

# ACF-ST: Scientifically Designed & Validated Seed Treatment

## Introduction to Biological Seed Dressing

Seed dressings play a pivotal role in modern agriculture—particularly for farmers aiming to cut input costs, protect yield potential, and adopt more sustainable practices. Biological seed treatments, like ACF-ST, use live beneficial microbes to bolster seed germination and seedling health at the most critical growth stage. This translates to stronger stands, improved resilience, and better yield performance overall.

## Why a Biological Seed Dressing?

The window between imbibition (when seeds begin to absorb moisture) and germination is short, but it's also a **make-or-break** moment for the crop. During this vulnerable phase, seeds are susceptible to soil-borne pathogens that can limit vigor or even destroy emerging seedlings. With **ACF-ST**, you seed the rhizosphere early, filling that ecological niche with robust Bacillus strains. By colonizing the seed and the immediate root zone from day one, ACF-ST helps crowd out pathogenic microbes, giving your emerging crop the best possible start.

## **ACF-ST Description**

## **Product Form & Application**

- Formulation: ACF-ST is provided as an **aqueous solution** for convenient use as a seed dressing.
- **Application Rate**: Typically **60–180 oz** per 1,000 lbs of seed (actual rate may vary by crop).
- Active Bacteria: ACF-ST contains Bacillus licheniformis, Bacillus subtilis, and Bacillus velezensis—all in spore form for maximum shelf stability.
- Shelf Life: Up to 2 years when stored per instructions.

## Why These Bacillus Strains?

Each Bacillus species in ACF-ST has been selected for:

- **Biofertilization**: Improving availability of key nutrients (N, P, and more).
- **Phytohormone Production**: Enhancing root growth and overall vigor.

• **Hydrolytic Enzyme Synthesis**: Helping break down soil organics to free up nutrients and suppress pathogens.

Together, these strains create a favorable microbial environment around each seed, reinforcing growth from the moment germination begins.

## **Proven Stability & Composition**

One major advantage for growers is **quality you can count on**. Through extensive lab analysis and real-world testing, we've confirmed that:

- **No Decline in Viability**: After 90 days of storage at both room temperature and **105°F**, our spore-count remains constant (no detectable drop in CFUs).
- **Target Concentration**: Approximately **2.5** × **10^8 CFU/mI** at the time of packaging, maintaining consistent performance throughout the shelf life.

## What to Expect in the Field

1. Faster Germination & Establishment

By crowding out harmful microbes at the earliest stages, ACF-ST-treated seeds often emerge faster and more uniformly.

## 2. Higher Yield Potential

In replicated trials, ACF-ST alone has demonstrated an average **7.5% yield increase**. When combined with our other products (**ACF-SR**, **ACF-SRP**), results are even more impressive.

## 3. Enhanced Stress Tolerance

Whether it's early-season cold stress or mid-season drought, Bacillus species' biofertilization and growth-promoting abilities help your crop withstand challenges more effectively.

## 4. Reduced Disease Pressure

The same microbial barrier that promotes growth also hinders the establishment of fungi and bacteria that cause seedling blights and root rots.

Real-World Results: Split-Field Pea Trial



The photo shows a distinct boundary: on the "control" side, plants lagged behind; on the ACF-ST side, growth is more robust, denser, and healthier.

## Yield Outcomes in this Project (Summer 2024)

- Control: 47 bu/acre
- ACF-ST Treated: 62 bu/acre

That's a significant yield bump simply by treating the seed. These are the kind of results you can expect when the power of beneficial microbes is harnessed right from germination.

## Third-Party Validation & Certificate of Analysis

At TLC, we don't just tell you our product works—we show you **exactly what's in it**. That's why we partner with **Vermicon AG** (Munich, Germany), an ISO 9001-certified laboratory, to analyze and certify the bacterial composition and counts in our products.

## Vermicon AG Certificate of Analysis Highlights

- **B. subtilis**: 1.67 × 10^8 CFU/ml
- **B. velezensis**: 8.64 × 10^7 CFU/ml

• **B. licheniformis**: 1.0 × 10^8 CFU/ml

These results confirm that you apply over 250,000,000 viable, ready-to-go spores in **every milliliter of ACF-ST.** We also know the **genetic capabilities** of each strain, including the genes tied to pathogen inhibition, nutrient cycling, and tolerance to stressful conditions (like drought). This transparency ensures you can trust the consistent quality of ACF-ST for your fields.

## Why Farmers Choose ACF-ST

- 1. Consistency & Accountability
  - Verifiable CFU Counts
  - Long Shelf Life & Thermal Stability
  - Independent Lab Certification
- 2. Performance in the Field
  - Measurable Yield Gains
  - Enhanced Seedling Health
  - Less Disease, More Vigor
- 3. Future-Proof Agriculture
  - Fits into IPM & Regenerative Ag Systems
  - Works Synergistically with Other Inputs
  - Environmentally Friendly & Farmer Approved

## Ready to Try ACF-ST?

Whether you're battling unpredictable weather, looking to maximize returns, or simply want a more sustainable approach to farming, ACF-ST provides a **proven**, **scientifically validated** solution. By reinforcing your crop at its earliest stage, this seed treatment lays the foundation for a successful season—yielding stronger plants, higher profits, and peace of mind.

## Certificate of Analysis (See Attached Next Page)

- Issued by Vermicon AG, October 2024
- Confirms CFU/mL counts for B. subtilis, B. velezensis, B. licheniformis
- Demonstrates accurate strain identity and concentration, matched to our stated specifications

### **Final Takeaway**

**ACF-ST** is far more than just another seed dressing—it's a cornerstone of a **modern**, **biology-driven approach** to crop production. By harnessing the specialized traits of Bacillus spore-forming bacteria, you're giving your farm a robust, research-backed head start every season.



### **CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS**

### **Product Information**

Product Name	ACF-ST 20241008ST		
Batch ID			
Date of Manufacture	October 8, 2024		

### Amount of bacteria

Name	Viable cell count / mL*	
Bacillus subtilis	1,69E+08	
Bacillus velezensis	8,64E+07	
Bacillus licheniformis	1,04E+08	

\*Analytical method: qFISH (quantitative Fluorescence in situ hybridization)

#### Tested by vermicon AG

Name	Signature	Title	Date
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