



**Maury Johnson**

## Buy Blue River Hybrids Corn Seed, Help Veterans Get Started In Organic Farming

Blue River Hybrids is proud to be sponsoring “**Coming Home to Farm**,” an organic farming retreat in Iowa for 20 Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans. The July 2011 event, organized with the Farmer-Veteran Coalition, provides returning veterans with educational sessions, farm visits, and mentoring from local farmers. And you can help—by planting corn seed from Blue River Hybrids!



### REDUCED PRICING ON SELECT HYBRIDS!

Because of overproduction, Blue River Hybrids is offering the following price reductions. Seed from all sizes and hybrids below will meet the normal Blue River Hybrids quality standards for germination and seed purity. Take advantage of this opportunity to save!

1. **08T91** - SF and SR from \$167 to \$129
2. **14B91** - SF and SR from \$147 to \$129
3. **22A10** - all sizes from \$167 to \$147
4. **36K71** - SF and SR from \$147 to \$129
5. **39B17** - SF and SR from \$177 to \$149
6. **47A30** - SF and SR from \$177 to \$149
7. **57H36** - SR only from \$177 to \$149
8. **70R50** - SF only from \$167 to \$149

- 1. New Customers**—For every bag of corn seed you buy from Blue River, we will donate \$10 to the Farmer Veteran Coalition.
- 2. Existing Customers**—For every bag of corn seed you buy—over and above what you bought last season—we will donate \$10 to the Farmer Veteran Coalition.

Every day thousands of US veterans are trying to make the transition to civilian life. It turns out the characteristics that make for a good soldier, make for a good farmer: discipline, leadership, work ethic, and mission. America needs farmers, and veterans need meaningful work.

We want to reward customers who switch to Blue River Hybrids seed by giving back to the community. It’s a novel approach, and it’s a win-win. Our customers get high quality seed, and Midwest veterans receive training in organic farming.

To purchase corn seed from Blue River Hybrids and support a farmer-veteran, call 800-370-7979 or visit [www.blueriverorgseed.com](http://www.blueriverorgseed.com) to find a dealer near you.

*Maury Johnson*

**Maury Johnson**  
Founder, Blue River Hybrids

### Early Payment Customer Discounts 2010–2011

Month	December 2010	January 2011	February 2011	March 2011	April 2011	May 2011
Cash Discount	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%

# Organic Farmers Win World Forage Analysis Competition with Organic Roadrunner Alfalfa & Niva Orchardgrass Mix!

The announcement of John and Diane Pounder as the Grand Champion Forage producers of the World Forage Analysis Superbowl was “big news” for Blue River Hybrids! Their entry, a mixture of Roadrunner Alfalfa and Niva orchardgrass, had a relative forage quality score of 281, testing 49.8% dry matter, 19.6% NDF, and 22.5% crude protein.

The Pounders are organic farmers from Delavan, WI. They farm 300 acres with a 40-cow beef herd and operate an on-farm processing center that cleans and conditions grain. Their hay enterprise has become a profitable part of their business. *“Our hay customers are looking for top quality hay to feed to their organic dairy herds. It is usually very easy to find low quality hay, but hay only keeps the cows alive. If you want top production from your cow, you have to feed top quality forages.”*

To meet these customer needs, the Pounders have been growing Roadrunner alfalfa since 2005. *“Roadrunner alfalfa is a high quality variety with good disease resistance ratings and high yield potential. Niva orchardgrass is a good match with alfalfa because it matures about the same as alfalfa, and this allows us to cut and capture the hay (alfalfa & orchardgrass) near its peak quality. We have had yields up to 8 tons of dry matter per acre with this combination on some of our higher quality soils.”*



**Bryan, Diane & John Pounder**  
Organic Farmers from Delavan, WI

## Sunflower - Corn Silage

On September 27, 2010, Kevin Ferguson of Rosendale, WI harvested 14.5 acres of a double crop of Sierra Organic sunflowers and corn. Harvest went well, and his silage mix filled two 200'-long bags plus two additional boxes.

Kevin reports that his cows “dive into it” at feeding time! The dry sunflower heads are softened in the bag of silage mix, allowing the sunflower kernels to release the “meat” of the seed to the benefit of the cows. He was quite surprised to find that the amount of oil doubled with the sunflower/corn mix verses corn silage. The protein test on milk from his 50-cow dairy operation is over 4 points. He estimates that it will be January or February before he can more accurately assess the benefits of the silage mix. He is still deliberating his crop plans for next year, since continued use of the sunflower/corn silage would necessitate changing his feed ration.

