

# AGGRAND® NEWS

## AGGRAND Excels in 2010 Growth Plots

The verdict is in. AGGRAND Natural Liquid Fertilizers developed heartier, more productive plants in the experimental growth plots during the 2010 season.

Preliminary and final data reveal AGGRAND-fertilized crops outproduced crops grown with chemical fertilizer and those grown with no fertilizer — the control plots.

AGGRAND personnel harvested in early September.

“Superior (Wis.) is not corn country. It’s a challenge growing corn in this area, but the AGGRAND corn fared the best,” said Richard Holappa, research and development manager.

The plots were built in early spring and planted with corn, tomatoes, green beans and potatoes.

“All of the growth plots were treated in the same manner,” Holappa said. “The soil source, soil analysis, planters, weeding/cultivation, watering all were performed in the same manner for all of the plots.”

The crops in each plot were from the same source and type and all were harvested in the same day. AGGRAND fertilizing applications followed the *AGGRAND Gardening Guide* (G1292). The competitor’s label recommendations were followed for the chemical fertilizer. Water was applied to the control plot at the same volume when the chemical fertilizer was applied.

“As in all scientific studies, the many variables in this study were minimized to arrive at a fair comparison between AGGRAND and the popular chemical fertilizer for these particular garden vegetables,” Holappa said. “The results clearly show that AGGRAND produces more, and many times, larger produce.”

### That’s Gardening

Every gardener and farmer knows the harvest is dependent on the weather. In Superior, the season is typically short at three or four months. This season was about three-and-a-half months and unusually wet.

Hail damaged some of the plants in June, but they rebounded better than expected. (*see AGGRAND News Summer 2010*). Under the same growing conditions, AGGRAND consistently grew a greater amount of vegetables in the 2010 growth plot testing.

*Results of the AGGRAND experimental growth plots will be posted online at [www.aggrand.com](http://www.aggrand.com), complete with in-depth comparisons and information.*



**CORN COMPARISON** — This corn was harvested Sept. 8 from row one of the experimental growth plot at the AGGRAND manufacturing plant in Superior, Wis. Row one was most prolific for all plots.



**RESULTS** — AGGRAND-fertilized corn had 18 full cobs, while the popular chemical fertilizer had nine full cobs and the control had eight full cobs. The AGGRAND cobs are fuller and larger.

*More photos on page 4*

# Organic Garden Thrives With AGGRAND

Dealers Vanessa and Nathan Davis of Duck River, Tenn. pursue their dream of a simpler life at Totty's Bend Farm and Dairy.

Together they raise Nubian goats to sell their milk and cheese. They also grow and sell organic garden vegetables and heirloom tomatoes. They start inside with certified organic seeds and transplant outdoors when the plants are ready.

"Our plants germinate very quickly, and they're very green," Vanessa Davis said. "We're getting a lot of produce."

Their two-year-old, 80 square-foot garden is fertilized with AGGRAND Natural Liquid Fertilizer and Natural Kelp and Sulfate of Potash (0-0-8).

The 2010 growing season started out great, but in May they were hit with a flood "followed by a drought," she said. "We've used AGGRAND both years. I was just amazed at how much produce we got out of the garden the first year. This year wasn't as good as the first year, but it was still good."

During the season, a foliar feeding was done with 2 tablespoons of AGGRAND 4-3-3 mixed with a gallon of water.

Neighbors comment on how well the garden does, and Davis has been known to give them AGGRAND to try. One neighbor used it on okra plants. "Typically they're 2-or-3 feet tall," Davis said. "These were 11 feet tall. It was incredible. I could not believe how tall they got. I've never seen anything like that."



**EARLY IN THE SEASON** — This photo shows the Totty's Bend Farm in early April 2010.



**GROWING LUSH** — The AGGRAND-fertilized garden contains a mixture of vegetables, herbs and flowers.



**AFTER THE FLOOD** — Even during a year that was unusually wet, the potato patch continued to thrive.



**GARDEN FILLS OUT** — The Totty's Bend Farm garden continued to thrive throughout the growing season, for a high yield of potatoes, carrots, squash, tomatoes and more.

# Get Your Compost Cooking for Next Year

The garden has been cleared of all the leftovers from the growing season. The leaves have been raked and the lawn mowed for the last time. This is the second harvest.

Now's the time to take care of the excess organic matter produced by your garden and other growing. Establishing a compost pile is a great way to recycle this material.

Incorporate all the compostable garden residues and get your compost heap cooking for next year's garden.

