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Extra protection and extra yield in wheat

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Winter cereals that have overwintered well and the relatively weak disease pressure create prerequisites for high yields, but expectations regarding purchase prices at the end of the season are not very high. This raises, first and foremost, a very well-founded question for Bulgarian farmers: “How much should I invest in plant protection measures and which plant protection products are profitable under the current circumstances?” The time is approaching to make a final decision on the choice of fungicide for the second spraying. This year again, a highly cost-effective and reliable solution must be sought, one that has a broad-spectrum action and real added value, i.e. not only reliable disease control, but also, so to speak, something more that contributes to top yields.

Such a fungicide from Syngenta is already available to Bulgarian agricultural producers for the second treatment against wheat diseases – Amistar Extra®. Amistar Extra® has been known to

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farmers since 2014, when, already in its first year on the market, it demonstrated excellent effectiveness and contributed significantly to top yields and extra quality of the production. But let us first start with information about the successes of Amistar® Technology – it is based on a fungicide from the strobilurin group, has been on the world market for nearly 20 years and is the best-selling fungicidal active substance globally: products with Amistar® Technology are registered on 5 continents, with over 600 registrations in more than 100 countries, and demand is measured by the application of 250 million litres/kg of formulated product, over 5000 million decares treated and a contribution of 250 million tons of additional yield.

With Amistar® Technology, Syngenta has repeatedly improved the World Record for wheat yield, the most recent achievement being last year.

What exactly are the advantages of Amistar® Technology and Amistar Extra® when used against diseases during the vegetation period in wheat? Amistar Extra® is a unique combination of two fungicidal active substances – a combination of the world's No. 1 strobilurin and a powerful triazole – a combination that provides preventive, curative and eradicative action and a broad spectrum of controlled diseases. Amistar Extra® provides two modes of action working in excellent interaction to combat the most important wheat diseases (from the end of tillering to first visible flag leaf and from flag leaf to the end of heading), and its fungicidal formulation has a unique combination of five very important advantages: a) Amistar Extra® has many years of proven excellent efficacy in controlling the most important economically significant diseases; b) the formulation of Amistar Extra® has exceptionally fast penetration – within 30 minutes it penetrates and reaches more than 90% of fungal pathogens, and in addition, protective depots are formed against subsequent reinfection; c) the formulation of Amistar Extra® is metabolised exceptionally slowly by the plants – the penetrated fungicide remains present in the plant at 85% in the second week after treatment, which determines an exceptionally long and effective residual activity – up to 6 weeks; d) the formulation of Amistar Extra® has preventive, curative and eradicative action, as it controls spore germination, penetration and growth of the pathogen, development and reproduction of the mycelium, i.e. Amistar Extra® provides effective control of diseases at every stage of their development; e) Amistar Extra® provides a powerful, economically significant green physiological effect for longer and better grain filling and higher yield – the green effect of Amistar Extra® is expressed in improved nitrogen uptake and reduction of ethylene levels, thus delaying leaf "senescence", improving photosynthesis and plant stress tolerance, improving water uptake and delaying its loss – thus, compared to other plant protection programmes, those with Amistar Extra® applied as a second treatment provide on average 3–5 days longer "life" of the crop, and each additional day means more grain filling (an average of 15 kg/da per day – unique profitability for extra yield).

The double-systemic Amistar Extra® has translaminar action for complete protection of the crop plant and also reliably protects the new growth from Powdery mildew (Erysiphe graminis), Leaf spots/Septoria leaf blotch (Septoria tritici), Brown rust (Puccinia recondita). It also significantly improves the qualitative parameters of the yield, which, together with the reliable control and the

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powerful, economically significant green effect, turns Amistar Extra® into one of the leading products established in recent years. For the spring season 2016, Amistar Extra® is offered by Syngenta at a better price compared to the previous year.

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