CORN HYBRID SELECTION FOR LIMITED WATER

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DEKALB[®] Brand Corn Product Response to Irrigation and Seeding Rate

Trial Overview

- Because corn products have different responses to plant population and water availability, producers should choose the corn products that help maximize their return based on the irrigation availability for each field. Factors to keep in mind are pumping costs versus the overall potential yield.
- Knowing the field production potential and irrigation capabilities can help determine the corn products to plant and the seeding rates for those products. In a fully irrigated environment, in which the amount of water applied meets the evapotranspiration needs of the crop, a higher seeding rate and a longer-season corn product can have a higher yield potential. In a limited irrigation environment, one key is to plant a corn product with high yield potential using lower seeding rates.
- The objective of this study was to determine the yield response of key DEKALB[®] brand corn products for the region based on seeding rates and irrigation amount.

Research Site Details

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Location	Soil	Previous	Tillage	Planting	Harvest	Potential Yield	Seeding Rate
	Type	Crop	Type	Date	Date	(bu/acre)	(seeds/acre)
Mingo, KS	Silt Ioam	Soybean	Strip tillage	5/12/19	10/15/19	250 (FI) 190 (50% of FI)	Variable

- Five DEKALB[®] brand corn products were planted at 24,000, 32,000, 36,000, 40,000, 44,000, and 50,000 seeds/acre under full irrigation (100% FI). At 50% of FI, the same corn products were planted at 18,000, 28,000, 32,000, 36,000, 40,000, and 48,000 seeds/acre.
- The yield goals for these experiments were 250 bu/acre for the 100% FI and 190 bu/acre for the 50% of FI treatments.
- Each corn product at the selected seeding rate was replicated twice in each irrigation treatment.
 - This location was irrigated with a center pivot system with nozzles placed in the crop canopy.
 - \circ ~ 10 inches was applied to the 100% FI treatment
 - $\circ~~$ 5 inches was applied to the 50% of FI treatment
- 15 inches of rainfall was received at the Mingo, KS site during the growing season.
- This trial was replicated at Bethune, CO but received severe hail damage (100% defoliation at R3) and was not harvested for yield data.

Understanding the Results

Table 1. Average yield (bu/acre) of five DEKALB[®] brand corn products at varied seeding rates and irrigation levels at Mingo, KS in 2019.

	50% of FI			100% FI			
	Souding Pata	Average	Yield/Thousand				
DEKALB [®] Corn	Seeding Rate (seeds/acre)	Yield	Plants	Rate	Yield	Plants	
Product	(seeus/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(seeds/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	
DKC58-34RIB							
Brand Blend	18,000	219.6	12.2	24,000	242.5	10.1	
DKC58-34RIB							
Brand Blend	28,000	243.1	8.7	32,000	250.4	7.8	
DKC58-34RIB							
Brand Blend	32,000	223.4	7.0	36,000	242.9	6.7	
DKC58-34RIB							
Brand Blend	36,000	235.0	6.5	40,000	242.3	6.1	
DKC58-34RIB							
Brand Blend	40,000	210.4	5.3	44,000	263.3	6.0	
DKC58-34RIB	40.000	225.6	10	50.000	220 7		
Brand Blend	48,000	235.6	4.9	50,000	220.7	4.4	
DKC59-82RIB Brand Blend	18,000	227.0	12.6	24,000	236.9	9.9	
DKC59-82RIB	18,000	227.0	12.0	24,000	230.9	5.5	
Brand Blend	28,000	250.7	9.0	32,000	261.8	8.2	
DKC59-82RIB	20,000	250.7	5.0	52,000	201.0	0.2	
Brand Blend	32,000	248.6	7.8	36,000	251.4	7.0	
DKC59-82RIB	01,000						
Brand Blend	36,000	245.8	6.8	40,000	263.4	6.6	
DKC59-82RIB	,			,			
Brand Blend	40,000	237.2	5.9	44,000	265.3	6.0	
DKC59-82RIB							
Brand Blend	48,000	236.3	4.9	50,000	252.3	5.0	
DKC61-40RIB							
Brand Blend	18,000	231.8	12.9	24,000	244.9	10.2	
DKC61-40RIB							
Brand Blend	28,000	243.4	8.7	32,000	257.4	8.0	
DKC61-40RIB							
Brand Blend	32,000	246.1	7.7	36,000	272.6	7.6	
DKC61-40RIB							
Brand Blend	36,000	246.7	6.9	40,000	265.3	6.6	
DKC61-40RIB	40.000	226 5	F 0	44.000	272.2	6.2	
Brand Blend	40,000	236.5	5.9	44,000	272.2	6.2	
DKC61-40RIB Brand Blend	48.000	256.2	5.3	50.000	249.1	5.0	
DKC61-98RIB	48,000	256.2	5.5	50,000	249.1	5.0	
Brand Blend	18,000	194.5	10.8	24,000	240.9	10.0	
DKC61-98RIB	10,000	104.0	10.0	24,000	240.5	10.0	
Brand Blend	28,000	241.0	8.6	32,000	252.0	7.9	
DKC61-98RIB	20,000	2.1.0	5.0	52,000		7.5	
Brand Blend	32,000	251.8	7.9	36,000	244.8	6.8	

