



Welcome to Ground Work

Dear J.P.,

Last week's Ground Work introduced a new AgriEnergy Resources product called Practi-Cal. However, this product is not really new. It is an improved version of an old product that we are reintroducing. Its tilth-fostering properties are well known to us, so our prediction of its effectiveness is not theoretical. This stuff flat works!

Years ago Practi-Cal's predecessor had the consistency of sludge and could only be applied with excellent agitation. Very few farmers had this capability so it was dropped until such time as we could make it easy-to-handle. That time is here!

This past winter we incorporated new technologies which make this a well

behaved product that can be applied with practically any spray apparatus. In fact, because of its improved handling characteristics we believe that it will perform even better than it did in the past. The reactions that used to turn this product to sludge were a release of energy before the product ever hit the field. Now we control those reactions and that extra energy is released into the soil instead.

How does Practi-Cal work?

Practi-Cal chemically alters the alignment of the clays in tight soils to make them fluffier. On compacted sand it drives particles apart and likewise eases root penetration. And when roots get bigger our microbial biomass increases. Those microbes need lots of oxygen and with better surface tilth they get it. But wait, there's more. When more oxygen gets into the soil that means more carbon dioxide is being supplied by the microbes to the plants. That increases growth rates.

Where do I use Practi-Cal?

- Use Practi-Cal as a preplant broadcast application ahead of soybeans and other calcium loving crops. Often we see beans with their leaves cupped upward – a sure sign of yield stealing calcium deficiency. Or we may see a crop with massive flowering but whose yields are mediocre because many of those flowers didn't set, or the fruit sloughed off. Practi-Cal helps hold set.
- Another great application for this new product is in conjunction with a Residue program. When we combine the chemical-structural improving properties of Practi-Cal with the polysaccharide forming properties of rapid residue decomposition, soil not only gets mellow, it stays mellow.
- Use it also with liquid nitrogen for a corn sidedress. Especially on tight soils. Get Practi-Cal working with SP-1 and root exudates to really

exploit your banded fertilizers. Create a dynamic “bio band” around that applied nitrogen.

- Use Practi-Cal deep placed in the soil with pasture renovators like the Earthquake. Make the job of those perennial grass roots easier so a higher percent of energy will be sent to the part of the plant that makes beef and milk.
- Finally, and as good an application as there is for Practi-Cal, apply it to hay fields. Alfalfa is a crop that gets a lot of tractor traffic and often it is grown on land that is tough to row crop, hence it is very prone to compaction. Nobody should be satisfied with 6 ton alfalfa where they get 4 cuttings. With Practi-Cal you won't have to settle.

Put simply, Practi-Cal is a product that should be considered everywhere compaction is an issue. Whether on soils that are tight because of high clay or tight because they get a lot of vehicle traffic. Whether there are hard pans because of tillage practices or hard pans because the organic matter is low, remember Practi-Cal. This is a product that performs well alone, but performs even better when accompanied by beneficial biology. Practi-Cal opens doors and creates space; the beneficial biology goes through the doors and occupies the space.

Practi-Cal is NOT for use in organic production.