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What should I expect to see after I treat and plant my seed?

Even though you have treated your corn, cranes may continue to use your field because there are many reasons your field is desirable to cranes. While in your field cranes will avoid treated corn but continue foraging on insect larvae, beetles, rodents, waste corn seed from last years harvest, and other food sources.



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Slight damage may occur as cranes explore the field looking for unprotected corn.

Cranes will react fast to AQ but some sampling may occur before they have learned their lesson. This photo depicts the signs left by foraging cranes who have not yet learned that untreated corn is located in a row.



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What preparation techniques should I use to get the most from Avitec?

Properly mix the Avitec powder in the planter box with the seed.

Follow label instructions.



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Tim Bender

This photo depicts signs left by foraging cranes that have learned that corn is untreated and is evenly spaced in a straight line. The probe holes are from the cranes bill. Cranes do not scratch the soil with their feet to expose corn like other birds such as turkeys.

How should I use Avitec in my fields?

To answer this question, you have to keep in mind that cranes are long-lived birds that have been using your fields for a long time. Just as they can quickly learn that you have planted evenly-spaced, untreated corn in a straight line, they can learn that you have treated part of your field and left untreated another part of your field. If you choose to treat only part of your field, be sure to mark the untreated portions of the field so that you can investigate how much damage occurs there as opposed to the treated part of the field. If you have a history of crane damage in your fields, it is best to treat the whole field.



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If you are replanting or planting a late crop, expect more crane pressure than at other times because cranes are used to feeding in corn fields by late spring and if your field is the only germinating corn field available, the birds can quickly congregate in your one field. Damage in these cases can often be severe and occur in only a day or two.

You can calculate your cost/benefit based on your lost acres from last year compared to what you see this spring.

The cranes will not cause damage generally once your corn is in the 4 leaf stage. You should see the difference in the stand by this time.