	Average	236.2	7.6	Average	252.4	7.1
Brand Blend	48,000	238.1	5.0	50,000	218.4	4.4
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	40,000	244.2	6.1	44,000	273.0	6.2
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	36,000	254.7	7.1	40,000	261.3	6.5
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	32,000	244.8	7.7	36,000	256.3	7.1
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	28,000	231.9	8.3	32,000	268.7	8.4
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	18,000	208.4	11.6	24,000	246.5	10.3
DKC62-52RIB						
Brand Blend	48,000	221.2	4.6	50,000	251.2	5.0
DKC61-98RIB						
Brand Blend	40,000	237.3	5.9	44,000	257.5	5.9
DKC61-98RIB						
Brand Blend	36,000	244.4	6.8	40,000	247.8	6.2
DKC61-98RIB						

- Yield per thousand plants (YPT) was the highest at the lower seeding rates for each irrigation treatment; however, yield was not maximized at these seeding rates. This study shows that keeping the YPT around 7 to 8 bu/thousand plants is more likely to obtain a higher yield for that corn product in a particular-growing environment.
- Averaged across all corn products and seeding rates the extra 5 inches of irrigation applied to the 100% FI treatment yielded an extra 16.2 bu/acre (252.4 bu/acre [100% FI average yield] minus 236.2 bu/acre [50% of FI average yield]).
- Across all products at the 50% of FI rate, the highest yield was achieved at the 36,000 seeds/acre seeding rate (244.8 bu/acre). At the 100% FI rate, the highest yield was observed at the 44,000 seeds/acre seeding rate (265.7 bu/acre).

Key Learnings

• Because the number of farms with limited irrigation has increased due to reductions in pumping capacity or restrictions on the amount of water producers can pump over a certain time frame, it is imperative that Bayer tests corn products under varying irrigation rates to help provide better corn product recommendations by irrigation capacity.

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The information discussed in this report is from a single site, replicated demonstration. This informational piece is designed to report the results of this demonstration and is not intended to infer any confirmed trends. Please use this information accordingly.

Selecting Channel[®] Corn Products for High pH Soils

Trial Overview

- Corn products often respond differently to high pH soils with some being susceptible, some semi-tolerant, and others tolerant in how they respond both in terms of yield and visual appearance. Hybrids that are susceptible usually express iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) with symptoms including yellow leaves, interveinal chlorosis, and stunted growth.
- Key nutrients, including iron, phosphorus, copper, and zinc are tied up in high pH soils.¹ A high soil pH for corn is generally classified as having a soil pH of 7.6 or higher and can be caused from either excess calcium carbonate, excess lime, high soluble salt concentration, and/or high nitrate-nitrogen concentration.² In Western Kansas and Eastern Colorado, excess lime from high calcium carbonate concentrations in the soil parent material is the source of the high pH, which can be found on eroded sidehills and cut areas in fields.
- Better product characterization of response to soil pH allows for better product placement to maximize yield potential.
- The objective of this study was to determine the visual and yield response of corn products to moderate (6.7 to 7.5) and high (7.6+) pH soils.

Location	Soil Type	Previous Crop	Tillage Type	Soil pH Range	Harvest Date	Potential Yield (bu/acre)	Seeding Rate (seeds/acre)
Burlington, CO	Silt Ioam	Corn	Strip tillage	6.7 to 8.1	10/21/19	230	30К

Research Site Details

- For this trial, a total of 75 different commercial and experimental corn products of varying relative maturities (RMs) were each planted in two separate pH blocks in the same field (see Table 3 for the list of all corn products tested in this study). One block has a soil type with a high pH and the other block has a moderate pH:
 - 42 products had RMs ranging from 103- to 107-day and were grouped as 105 RM
 - 33 products had RMs ranging from 108- to 113-day and were grouped as 110 RM
- Eight of these products were Channel[®] brand blend corn products; only the results of the Channel products are shown in this report.
- A visual color rating of the foliage was taken at the V8 and VT growth stage:
 - \circ very dark green = 2
 - pale-yellow color = 8
- Trial was replicated: 4 replications in the high pH zone and 4 replications in the moderate pH zone at each location.
- Soil pH was determined by grid sampling each trial area at a 1/10th acre density.

