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Farmers Face One-Two Punch in Battle Against Compaction

Two years of **unusual weather** are **creating compaction** concerns across the US. But what leads to compaction? Two of the biggest issues are weather-related and farmers across the lower Midwest and the Southeast are set up for both: **Drought and Excessive Moisture**.

The **drought** which culminated in '07 did its damage then, but much more damage from that drought has yet to be seen. In an effort to conserve as much moisture as possible, the molecules which make up your **soil** begin to **collapse** on top of one another. As deep as last year's drought was, that compaction can, in many locations, extend far below the root zone.

The heavy rains we have seen lately across much of this same region have been falling on soils that were tightly compacted last season. The result of that compacted soil is poor drainage; that makes those heavy rains, very heavy indeed. **One inch of rainfall weighs approximately 9.44 tons per acre**. Ultimately, this leaves a 9.5 ton liquid anvil pressing down on every acre of your farm, compacting your soil further. Additionally, excessive moisture is filling air spaces in the soil creating an anaerobic condition which may lead to increased growth of harmful bacteria. All of this compaction can lead to myriad problems on the farm: **low germination rates, poor root structure, high susceptibility to drought, low yield, inadequate drainage, and reduced test weights**.

While deep-ripping your soils has been an option in the past, **it is getting too late in the season** for that, and we are learning that those plow points end up just creating a skimmed compaction layer at whatever point they stop. So **instead of removing the compaction 'ripping' just moves it deeper and solidifies it** right where your roots need to go to establish good moisture exchange.

By **treating compaction with Monty's Liquid Carbon** you are able to mitigate issues related to compaction, while creating a beneficial environment in the root zone. Tests conducted by Wheat-Tech Research in the summer of '07 showed the benefits of applying Monty's Liquid Carbon in managing your soils for compaction. The difference between the check and the treated plots were as high 24% PSI when probed with a penetrometer. As little as 64 oz/ac of Monty's Liquid Carbon can aid in opening up compacted soils, thereby reducing the impacts of compaction described above. Further, Monty's Liquid Carbon helps you manage both natural and applied moisture more efficiently which will help tremendously if this summer should return to a more normal, dry weather pattern.

64 oz/ac of Monty's Liquid Carbon has been shown by independent studies to reduce compaction on treated acres. The following benefits may result:

- **Better Water Holding Capacity**
- **Better Nutrient Exchange**
- **Better Drought Management**
- **Improved Root Systems**
- **Improved Organic Structure in The Root Zone**



For more information call (800) 978-6342