ZAMORA, DAVID L., R. W. WHITMORE*, and S. P. BRIGGS. American Cyanamid Company, One Cyanamid Plaza, Wayne, NJ 07470. - Methods of applying COUNTER® at planting.

COUNTER is applied at planting to control early infestations of sugar beet root maggot. The modified-in-furrow method of applying the insecticide at planting is effective and safe to the crop and environment. This technique involves applying the chemical in the furrow behind the seed drop zone, after soil covers the seed. It is important to prevent direct contact of the chemical with the seed. Contact can be prevented by installing a drag chain between the seed drop zone and the insecticide drop zone so that soil is moved over the seed before the insecticide is placed in the furrow. By placing the insecticide-drop tube immediately in front of the press wheel, most planters will have sufficient space for a drag chain. If sufficient space is not available to install a drag chain between the seed drop zone and the insecticide drop zone, or if the soil is wet and will not cover the seed even with a drag chain, then the insecticide can be placed in a narrow band behind the press wheel and lightly incorporated with a drag chain or mechanical fingers.

GOURD, T. R.*, and R. W. WHITMORE. American Cyanamid Company, Ft. Collins, CO 80521. - Closed handling system for COUNTER® systemic insecticide-nematicide.

An innovative, closed handling system specifically for the granular insecticide, COUNTER, has been developed in a joint effort by American Cyanamid and Deere and Company. Use of the system greatly minimizes grower exposure to the chemical while improving handling convenience over that of the conventional system currently used. The container is constructed of durable 6-mm clear plastic that is returnable and refillable, and will address the pesticide container disposal issue. On-farm testing in Iowa indicates high grower acceptance because of the ease of use and the protection the system provides against wind, spillage, and human exposure.