Understanding the Results



Figure 1. Visual example of an 8 and 2 rating at the V8 growth stage.

and VT growth stage for plants grown on high pH soils.						
		Visual High pH Rating				
Channel [®] Corn P	roduct	V8 Growth Stage	VT Growth Stage			
204-25STXRIB Br	rand Blend	5.0	4.7			
205-04STXRIB Br	rand Blend	3.8	3.5			
205-63VT2PRIB	Brand Blend	4.5	4.5			
207-90STXRIB Br	rand Blend	4.5	4.5			
209-15VT2PRIB	Brand Blend	4.0	4.5			
210-79STXRIB Br	rand Blend	4.3	4.3			
211-44STXRIB Br	rand Blend	3.3	3.5			
212-90STXRIB Br	rand Blend	5.5	4.0			
Average		4.4	4.2			
Highly Recommended	Recommended in Most Situations	Caution	Not Recommended			

Table 1. Corn product recommendations based on appearance ratings at the V8 and VT growth stage for plants grown on high pH soils.

Table 2. Yields of Channel [®] brand blend corn products under high pH and								
moderate pH soils.								
	High pH Block	Moderate pH Block						
Channel [®] Brand Blend	Individual Corn Product	Individual Corn Product						
Corn Product	Average Yield (bu/acre)	Average Yield (bu/acre)						
	105 RM Group							
204-25STX	153	171						
205-04STX	169	182						
205-63VT2PRIB	182	192						
	110 RM Group							
207-90STX	153	179						
209-15VT2PRIB	182	196						
210-79STXRIB	170	189						
211-44STX	163	197						
212-90STX	166	187						

- In this trial year, the lower than expected yields are attributed to cold, wet soils early in the growing season followed by extensive wind and heat during grain fill.
- Across all products tested, the average yield of the 105 RM group was 0.5 bu/acre greater compared to the average yield of the 110 RM group in the high pH block.

- On the neutral pH block, the average yield of the 110 RM group was 8.8 bu/acre greater compared to the average yield of the 105 RM group. In optimal growing conditions, longer RM products generally have greater yield potential.
- Visual estimations during the vegetative stage closely correlated to the yield results.
- Channel[®] corn products 205-04STXRIB and 211-44STXRIB brand blends had green, plant color at the V8 and VT growth stages and yielded above similar relative maturity products on high pH soils. These products are highly recommended for high pH soils.
- Channel[®] corn products 205-63VT2PRIB, 209-15VT2PRIB, and 210-79STXRIB brand blends had average plant visual appearance during the growing season but both products yielded above comparable relative maturity hybrids and are highly recommended for high pH soils.
- Channel[®] corn products 207-90STXRIB and 212-90STXRIB brand blends had less than average visual appearance during the growing season and slightly below yields compared to similar RM hybrids. These products should be used with caution on high pH soils.
- Channel[®] corn product 204-25STXRIB brand blend had weak visual appearance and below average yields. This product is not recommended for use on high pH soils.

Key Learnings

- The importance of selecting a product able to tolerate high pH soils varies based on soil pH level and the proportion of high pH soil acres in each field.
- High pH soils are typically found in areas with eroded top soil and topography changes, which make it difficult to compare yields between moderate and high pH areas of the field. Producers need to keep this in mind while making yield comparisons on their own farm.
- This trial demonstrates there is a lineup of Channel[®] brand blend corn products which are adequate for high pH soils.

		High pH Blocl	K	Moderate pH Block			
Corn Product	Individual Corn Product Average Yield (bu/acre)	High pH Block Average Yield (bu/acre) by RM Group	Yield Difference of Corn Product from the RM Group Average Yield	Individual Corn Product Average Yield (bu/acre)	Moderate pH Block Average Yield (bu/acre) by RM Group	Yield Difference of Corn Product from the RM Group Average Yield	
105RM GROUP							
EXP 103 A	171.5	160	11.5	182.4	180.1	2.3	
EXP 104 A	103.2	160	-56.8	117.7	180.1	-62.5	
204-25STX	153.0	160	-7.0	171.4	180.1	-8.7	
EXP 104 C	163.0	160	3.0	191.4	180.1	11.3	
EXP 105 A	140.3	160	-19.7	168.4	180.1	-11.7	
EXP 105 B	170.4	160	10.4	176.5	180.1	-3.6	
EXP 105 C	131.2	160	-28.8	182.0	180.1	1.9	
EXP 105 D	147.2	160	-12.8	170.6	180.1	-9.5	

Table 3. Average yields of all corn products used in this study.

