# Neonicotinoid Education & Research Heather Darby, Agronomist University of Vermont Extension





### Impact of Treated Seed on Plant Stands

#### • Borderview Research Farm: 2023, 2024, 2025

- Replicated trial
- Two treatments: treated and untreated
- Six planting dates
- Soil & crop measureme

	the second se		
Planting date	Planting da		
number			
PD 1	10-May		
PD 2	16-May		
PD 3	26-May		
PD 4	1-June		
PD 5	9-June		
PD 6	16-June		





#### Impact of Treated Seed on Plant Stands



# No statistical difference in corn populations between treated and untreated corn seed.





### Impact of Treated Seed on Yields



# No statistical difference in corn yields between treated and untreated corn seed.







#### Seed corn maggot flight recorded on 8-Jun. Did this impact the corn yield at this planting date?

### Corn Seed Maggot Flies





### Impact of Treated Seed on Plant Stands



On-farm sites (one planting date) observes some differences in populations; however, related to bird damage and dry conditions at planting.





### Impact of Treated Seed on Yields



# What about planting date 5? This is a 4-ton yield difference!







#### Seed corn maggot flight recorded on 8-Jun. Did this impact the corn yield at this planting date?

### **Corn Seed Maggot Flies**







Distribution of yld35dm

### Impact of Treated Seed on Plant Stands



## No statistical difference in corn populations between treated and untreated corn seed.















#### **Clothianidin in the Soil over a Year**

Replicate						
Rep1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4	-Average <sup>£</sup>		
		ug kg <sup>-1</sup>				
<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0		
6.60	2.70	<2.0	8.60	5.97		
< 2.0	< 2.0	2 30	2.70	2.50		
~2.0	~2.0	2.00	2.10	2.00		
19.80	11.40	2.00	2.00	8.80		
<2.0	2.30	<2.0	<2.0	2.30		
2.20	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	2.20		
<2.0	3.60	<2.0	2.70	3.15		
<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0		
<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0		





#### Long-Term Use of Clothianidin and Soil Residues

	Micro Wa				
North Surface	North Tile	South Tile	Average (n=16) <sup>£</sup>	Detectable limit <sup>¥</sup>	
	ug l	Kg <sup>-1</sup>			% of samples
3.78	4.60	3.70	3.70	3.94	88
5.40	5.65	3.15	4.45	4.66	44
6.00	3.25	3.35	<2.0	3.30	44
5.80	2.67	2.55	<2.0	2.61	44

	_	Micro Watershed <sup>†</sup>					
		North Surface	North Tile	South Tile	South Surface	Average (n=16) <sup>£</sup>	Detectable limit <sup>¥</sup>
	_		ug k		% of samples		
2023 Preplant (13-A)	pr)						
	0.0"-2.5"	3.78	4.60	3.70	3.70	3.94	88
	2.5"-6.0"	5.40	5.65	3.15	4.45	4.66	44
2024 Preplant (26-Apr)							
	0.0"-2.5"	6.00	3.25	3.35	<2.0	3.30	44
	2.5"-6.0"	5.80	2.67	2.55	<2.0	2.61	44



#### Scope of Work: VAAFM & LCBP

#### • **Discovery Acres**

 Assess the impact of quality (N&P).

 Neonicotinoid movement in surface and subsurface water.

# management methods on water



Existing Ditches





# Concentration of clothianidin in Tile & Surface water post corn planting, St. Albans, VT, 2023.



Samples with concentration greater than reporting limit (0.0500 ug/L).

\*This is not the loading rate just concentrations from single samples taken from surface or tile when there was water moving off from surface or out of the tiles.





### Loading of clothianidin in Tile & Surface water post corn planting, St. Albans, VT, 2023.



• Tile • Surface

Record rainfall in 2023

Levels higher from surface runoff & detection 47% of the time. increase infiltration rate

Tile less detection -43% of samples had detectable levels.





# Planter Dust





![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

r parameters at the time of dust collection at each on-farm location in Vermont, 2024.

Soil T	Soil moisture (%)	Temperature (°F)	Humidity (%)	Wind direction	Wind speed (mph)	Collection date	
Missisquoi loamy sand 3-8% slo	7.30	64.0	41.2	SE	7.4-9.4	20-May	
Missisquoi loamy sand 0-3% slo	41.0	64.7	72.3	E	4.5-6.5	11-May	
Copake fine sandy loam 2-8% slo	36.0	66.0	34.4	SW	2.5-3.6	13-May	
Cabot Silt Loam 3-8%, Westbury & 8-15%	18.1	62.4	56.5	W	5.1-6.3	16-May	
Covington and Panton silty clay,	46.6	88.0	47.0	E-SE	0.4-4.5	21-May	
ection, humidity and temperature were collected with a HoldPeak® digital anemometer. Soil moisture was take							

al Soil Moisture Meter with Probe. Model DSMM500.

![](_page_16_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_6.jpeg)

#### ype

- ope Wareham loamy fine sand
- ppe & 25-60% slope
- ope
- y stony fine sandy loam 3-8%
- 0-3%
- en with General Tools

#### **Neonicotinoid Dust Captured at On-Farm Locations** ¥<0.43 is below the detectable limits.

Location (city)	Collection height (cm)	Clothianidin (ng cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Thiamethoxam (ng cm <sup>-2</sup> )
	200	<0.43 <sup>¥</sup>	<0.43
Highgate	30	<0.43	<0.43
	0	<0.43	<0.43
	200	<0.43	<0.43
Swanton	30	<0.43	<0.43
	0	<0.43	<0.43
	200	<0.43	<0.43
St. Albans	30	<0.43	<0.43
	0	<0.43	<0.43
	200	<0.43	<0.43
Franklin	30	<0.43	<0.43
	0	<0.43	<0.43
Middlebury	200	<0.43	<0.43
	30	<0.43	<0.43
	0	0.7	<0.43

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Dust Collection – Direct from Planter

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Fluency Agents

Fluency agents often used to help seed flow through the planter.

Fluency agents thought to be abrasive to the seed coatings/treatment.

Alternative fluency agents developed to reduce "dust-off" during planting.

DUST – Soybean based product

Bayer Fluency Agent – Polyethylene wax based

![](_page_19_Picture_6.jpeg)

#### Fluency Agents

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Graphite

![](_page_20_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Seed Brand

## Conservation Practices and Seedcorn Maggot

#### Table 1. Corn cropping system specifics for corn yield and soil health, Alburgh, VT, 2023. **Treatment abbreviation** Management method Tilled Τ No-till NT BM Broadcast manure Broadcast manure, incorporated with tillage TM Injected manure IM Cover crop, tilled CCT CCNT Cover crop + no-till Cover crop + broadcast manure CCBM Cover crop + broadcast manure, incorporated with tillage CCTM Cover crop + injected manure CCIM

Study to evaluate if practices associated with conservation increase risk of seedcorn maggot. Impact of Tillage & Manure

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

Impact of Cover Crops

	0.50		
	0.00		
	0.45		
	0.40		
	0.35		
(%)	0.00		
e Se	0.30		
ama	0.25		
ΔD	0.20		
5 S			
	0.15		
	0.10		
	0.05		
	0.00		
		No CC	

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)