



SP-1™ Shines in Pennsylvania

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These last few weeks of summer are a good time to visit test plots, go to field days, and read up on industry practices. It is a great time to meet new people and learn new things. Recently, while at a field day in Northern Michigan we listened to Biologist Jim Marshall speak on soil health. He reminded us of how a plant works.

As plant roots grow down, the tip of the root (or the root cap) pushes into the soil scraping along the soil aggregate. While pushing down, it exudes complex sugars and complex carbohydrates in front of it which lubricates the root. Jim says this lubricant "is like maple syrup is for us on pancakes, it is the awesome stuff." This lubricant attracts the biology in the soil. When the biology moves in close to the roots to feed, they are also holding the soil together giving the soil structure and making nutrients available.

While at a root dig in Pennsylvania, our [SP-1™](#) was evident. Notice how the check soil is hard and chunky creating a difficult rhizosphere for the roots to establish



themselves, versus the treated soil that is softer and nimbler making it easier for the root tips to get established. SP-1™ works with soil biology to produce a more active, healthy, and profitable rhizosphere.

Not only are the roots working below the soil, but the plant above the soil is working hard as well to supply "the awesome stuff" down to the roots. The most current A&L Labs Canada Tech Bulletin reminds us that the plant returns 40-60% of the photosynthates that it produces to the rhizosphere. This is a tremendous amount of energy that goes to feeding the organisms in the rhizosphere and culturing the soil biome.

Now, when we feed the soil or feed the plant, we're actually feeding the microbes. The soil and the plant work together to produce a crop.

As we are at field days, trade shows, or just walking our fields, let's keep in mind that it's our soil and what we do to it that will determine how successful we are. We have the products you need to make sure your soil and plants are performing at their best. Contact your **AgriEnergy rep** to put together a program for your area! **815.872.1190**.