Alternate hot and wet components like grass, leaves and garbage with drier, springier materials, such as stems, sticks and straw to improve aeration and prevent compaction.

## AGGRAND 4-3-3 Keeps Heap Active

To keep your pile active longer, sprinkle on a solution of AGGRAND 4-3-3 and Natural Liquid Lime diluted at 4 oz. per gallon of water. The lime counteracts the acidity of the leafy material and helps feed the microbes stimulated by the 4-3-3.

Add an occasional shovel full of old garden soil, to keep your compost active while the rest of the garden beds down for winter.

With regular turning and wetting down (moist, not sopping), you will end up with a nutrient- and mineral-rich material

called humus that is easily used by plants when added to garden soil.

To aid the composting process, sprinkle AGGRAND 4-3-3 Natural Fertilizer on the pile (3 oz. per gallon of water) before layering or turning, and leave the top of the pile concave so liquid can seep down gradually.



## Worm Composting

One easy way to compost is to introduce composting worms, aka red wigglers (*Eisenia fetida*), into your pile and let them do the turning. There are several places to find them on the Internet. Cost can range around \$20-25 per 1,000, which is all you need to get started.

Simply make a hole in the center of your pile and place the worms in it. Cover it with a healthy layer of fresh compostables and water with AGGRAND 4-3-3 and let the worms get to work. In a few weeks your compost pile will begin to shrink as the worms do their duty. They will even take care of household food scraps. Just remember to dig a hole for the scraps and then cover it with leaves.

# The Power of Food Plots

Proper seed selection and effective soil preparation greatly increase protein levels over natural forage in food plots.

AGGRAND Natural Wildlife Food Plot Formula Fertilizer boosts nutrient levels, including protein, and provides the primary, secondary and micro-nutrients plants need to flourish. Improved habitat and easy access to succulent, nutrient-rich food attracts more wild game and helps grow larger, healthier animals.

## Sustainable Agriculture

AGGRAND Natural Wildlife Food Plot Formula contains organic materials including fish, bloodmeal and Norwegian Kelp. Organic materials feed the natural soil biology.

## Increases Nutrients in Soil

AGGRAND Natural Wildlife Food Plot Formula enriches the soil. Increased nitrogen levels enhance soil microbial populations, leading to improved nutrient uptake in crops for healthier, more resilient plants. Other benefits of this product include:

- Provides sulfur
- Provides potassium
- Provides phosphorus



## AGGRAND News Issues Online

AGGRAND News is a quarterly publication that offers detailed information on AGGRAND fertilizer use and application available online at [www.aggrand.com](http://www.aggrand.com) in the "Articles" section of the website. Dealers gain access to the AGGRAND archive back to 2001 by logging into the AGGRAND Dealer zone "Articles" section. Most issues include testimonials of how Dealers and customers apply AGGRAND fertilizers. You'll also find helpful growing tips and general horticulture information.

## Send in Your AGGRAND Stories and Photos

AGGRAND News readers look for real-life stories of successful applications of AGGRAND fertilizers, mix ratios and tips for getting the most from these natural liquid fertilizers. Your experience can be part of the AGGRAND literature read by others who share your interests and goals as agricultural, farm and plant growers.

Send your testimonials along with photos of your crops or flowers to [info@aggrand.com](mailto:info@aggrand.com).



# AGGRAND Growth Plot Harvest

Walt Sandbeck, AGGRAND Fertilizer specialist, and Casey Lutz, who manufactures AGGRAND fertilizers at the plant in Superior, Wis., worked together with Richard Holappa, not pictured, in September to bring in the crops – beans, corn, potatoes and tomatoes – from the AGGRAND experimental growth plots.

Employees throughout AMSOIL manufacturing and corporate headquarters were treated to the tasty harvest as they sampled delicious “home-grown” tomatoes and fresh green beans during the early fall months.

Complete results and information on the growth plot experiment in 2010 will be available soon on the AGGRAND website at [www.aggrand.com](http://www.aggrand.com).



*(Top photo) HARVESTING THE CROP* — Walt Sandbeck, AGGRAND Fertilizer specialist, brings in tomatoes in September.

*(Bottom photo) GROWTH PLOT BOUNTY* — A small sampling of the AGGRAND-fertilized tomatoes, fall 2010.

AGGRAND application rates and experiences featured here have been submitted by sources independent of AGGRAND. Your experiences may vary. Optimal application rates can vary due to soil condition, crop type, weather patterns and many other factors. AGGRAND recommends and supports soil analysis to determine optimal application rates.

**AGGRAND**

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