

# NEW LIBERTYLINK SOYBEANS ARRIVE



**LIBERTY  
LINK**®   
IGNITE® HERBICIDE TOLERANT

## LIBERTYLINK® SOYBEANS AND IGNITE® HERBICIDE WILL ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CROP PRODUCTIVITY

The Bayer CropScience commercial launch of LibertyLink® soybeans for the 2009 season means growers now have a new nonselective herbicide-tolerant system in soybeans.

“We are very excited to formally announce the launch of the LibertyLink trait in soybeans,” said Andy Hurst, product manager, herbicide-tolerant traits and Ignite® herbicide at Bayer CropScience, during a teleconference in December 2008. “All of the pieces—in terms of approval in key export countries, our new herbicide Ignite, labeled for use on all LibertyLink crops, and our seed production—are on track for this launch.”

LibertyLink soybean varieties featuring top-yielding genetics and built-in tolerance to Ignite herbicide provide growers an effective tool to ensure sustainable crop productivity and weed resistance management.

LibertyLink soybean varieties performed very well in seed production in 2008, providing seed for planting up to a million acres in 2009.

“We’ve been growing LibertyLink beans for two years. The average yield that we’ve seen from them was quite a bit better than our Roundup [Ready]® beans that we also grow for seed beans,” said Tim Lance, who grows seed beans with a group of producers in northwest Missouri. “This past year we’ve had approximately a 9.3 [bushel-per-acre] better average than our Roundup [Ready] average. In 2007, [the LibertyLink soybeans] were 7.4 bushels [per acre] better than our Roundup average.”

“All of us think that the average yields that we had have been better with LibertyLink beans, from 2.2 [bu/A] on an average, clear up to 11.2 [bu/A] that I had in a specific field,” he said. “They out-performed the expectations that we had of them.”

**“On my personal farm, I’m going to be 100 percent LibertyLink beans next year. I just do not believe I can afford to plant Roundup Ready beans.”**



Tim Lance

Together, LibertyLink crops with Ignite herbicide is the only nonselective alternative to glyphosate-tolerant systems, providing growers similar over-the-top convenience, while enabling them to manage or potentially avoid weed resistance.

“A lot of the solutions that have been offered for glyphosate resistance were using a lot of older herbicides that didn’t work before Roundup Ready, and they’re not going to work now,” said Ford Baldwin of Practical Weed Consultants LLC, based in Austin, Ark. “We simply have to have new technology, and this is what, in my opinion, LibertyLink and Ignite bring to the table. It’ll provide excellent control of resistant weeds [and an] excellent prevention program.”

Baldwin also said Ignite herbicide provides excellent broad-spectrum, over-the-top control of several tough-to-control weeds.

Lance agreed. “As far as the performance of the product Ignite, we cannot ask for anything better. The Ignite program has worked excellent on our problem weeds.”

Ignite herbicide controls more than 120 broadleaf weeds and grasses, including woolly cupgrass, velvetleaf, cocklebur, foxtails, marehail, morningglories, ragweeds, waterhemp, Palmer amaranth and ALS- and glyphosate-resistant weeds.

“The number of acres that we’ve planted in our area has ranged from 250 in 2007 to a little bit over 350 in 2008,” Lance continued. “And the ease of the product is just as easy, or even easier, to use as Roundup.”

Lance is among several growers who are looking forward to LibertyLink soybeans being a part of their farm in the future.

“On my personal farm, I’m going to be 100 percent LibertyLink beans next year,” Lance said. “I just do not believe I can afford to plant Roundup Ready beans.”

# LIBERTYLINK® SOYBEANS AND IGNITE® HERBICIDE GIVE GROWERS A NEW TOOL TO COMBAT HERBICIDE-RESISTANT WEEDS



Glyphosate-resistant weeds have been confirmed in 19 states, and many states report weed resistance to multiple chemistries including ALS-, PPO- and triazine herbicides. At this time, there is no known resistance to Ignite herbicide or glufosinate as the active ingredient.

By rotating to LibertyLink soybeans, growers benefit from effective, over-the-top weed control with Ignite herbicide, as well as from its unique, nonselective herbicide mode of action. This rotation will enable growers to manage, or potentially avoid, weed resistance while maintaining current production practices.

The LibertyLink technology also offers outstanding opportunities for growers without resistant weed issues, said Baldwin.

Bayer CropScience advises growers to use no more than two applications of one mode of action in a two-year period on the same field.

“Growers that I’ve had conversations with feel like there has not been a viable way to rotate herbicide chemistries in soybeans,” Hurst said. “The ease and convenience and production efficiency associated with glyphosate tolerance is such that it’s difficult not to go that direction. So with the launch of LibertyLink [soybeans], there will be a true nonselective alternative means of rotating herbicide tolerances, as well as herbicide modes of action that have not existed before in soybeans.”

Rotation between LibertyLink soybeans, conventional corn and Roundup Ready soybeans is how Lance plans to incorporate the LibertyLink technology. “This is just another option to get really good, consistent weed control with three different modes.”



**“Resistance is not a matter of ‘if,’ it’s ‘when,’ if you keep using the same thing over and over. We’ve got an opportunity now to rotate the same efficiency in weed control and keep a lot of farmers out of trouble.”**

*Ford Baldwin*

## TOP 5 Q&A ABOUT NEW LIBERTYLINK SOYBEANS

### Q: How do LibertyLink soybeans perform?

A: LibertyLink soybean varieties have demonstrated yields equal to or better than current commercial varieties, and Bayer CropScience is working with key germplasm originators to ensure future varieties are top yielding.

### Q: What is the availability of LibertyLink soybeans in 2009?

A: LibertyLink soybean varieties are being sold by more than 85 seed companies for the 2009 season. Maturities range from 0.5 to 4.9, serving the soybean-growing regions in the Midwest and Mid-South. That range will broaden quickly for 2010 and beyond. For a complete list of seed companies, visit [www.linkup.bayercropscience.us](http://www.linkup.bayercropscience.us).

### Q: How many acres are anticipated for 2009 and 2010?

A: The initial launch in 2009 will accommodate up to 1 million acres. In addition, Bayer CropScience anticipates significant seed production in 2009 of both commercial varieties and new varieties, which could range from 2 million to 4 million acres, depending on the individual companies.

### Q: What is the difference between Liberty® herbicide and new Ignite herbicide?

A: Ignite is a new, more powerful, cost-effective formulation for use on all LibertyLink crops. Ignite herbicide is 40 percent more concentrated than the old Liberty formulation that it will replace. It will allow growers to use a lower rate of the formulated product, and it provides a single brand for all LibertyLink crops – corn, cotton, canola, and new LibertyLink soybeans.

### Q: How does a LibertyLink program compare with glyphosate-tolerant systems?

A: With this trait, growers are going to have an opportunity to maintain all the similar benefits they enjoy with the use of glyphosate-tolerant systems – less labor, less cultivation, less wear on equipment – and still be able to farm more acres very efficiently. LibertyLink soybeans provide the first nonselective alternative to ensure rotation of herbicide technologies and utility as the system into the future.

For more information on LibertyLink soybeans, visit [www.linkup.bayercropscience.us](http://www.linkup.bayercropscience.us).

**IMPORTANT:** This bulletin is not intended to provide adequate information for use of these products. Read the label before using these products. Observe all label directions and precautions while using these products.



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