



Technical Bulletin

GUIDELINES FOR PLANTING CORN WITH PONCHO® SEED-APPLIED INSECTICIDE (SAI)

When planting seed treated with a seed-applied insecticide, special attention must be paid to the planter. Seed-applied insecticides can affect seed drop and final plant stands. The extra chemical loading may cause vacuum planters to under seed and finger planters to over seed.

Talc or graphite should be used according to the planter manufacturer's recommendations to ensure accuracy as well as total seed drop when planting seed treated with seed-applied insecticides.

The tables below show differences between seed type and planting unit for seed treated with a fungicide only (Maxim® XL) and the same seed treated with fungicide (Maxim® XL) and Poncho 250 or Poncho 1250.

Table 1 shows seed drop of a medium round seed in a vacuum planter set for a seed drop of 600. The green line shows the actual seed drop for the recommended vacuum setting. Talc was applied to all seed in the hopper box at planting. Seed drop was relatively uniform for all seed treatments.

Table 1: Impact of Poncho Seed-Applied Insecticide – John Deere Vacuum Planter

Medium Sized Round – 1818 seeds/lb.			
Vacuum Level	SEED DROP*		
	Maxim XL only	Maxim XL + Poncho 250	Maxim XL + Poncho 1250
5	601	600	602
6	602	600	597
7	599	597	598
8	591	597	601
9	595	602	596

*Seed drop set at 600. Talc applied to all treatments in the planter at seeding, according to the planter manufacturer's recommendations.

Table 2 shows the affect of seed treatment on a larger round seed. Seed drop was relatively uniform with all treatments, including Poncho 250 and Poncho 1250 for recommended vacuum setting. Talc was applied to all seed at planting.

Table 2: Impact of Poncho Seed-Applied Insecticide – John Deere Vacuum Planter

Large Sized Round – 1553 seeds/lb.			
Vacuum Level	SEED DROP*		
	Maxim XL only	Maxim XL + Poncho 250	Maxim XL + Poncho 1250
7	600	599	598
8	595	599	598
9	602	599	596
10	601	600	596
11	597	596	600

*Seed drop set at 600. Talc applied to all treatments in the planter at seeding, according to planter manufacturer's recommendations.

Table 3 shows that it can be more difficult to achieve the desired seed drop with small to medium flat seed treated with Poncho 1250. The recommended vacuum setting for this seed type is 7. For seed treated with Poncho 1250, increasing the vacuum setting to 8 or 9 will achieve the desired seed drop.

Table 3: Impact of Poncho Seed-Applied Insecticide – John Deere Vacuum Planter

Medium to Small Sized Flat – 1905 seeds/lb.			
Vacuum Level	SEED DROP*		
	Maxim XL only	Maxim XL + Poncho 250	Maxim XL + Poncho 1250
5	595	592	582
6	599	600	586
7	600	594	588
8	598	603	598
9	606	608	604

*Seed drop set at 600. Talc applied to all treatments in the planter at seeding, according to planter manufacturer's recommendations.



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Table 4 shows that Poncho 1250 lowered seed drop for this seed type (large flats). There is also a trend toward lower seed drop with Poncho 250 with this seed type. Talc was applied to all seed prior to planting. A vacuum setting of 9 is recommended for this seed type. To achieve the desired seed drop of 600, the vacuum setting should be increased for seed treated with Poncho 250 and Poncho 1250.

Table 4: Impact of Poncho Seed-Applied Insecticide – John Deere Vacuum Planter

Large Sized Flat – 1569 seeds/lb.			
Vacuum Level	SEED DROP*		
	Maxim XL only	Maxim XL + Poncho 250	Maxim XL + Poncho 1250
7	597	586	571
8	594	588	588
9	605	594	585
10	601	602	601
11	607	608	600

*Seed drop set at 600. Talc applied to all treatments in the planter at seeding, according to planter manufacturer's recommendations.

Seed-applied insecticides can cause over seeding with finger type planters. **Table 5** shows how to improve seed drop accuracy. Round seed types were easy to plant for all treatments. The addition of graphite had no affect on seed drop. Flat seeds, treated with Poncho 250 or Poncho 1250, without graphite, resulted in higher plant populations. The addition of graphite at planting resulted in a seed drop closer to desired seed count of 600.

Table 5: Impact of Graphite on Seed Drop – John Deere Finger Planter

Seed Size	SEED DROP*					
	Maxim XL only		Maxim XL + Poncho 250		Maxim XL + Poncho 1250	
	Without graphite	With graphite	Without graphite	With graphite	Without graphite	With graphite
1818 seeds/lb. round	621	609	605	611	603	605
1553 seeds/lb. round	616	608	608	612	608	607
1905 seeds/lb. flat	590	595	611	593	631	598
1569 seeds/lb. flat	590	593	623	597	624	597

*Seed drop at 600.

- Always follow the planter manufacturer's recommendations for the use of seed lubricants.
- Always make the proper planter adjustments (i.e. vacuum setting).



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