assist flushing equipment, we must remind everyone that wheat is considered an allergen and is not allowed in soybean grain being delivered to ZFS.

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## MSU Weed Tour is June 28

The annual Michigan State University Weed Tour is Wednesday, June 28 at the MSU Agronomy Farm in East Lansing.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with the field tour to kick off at 9:30.

There will also be two afternoon tours, including a non-GMO tour, beginning at 1 p.m.

ZFS will pay the \$25 fee for anyone pre-registering for the event. Please RSVP by June 20 by calling (616) 879-1729 or emailing [beng@zfsinc.com](mailto:beng@zfsinc.com).

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# Reliable seed source a key to success

By Dan Bailey, ZFS Select Seed

With so many varieties of GMO and conventional soybean seed on the market, there are more options available to farmers now than ever before.

And within those varieties, there are also many seed technology choices to consider: Variety selection, treatments, SDS, cyst nematode, white mold, planting populations. The list goes on and on.

How does a grower know if they are making the right seed choice for their farming operation this year?

Taking the plunge back into conventional soybeans can be challenging. But simply deciding to start is the critical first step. The key is to just begin.

We know growers are challenged with more glyphosate resistant weeds, so a great option available is to respect the rotation with conventional soybeans, while controlling Roundup Ready resistant weeds and receiving a premium.



Once the choice has been made to plant conventional soybeans, always make sure you start with a reliable, tested seed

source. All it takes is just a few Roundup Ready or Liberty Link seeds to contaminate an entire field.

At ZFS Select Seed we have a passion for creating new opportunities and offering unique solutions to help our growers succeed. We strive to be a trusted, future-focused partner in an era of seed company change and consolidation.

Always feel free to check out the ZFS website, [www.zfsinc.com](http://www.zfsinc.com), for updated plot data results and non-GMO IP premiums.

## Quote of the day

“The foundation stones for a balanced success are honesty, character, integrity, faith, love and loyalty.”

Zig Ziglar



# Quality control counts (Con't from Page 1)

Not only wheat, but other cereal grains as well, can cause a significant problem if detected later in the soybean by-products.

While we can, and do, take measures to clean out the wheat, as we all know, wheat can catch anywhere. The best solution is to not have it in the process in the first place.

Now, having stated that, wheat is an important crop to farmers and to ZFS, so we ask that you do your due diligence in cleaning equipment and flushing it with soybeans that you do not plan as part of your specialty program with ZFS.

Using other material as a flush, such as wood shavings, would be an alternative.

Another concern of particular note this past season stems from foreign material (pun intended). While the less than desirable harvest season, paired with generally poorly activated weed control from early dry weather, played a large role in the resulting stems and weed seed, they are not the only factors to blame.

All too quickly we may feel the pressure to get things done, but it does pay to give pause and think about how we need to adjust equipment to maximize grain and minimize the foreign material. This is often something we think about after the truck crosses the scales and we realize we can do better.

Fortunately, each year is different and time will tell what the challenge will be

this fall.

I bring these couple of items up so that Michigan farmers can continue to differentiate from other states in their attention to quality, allowing for the continued expansion and exploration of markets. While we can say it is not possible to keep wheat out, it is possible to minimize its presence.

While we can say it was the weather and no year is the same, we can recognize what we can do to adjust to these circumstances.

We appreciate your continued support and efforts to supply quality product. Please let us know if you have any questions or thoughts. We will do our best to explain and share what changes are taking place.



## Soybeans

### ZFSelect Seed

#### 1326 Conventional

The 1326 has been with us now for several years, for a very good reason. The 1326 adapts to any soil condition across the state where a 2.6 is grown.

#### Experimentals

ZFSelect Seed is currently evaluating several varieties to add to the lineup in the coming years. We will continue to provide growers with the best non-GMO options for your farm.

### Dairyland Seed

#### 1808 Roundup Ready

The 1808 has been in the Dairyland lineup for a few years and has built up a loyal following among those who grow the 1.8. It scores great against white mold, as well as lodging.

#### 2707 Roundup Ready

The 2707 is a new variety and is an excellent option when looking at reduced planting populations. This 2.7 scores excellent against sudden death syndrome, as well as lodging. It is also extremely consistent across environments.

### D.F. Seeds

#### 192 Conventional

This new 1.9 is excellent against soybean cyst nematode and has been consistent in yield throughout its three years of testing.

#### 242 Conventional

This 2.4 scores well on lodging, while maintaining yield in a medium style bush plant.



## Corn

### Dairyland Seed

#### 9900

This hybrid has been around for many years, and there is good reason for that. This seed will yield in tough conditions and is a consistent workhorse in the 100-day range. The 9900 is available only in a SmartStax and Refuge Advanced combination.

#### 9508

This 108-day seed is new to the lineup and is purely a racehorse hybrid, with girthy ears and deep kernels. This is a great choice for corn-on-corn and no till, while maintaining decent grain dry down. The 9508 is available in either SmartStax/Refuge Advanced combo or Roundup Ready.

### Partners Brand

#### 5630

This hybrid is an excellent choice when looking at an 86-day corn. It maintains top-end yield potential and scores well on all soil types, as well as being an excellent choice for corn-on-corn and no-till. It is available in both conventional or glyphosate tolerant.

#### 8132

This 111-day corn is one to look at when looking for a later day corn. It rates well on all soil types and has good drought tolerance. This hybrid is available in both Liberty Link, as well as glyphosate tolerant.

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## Brett Pyper joins ZFSelect Seed team

Hi, my name is Brett Pyper and I have recently joined the seed sales team at Zeeland Farm Services.

I'm excited to be a part of an organization I have known for several years.

I grew up on a family farm just south of Hudsonville, Mich., and began operating on my own four years ago. I began participating in the ZFS non-GMO program last year and continued to work closely with Ben



Glass and the rest of the ZFSelect team. So when there was an opening on the team, I jumped at the opportunity to join.

In the past, I had spent some time working for a chemical and fertilizer supplier in the area,

where I learned a lot about the various chemistries that can be used for both corn and soybeans.

Prior to ZFS, I was a Dairyland seed dealer. Because of my familiarity with Dairyland products and how they fit with the other ZFS seed offerings, I look forward to being able to offer you the best hybrids and varieties for your farm. I look forward to meeting with all of you in the coming months.

## 2017 ZFS trial plot locations

Organic corn plot  
Fremont, MI

Dairyland corn plot  
Jamestown, MI

Non-GMO soybean plot  
Jamestown, MI

GMO soybean plot  
Ithaca, MI

Non-GMO soybean plot  
Memphis, MI

If you would like to visit any of the ZFS trial plots during the season, please give ZFS a call at (616) 879-1729. To see ZFSelect Seed results in the 2016 MSU variety trials, visit:

[www.zfsinc.com/divisions/seed/](http://www.zfsinc.com/divisions/seed/)

