



## ***Residue™***

9/6/2013

***Most growers will have considerably more residue following this year's crop compared to the 2012 crop. Will that extra residue become an asset or a liability? That depends on you.***

Basic residue management concepts include:

- Getting the residue in contact with the soil as soon as possible after harvest – Cutting or chopping the residue increases the surface area exposed to the soil and therefore to microbial decomposition.
- Inoculating the residue with microbes.
- Getting the microbes incorporated – If you do not use tillage, you will be dependent on rainfall to incorporate the microbes.

**AgriEnergy Resources has three different **Residue™** options to help you manage residue.**

**Residue™ WS** is a water soluble powder that contains live microbes that are needed for the decomposition process. It is applied at 1/10# per acre.

**Residue™ PL** is a liquid food source for microbes that is meant for a liquid application. It is typically applied at 2 gallons per acre. These two products are meant to be applied together. Organic growers may choose to use additional food sources such as liquid fish or **Pillar 11**.

Using **Practi-Cal** for a liquid food source is another option. Since Practi-Cal contains soluble calcium and humic acid, it makes a great companion product for Residue™ WS because of its ability to positively impact soil tilth and create a good environment for microbes. It should be applied at a rate of at least 2 gallons per acre. Practi-Cal would not be allowed for organic production.

**Residue™ DF** is a dry product that is water soluble. It provides flexibility in the fact that it can be solubilized and sprayed as a liquid or it can be blended and spread with dry fertilizer. It is applied at 3 pounds per acre and is shipped in 51 pound bags.

Liquid applications should be applied with a minimum of 15 gallons per acre of spray volume. Additional nitrogen would be advised when spraying large amounts of mature carbon such as corn stalks or wheat stubble. Adding an additional 30 units of nitrogen has worked well for corn stalks going back to corn the next year.

### **What benefits might you see from a **Residue™** application?**

**Rapid crop residue decomposition** which, in turn, provides the following benefits:

- Better conditions at planting time – With less residue you get a quicker soil warm up, better seed-to-soil contact, better soil tilth, and a lower tillage and power requirement.
- Biosanitation – “Clean up” residues quickly to avoid problems in the next crop.
- Recycle nutrients – Capture the nutrients from the last crop and use them for the next crop.
- Better soil tilth results in better gas exchange which means more oxygen in the soil for plant roots and microbes. It also means less weed pressure.
- Build Organic Matter – Rapid decomposition stores more usable carbon in the soil which means greater water and nutrient holding capacity for your soils.
- Increased Yields – We typically see a 12 bushel increase in corn yields and a 5 bushel increase in bean yields.

***Contact your AgriEnergy Representative to plan your **Residue™** program.  
Get a jump start on a bumper crop in 2014!***