EXP 105 E	168.5	160	8.5	190.3	180.1	10.2
EXP 105 F	166.0	160	6.0	190.3	180.1	10.2
EXP 105 G	170.8	160	10.8	195.8	180.1	15.7
EXP 105 H	149.5	160	-10.5	187.6	180.1	7.5
EXP 105 I	170.2	160	10.2	199.1	180.1	19.0
EXP 105 J	154.1	160	-5.9	163.8	180.1	-16.3
EXP 105 K	170.1	160	10.1	191.2	180.1	11.1
EXP 105 L	164.2	160	4.2	195.8	180.1	15.7
EXP 105 M	151.1	160	-8.9	178.9	180.1	-1.3
205-04STX	169.1	160	9.1	182.4	180.1	2.3
205- 63VT2PRIB	182.1	160	22.1	192.2	180.1	12.1
EXP 105 P	152.0	160	-8.0	166.9	180.1	-13.2
EXP 105 P	171.0	160	11.0	185.0	180.1	4.9
EXP 106 B	137.4	160	-22.6	165.2	180.1	-14.9
EXP 106 C	162.3	160	2.3	176.4	180.1	-3.7
EXP 106 D EXP 106 E	159.9	160	-0.1	163.2	180.1	-16.9
	164.8	160	4.8	103.2	180.1	-10.9
EXP 106 F	158.8	160	-1.2	171.0	180.1	5.2
EXP 106 G						8.9
EXP 106 H	164.0	160	4.0	189.0	180.1	
EXP 106 I	127.9	160	-32.1	155.2	180.1	-24.9
EXP 106 J	161.3	160	1.3	186.8	180.1	6.7
EXP 106 K	183.8	160	23.8	199.8	180.1	19.7
EXP 106 L	158.3	160	-1.7	174.9	180.1	-5.2
EXP 107 A	133.9	160	-26.1	167.8	180.1	-12.3
EXP 107 B	173.0	160	13.0	194.2	180.1	14.1
EXP 107 C	175.3	160	15.3	188.4	180.1	8.3
EXP 107 D	164.4	160	4.4	187.8	180.1	7.7
EXP 107 E	195.4	160	35.4	178.6	180.1	-1.5
EXP 107 F	161.6	160	1.6	174.5	180.1	-5.6
EXP 107 G	170.4	160	10.4	173.5	180.1	-6.6
EXP 107 H	156.5	160	-3.5	175.4	180.1	-4.7
EXP 107 I	147.9	160	-12.1	177.3	180.1	-2.8
			110RM GROUP			
207-90STX	152.5	159.5	-7.0	179.0	188.9	-9.9
EXP 108 A	149.9	159.5	-9.6	195.9	188.9	7.0
EXP 109 A	110.0	159.5	-49.6	157.3	188.9	-31.7
EXP 109 B	152.6	159.5	-6.9	183.3	188.9	-5.6
EXP 109 C	162.5	159.5	3.0	186.3	188.9	-2.6
EXP 109 D	167.2	159.5	7.7	188.7	188.9	-0.3
EXP 109 E	169.8	159.5	10.3	189.8	188.9	0.9
EXP 109 F	161.4	159.5	1.8	184.7	188.9	-4.2
EXP 109 G	161.4	159.5	1.9	185.8	188.9	-3.1