One of the challenges Kevin experienced in raising this crop was competition from the black birds that find the low marshy area near his field attractive. He estimates he lost 7–10% of his sunflower crop to them. Overall, Kevin reports that his “experiment” was worthwhile.



Courtesy of The Country Today.

## New Alfalfa Varieties

### Bobwhite 2ML Alfalfa CNV

This alfalfa has an outstanding yield of high quality forage. It is a multi-foliolate forage with drought tolerance and resistance to six major diseases as well as Aphanomyces root rot. Bobwhite 2ML has a high leaf to stem ratio, tolerates wheel traffic, and boasts a fast recovery after cutting. This alfalfa is conventional, non-GMO production for 2011 and will be available with Apex Green coating.

### Meadowlark RC Alfalfa CNV

Meadowlark RC has exceptional forage capabilities and excellent resistance to disease, insects, and nematodes. The recessed crown helps insulate the crown in severe winter weather and protect it from wheel traffic and animal hoof damage. Meadowlark RC has an upright growth habit and quick re-growth. This alfalfa is conventional, non-GMO production for 2011 and will be available with Apex Green coating.

# 2010 Test Plot Results

## 80-90 Days

VARIETY	R. M.	YIELD	AVE %*	MOIST	%SL	%RL
08T91	78	129.4	85.9%	13.21	6.7	2.8
08K18	80	138.7	92.1%	14.64	5.9	6.6
14A91	82	150	99.6%	13.57	3.2	4.7
Pio 39D81	84	134.5	89.3%	14.23	5.8	1.4
19K19	84	150.6	100.0%	14.02	6.7	3.7
23M91	86	163.6	108.6%	14.54	3.0	4.8
25A16	88	176.8	117.4%	14.48	3.3	1.7
30A12	90	160.8	106.8%	15.17	2.0	2.5
33N73	92	145.3	96.5%	15.82	2.5	5.0

### 80-90 day Locations

Cambridge, IA      Mooreton, ND  
 Arlington, MN      Doland, SD  
 Canby, MN          Groton, SD  
 Owatonna, MN      Milbank, SD  
 Sauk Centre, MN    Almond, WI  
 Staples, MN        Arlington, WI  
 Wells, MN          DeForrest, WI

\* Average based on 20 hybrids tested

\* 14 total testing locations (IA, MN, ND, SD, WI)

## 90-102 Days

VARIETY	R. M.	YIELD	AVE %*	MOIST	%SL	%RL
25A16	88	167.4	99.3%	13.66	6.6	4.9
30A12	90	156.6	92.9%	14.04	5.5	5.9
36K71	94	154.3	91.6%	13.09	5.1	3.4
35A19	94	161	95.5%	14.54	5.5	5.1
36R19cv	94	163.4	97.0%	14.5	5.4	5.6
38B10	96	168.3	99.9%	13.89	4.6	4.6
42A32	96	154.2	91.5%	14.26	5.7	3.1
37A19cv	95	172.5	102.4%	13.93	4.3	4.9
37H17cv	95	160.1	95.0%	13.96	7.5	4.1
Pio 38B85	96	169.2	100.4%	14.85	3.5	5.9
41R00	99	164.4	97.6%	14.67	5.3	4.9
44R57	99	180.2	106.9%	15.42	3.2	5.1
48B30	102	181.8	107.9%	15.51	5.9	4.8

### 90-102 day Locations

Cambridge, IA      Jackson, MN  
 Decorah, IA        Olivia, MN  
 Grafton, IA        Owatonna, MN  
 Reinbeck, IA      Renville, MN  
 Schaller, IA        Wells, MN  
 Sibley, IA         Worthington, MN  
 Rochelle, IL      Sioux Falls, SD  
 Blissfield, MI     Watertown, SD  
 Fowler, MI         Almond, WI  
 Arlington, MN     Arlington, WI  
 Canby, MN         DeForrest, WI

\* Average based on 30 hybrids tested

\* 22 total testing locations (IA, IL, MI, MN, SD, WI)

# 2010 New York Alfalfa Trials

Sown May 2007 Varieties	2010 Harvest (yields reported in tons/acre)			2010 Total	2009 Total	2008 Total	3-yr Total
	10-Jun	12-Jul	25-Aug				
3RD RED FALCON BR*	3.05	1.22	1.07	5.34	6.50	6.73	18.55
7TH BOBWHITE ML 2	2.94	1.25	1.10	5.29	6.33	6.56	18.17

\* Red Falcon BR Alfalfa placed 3rd and Bobwhite ML 2 (a new release) placed 7th of 22 entries.

\* Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, Tompkins Co., Ithaca

## 99-107 Days

VARIETY	R. M.	YIELD	AVE %*	MOIST	%SL	%RL
41R00	99	158.5	90.1%	14.14	2.3	1.9
44R57	99	180.3	102.5%	14.84	2.1	2.3
45R37	99	180.4	102.6%	14.53	3.1	2
47A30	102	167.0	94.9%	14.47	2.9	2.1
48B30	102	180.9	102.8%	14.97	2.9	2.3
Pio36W66	104	164.6	93.6%	15.13	0.6	3
53R57	104	172.9	98.3%	15.44	1.9	2.7
56M30	106	189.7	107.8%	16.17	3.3	3.7
57B10cv	107	180.7	102.7%	16.15	2.2	3.9
57H36	107	185.1	105.2%	17.06	2.5	2.7

\* Average based on 30 hybrids tested

\* 29 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, WI, NE)

### 99-107 day Locations

Atlantic, IA	Tonica, IL
Cambridge, IA	New Haven, IN
Corwith, IA	Remington, IN
Decorah, IA	Windfall, IN
Grafton, IA	Blissfield, MI
Grinnell, IA	Jackson, MN
Maynard, IA	Hooper, NE
Monticello, IA	Norfolk, NE
Reinbeck, IA	Tecamah, NE
Schaller, IA	Napoleon, OH
Sibley, IA	Sioux Falls, SD
Slater, IA	Cuba City, WI
Geneseo, IL	DeForrest, WI
Rochelle, IL	Janesville, WI

## 106-112 Days

VARIETY	R. M.	YIELD	AVE %*	MOIST	%SL	%RL
56M30	106	170.6	100.4%	15.67	2.4	5.4
57H36	107	164	96.6%	16.16	2	3
Pio 34A15	108	161.4	95.0%	16.38	1.2	2.9
61F39cv	109	175.1	103.1%	15.83	1.5	5.7
58B07	108	167.8	98.8%	16.34	6.3	5.1
60B35cv	109	185.4	109.2%	16.52	2.7	6.4
64F08cv	111	139.4	82.1%	17.01	3.6	10.8
64A36	111	167.8	98.8%	16.63	5.3	1.8
66H54	112	184.1	108.4%	16.38	3.8	3.5

\* Average based on 30 hybrids tested

\* 27 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, NE)

### 106-112 day Locations

Atlantic, IA	Bluffton, IN
Cambridge, IA	Brookston, IN
Grinnell, IA	Greenburg, IN
Lidderdale, IA	Linden, IN
Malvern, IA	Remington, IN
Ottumwa, IA	Tipton, IN
Schaller, IA	St. Joseph, MO
Slater, IA	Arlington, NE
Geneseo, IL	Columbus, NE
Jacksonville, IL	Henderson, NE
Mt. Pulaski, IL	Hooper, NE
Roseville, IL	York, NE
Tonica, IL	Arcanum, OH

## 112-115 Days

VARIETY	R. M.	YIELD	AVE %*	MOIST	%SL	%RL
66H54	112	179.9	102.9%	16.68	3.5	2.9
70R50	114	181.6	103.9%	18.5	2.3	4.9
71K36	114	170.6	97.6%	17.68	2.5	4.1
73B33cv	115	187.4	107.2%	19.37	2.2	3.9

\* Average based on 30 hybrids tested

\* 24 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, NE, TX,)

### 112-115 day Locations

Altantic, IA	Evansville, IN
Luther, IA	Farmersburg, IN
Malvern, IA	Fort Branch, IN
Mt. Pleasant, IA	Greenburg, IN
Ottumwa, IA	St. Joseph, MO
Slater, IA	Arlington, NE
Breese, IL	Henderson, NE
Champaign, IL	Nebraska City, NE
Effingham, IL	York, NE
Jacksonville, IL	Hart, TX
Mt. Pulaski, IL	Stratfor, TX
Roseville, IL	Texline, TX

# 2010 Soybean Test Plot Results



## Group 0

VARIETY	YIELD	AVE %*	LODGING	IDC	AVG HT
09FC8	48.1	120.9%	NA	NA	NA
06F8	41.9	105.3%	NA	NA	NA
Pio 90M80	44.6	112.1%	NA	NA	NA
008F1	34.2	85.9%	NA	NA	NA
10F8	32.5	81.7%	NA	NA	NA

