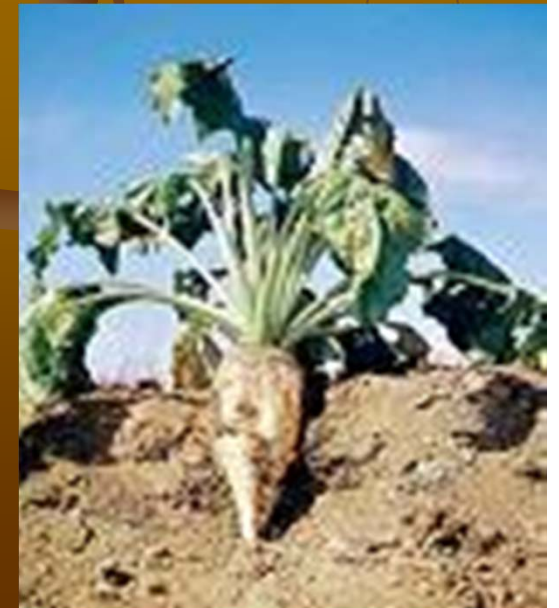


Growing Round-Up-Ready Sugar Beets vs. Conventional Sugar Beets

By Steven Snyder



Introduction

- Sugar Beets are very important in both the United States agriculture and Wyoming's agriculture.
- Fifth leading cash crop in Wyoming
- Why it is important to research new technologies



Introduction

- Why GMO crops?
- Why look at Round-Up-Ready sugar beets?



Background

- Who is interested in growing Round-Up-Ready sugar beets?
- Who does it affect?
- California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.



Background

- Previous interest in Round-Up-Ready sugar beets.
- History of Round-Up-Ready sugar beets.
- Why Wyoming Sugar Company was able to experiment with Round-Up-Ready.



Problems with Round-Up-Ready

- Government approval
- Marketing
- Price of new technologies
- Possible yield declines
- Chemical differences



Advancements Round-Up-Ready Creates

- Weed Control
- New tillage methods
- Fuel savings
- Less farm & migrant labor
- More acreage
- Protecting environment



Fuel savings per acre for Round-Up-Ready Sugar Beets (fuel priced at \$4.00)

	Conventional Fuel cost		Round-Up Fuel cost
1.) Plow	\$7.50	1.) Strip Till	\$8.50
2.) Rollo-harrow	\$3.00	2.) Plant	\$1.50
3.) Rollo-harrow	\$3.00		
4.) Level	\$2.50		
5.) Telone	\$6.00		
6.) Level	\$2.50		
7.) Apply Fertilizer	\$1.30		
8.) Rollo-harrow	\$3.00		
9.) Ridge	\$1.50		
10.) Plant	\$1.50		
Total Fuel Cost	\$31.80	Total Fuel Cost	\$10



Budget

Sugar beet budget

Conventional costs per acre

Fuel	\$31.80
Labor	\$10.00
Beet labor	\$40.00
Equipment maintenance	\$2.00
Tractor maintenance	\$3.00
Chemicals	\$35.00
Fertilizer	\$60.00
Telon	\$40.00
New equipment	\$0.00
Total costs	\$221.80

Round-Up-Ready costs per acre

Fuel	\$10.00
Labor	\$5.00
Beet labor	\$0.00
Equipment maintenance	\$1.00
Tractor maintenance	\$1.50
Chemicals	\$40.00
Fertilizer	\$30.00
Telon	\$20.00
New equipment	\$10.00
Total costs	\$117.5

Average income per acre

\$1,200

Average income per acre

\$1,200



Sugar and Yield Comparison

■ 2007 Round-Up

29.3 Tons per acre
16 Percent sugar

■ 2007 Conventional

30.1 Tons per acre
16 Percent sugar

■ 2008 Round-Up

31.1 Tons per acre
17.5 Percent sugar

■ 2008 Conventional

30.3 Tons per acre
17.5 Percent sugar



GMO Crops

- Increase Yield
- Herbicide Resistance
- Disease Resistance



Conclusion

■ Round-Up-Ready Pros

- Weed control
- New Technologies
- Fuel savings
- Labor, Time, Machinery savings
- Environmentally safe

■ Conventional Pros

- Reliability
- Known
- No new investments



Conclusion

- Round-Up-Ready
Cons
- Law suit
- Price of technologies
- Some unknown

- Conventional Cons
- Input costs
- Weed Control
- Time

www.cobrey.co.uk



Recommendation



Incorporate a portion of your crop to ensure it is right for you.

Eventually go to Round-Up-Ready!

Questions?

