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## BIOGUARD CUSTOM SEED TREATMENT FOR 2027

**What is it?** BioGuard is a biologically-based custom seed treatment available on select Blue River and Viking seed corn hybrids. It has been shown to improve emergence, vigor, plant health, and yield, and provide protection from some insects that feed on seedlings.

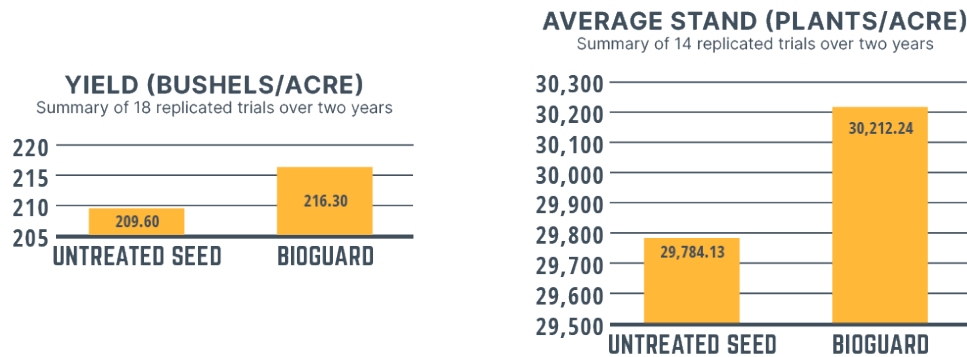
**What is in it?** BioGuard combines an EPA-registered nematicide that also provides protection against nematode and soil-dwelling insects with a fungicide that has biologicals proven to improve seedling and plant health and growth, which may lead to improved stands and higher yields.

**BioGuard is composed of the OMRI Listed® products below:**

1. BIOST® Nematicide 100 is a pasteurized (non-living) formulation of the bacterium *Burkholderia* spp., which is registered with the EPA as a bio-pesticide. It contains enzymes and metabolites that have proven effective in protecting seedlings from a number of nematodes and soil-dwelling insects including wireworms, seed corn maggots, grubs, and corn rootworm. It has not shown suppression against cutworm or armyworm. OMRI Listed® as Allowed with Restrictions.
2. BIOST® Organic VPH is a vegetal protein hydrolysate biostimulant that provides multiple benefits to seedlings and plants, including improving uptake of major and micro-nutrients as well as stimulation of rhizosphere micro-organisms. OMRI Listed® as Allowed.
3. Amplitude® ST is an EPA-registered bio-fungicide derived from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*. It has proven effective in protecting seedlings from *Pythium*, *Fusarium*, and *Rhizoctonia*. OMRI Listed® as Allowed with Restrictions.
4. SoilBiotics® 1R is a humic acid product derived from mined Leonardite. It is formulated to improve nutrient uptake, provide better root development, and reduce plant stress. OMRI Listed® as Allowed.

**Is it OMRI Listed® for Organic Farms?** All the ingredients in BioGuard are OMRI Listed® but two of them are “allowed with restrictions.” This means that each farmer needs to get pre-approval from their certifier before ordering this custom treatment for 2027. We offer a packet of information including product labels, OMRI certificates, and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) that can be downloaded at [alseed.com/bioguard](https://alseed.com/bioguard) to make it easy to approach your certifier for a decision. But ultimately, each farmer is responsible for getting approval to use this seed treatment before purchasing seed. **Once purchased, the seed is non-returnable.**

**Is it as effective as a hard chemistry fungicide/insecticide?** No. BioGuard is not as effective at protecting seedlings as the most widely used chemical fungicides and insecticides. It does not provide protection from cutworm, for example. However, when used properly, studies have repeatedly shown that seed treated with these biologicals has, on average, yielded as much as seed treated with conventional chemicals.



### Why would I use it on my farm?

1. If you are an organic farmer, BioGuard offers the best-available seedling protection from insects and diseases. It allows you to plant with more confidence that you will have uniform stands, healthy seedlings, and improved yields.
2. If you are a conventional farmer, BioGuard gives you a seed treatment option that:
  - a. Eliminates neonicotinoids, which are insecticides linked to pollinator decline. Some food companies are asking that farmers reduce or eliminate their use of these chemicals.
  - b. Reduces negative impact on your soil health. Many conventional farmers are working to improve the health of their most important asset: the soil they farm. The ingredients in BioGuard are all biologically derived.

### For best performance:

- Do not plant early in cold soils. We recommend waiting for soil temperatures to reach optimum temperature before planting. As a rule of thumb, the soil temperature at 4 inches at 7 a.m. should be 50 degrees or higher.
- Avoid fields likely to have a significant cutworm infestation.

Find more information at [alseed.com/bioguard](https://alseed.com/bioguard)

### Ordering Seed Corn coated with BioGuard:

- Must be ordered by November 1, 2026
- Minimum order: 8 bags (per hybrid)
- Order must be paid in full by January 15, 2027
- No returns
- Only available on these hybrids:
  - Blue River 84-95UP, 73-97P, 46-02P, 75-07P
  - Viking RU48-90P, RU67-00P, RU63-09P