\* Average based on 10 varieties tested

\* Locations in ND and MN

## Group 1

VARIETY	YIELD	AVE %*	LODGING	IDC	AVG HT
19A9	48.1	106.4%	1.4	2.5	34
16A7	47	104.0%	1.8	2	32
16C1	46.3	102.4%	1.9	3	33
20C1	46.3	102.4%	1.6	2.8	35
11A1	45.1	99.8%	2	3.7	31
19AR1	45	99.6%	2.9	2.7	34
Pio 91Y91	44.9	99.3%	1.8	3.7	33
1A24	43.6	96.5%	1.6	2.7	35
15F8	42.6	94.2%	1.3	3.5	32
10F8	40.5	89.6%	2.3	2.7	36
1F44	40.2	88.9%	2.4	2.9	36
15F1	40	88.5%	1.9	3.2	33

\* Average based on 20 varieties tested

\* Locations in MN

## Group 2

VARIETY	YIELD	AVE %*	LODGING	IDC	AVG HT
2A12	55.9	105.7%	1.7	2.9	32
20C1	53.4	100.9%	1.5	2.8	34
Pio 92Y30	53.3	100.8%	1.4	2.4	33
24A7C	52.9	100.0%	1.9	3	35
21C0	51	96.4%	2	3.5	32
25AR1	48.1	90.9%	3.1	3.2	36
240F.Y	45.9	86.8%	1.5	2.5	36
26F0	44.8	84.7%	1.6	3.2	34

\* Average based on 20 varieties tested

\* 3 locations in IA

## Group 3

VARIETY	YIELD	AVE %*	LODGING	IDC	AVG HT
34A7	59.5	105.5%	2.7	2.7	36
Pio 92Y80	58.8	104.3%	2.3	4.5	36
2A71	58.3	103.4%	2.5	2.9	34
2A12	57.7	102.3%	2.5	2.9	32
32AR1	57	101.1%	3.6	3	37
27A9	56.7	100.5%	2.4	3.2	33
29AR9	56.3	99.8%	2.6	2.3	36
30A7	54.6	96.8%	2.5	3.5	36
32F0	53.7	95.2%	2	3.8	37
30AR1	53.3	94.5%	3.3	2	37
27AR1	53.2	94.3%	4.2	3.2	38
240F.Y	50.1	88.8%	2.5	2.5	34

\* Average based on 20 varieties tested

\* 3 Locations in Iowa

## Group 4

VARIETY	YIELD	AVE %*	LODGING	IDC	AVG HT
35A0cnv	53.9	107.4%	1.7	3	34
389F.Y	52.8	105.2%	1.4	4.3	34
34A7	52.8	105.2%	1.4	2.7	33
Pio 93Y13	52.8	105.2%	1.2	3.5	33
38C9	50.9	101.4%	2	4.2	34
39F0	47.4	94.4%	1.2	3.2	34
41C9	47	93.6%	1.6	4.9	37
35F1	46.9	93.4%	1.3	3	35

\* Average based on 10 varieties tested

\* Locations in IA and NE





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## December and January Event Schedule

To schedule a meeting with Blue River Hybrids at one of these events, email us at [info@blueriverorgseed.com](mailto:info@blueriverorgseed.com) or call 800.370.7979. We look forward to seeing you!

### E-Newsletter

If it would be more convenient for you to receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at: [info@blueriverorgseed.com](mailto:info@blueriverorgseed.com)  
Thank you.

#### **Carolina Farm Stewardship Conference**

Winston-Salem, NC  
December 3–5, 2010

#### **Western Corn Belt Conference for Organic Farmers**

Sioux Falls, SD  
December 6–7, 2010

#### **Organic & Sustainable Ag Information Day**

Sauk Centre, MN  
December 9, 2010

#### **2010 ACRES USA Conference**

Indianapolis, IN  
December 9–11, 2010

#### **Practical Farmers of Iowa Conference**

Marshalltown, IA  
January 7–8, 2011

#### **2011 Minnesota Organic Conference**

St. Cloud, MN  
January 14–15, 2011

#### **NOFA-NY 29th Annual Conference**

Saratoga Springs, NY  
January 21–23, 2011

#### **Northern MI Small Farm Conference**

Grayling, MI  
January 29, 2011