209-	1						
15VT2PRIB	181.5	159.5	22.0	195.5	188.9	6.6	
EXP 110 A	164.7	159.5	5.2	209.4	188.9	20.5	
EXP 110 B	152.4	159.5	-7.1	194.7	188.9	5.8	
EXP 110 C	180.3	159.5	20.8	186.1	188.9	-2.9	
EXP 110 D	168.7	159.5	9.2	191.6	188.9	2.7	
EXP 110 E	160.5	159.5	0.9	175.2	188.9	-13.7	
EXP 110 F	181.9	159.5	22.4	203.0	188.9	14.1	
EXP 110 G	123.6	159.5	-35.9	187.2	188.9	-1.7	
EXP 110 H	176.6	159.5	17.1	195.6	188.9	6.7	
EXP 110 I	181.4	159.5	21.9	206.3	188.9	17.4	
EXP 110 J	190.5	159.5	31.0	206.4	188.9	17.5	
EXP 110 K	173.0	159.5	13.5	203.3	188.9	14.4	
EXP 110 L	153.3	159.5	-6.2	192.6	188.9	3.7	
EXP 110 M	150.6	159.5	-8.9	177.3	188.9	-11.7	
EXP 110 N	125.5	159.5	-34.0	169.2	188.9	-19.8	
EXP 110 O	156.1	159.5	-3.4	198.8	188.9	9.8	
210- 79STXRIB	170.2	159.5	10.7	189.4	188.9	0.5	
EXP 110 Q	146.7	159.5	-12.8	182.6	188.9	-6.3	
EXP 111 A	169.4	159.5	9.9	174.0	188.9	-14.9	
EXP 111 B	158.5	159.5	-1.1	192.8	188.9	3.8	
211-44STX	162.7	159.5	3.2	197.4	188.9	8.5	
EXP 111 D	142.1	159.5	-17.4	186.7	188.9	-2.3	
EXP 111 E	178.7	159.5	19.2	201.4	188.9	12.5	
212-90STX	165.7	159.5	6.2	186.6	188.9	-2.3	
EXP 113 A	167.3	159.5	7.8	173.1	188.9	-15.8	
Note: For each pH block, the average yield of each individual product was compared to the average							

Note: For each pH block, the average yield of each individual product was compared to the average yield of all the products within the RM group. This allowed us to better identify those products which performed above average on the high pH soil.

Sources:

¹ National Soil Survey Center. 1998. Soil quality indicators: pH. United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

² Ferguson, R.B. 2006. Nutrient management for agronomic crops in Nebraska. ECo6-155.

LEGAL STATEMENT

The information discussed in this report is from a single site, replicated demonstration. This informational piece is designed to report the results of this demonstration and is not intended to infer any confirmed trends. Please use this information accordingly.

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IMPORTANT IRM INFORMATION: RIB Complete® corn blend products do not require the planting of a structured refuge **except** in the Cotton-Growing Area where corn earworm is a significant pest. **See the IRM/Grower Guide for additional information. Always read and follow IRM requirements.**

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Corn Product Comparison from Different Eras to Water Stress

Trial Overview

• This study highlights the advancements, through breeding and crop technologies, in the ability of corn products to yield in different environments.

Research Site Details

Location	Soil	Previous Crop	Tillage Type	Planting Date	Harvest Date	Potential Yield/Acre	Planting Rate/Acre
Gothenburg, NE	Hord silt loam	Soybean	Strip-tillage	04/26/2016	10/21/2016	260 bu/acre	33,940 seeds/acre

SITE NOTES:

• Three corn products were used in this study:

• A popular corn product from the 1970s, XL45A Brand, 110 relative maturity (RM), small seed, first product sold in an 80,000 seed count bag.

• A popular corn product from the 1990s, NC+ 4880 Brand, 111RM.

• A current product, DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product, 112 RM.

• Three irrigation treatments were used: 100% full irrigation (FI) (6 inches applied), 50% FI (3 inches applied), and a dryland control.

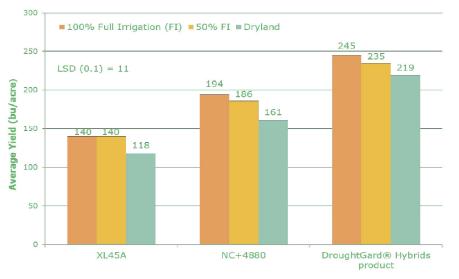
• Seasonal rainfall: April 6.7 inches; May 7.7 inches; June 2.65 inches; July 3.61 inches; August 0.69 inches; September 0.61 inches. Total 22 inches.

• Environmental stress during the growing season was low as calculated by the stress units (SSUs) from Smartfield.

• Modern day herbicides were used for weed control, no insecticides or fungicides were applied.

• The study was set up as a randomized split plot design with three replications.

Understanding the Results



Comparison of Corn Products from Different Eras to Water Stress - 2016



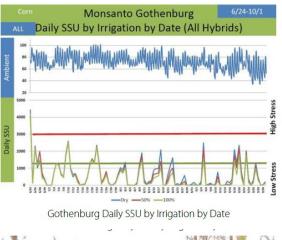
Comparison of Corn Products from Different Eras to Water Stress - 2015

• The DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product provided greater yield potential across irrigation environments when compared with the other corn products.

• Comparing products in the dryland versus 50% FI treatments, the DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product produced 6% and 9% more grain than NC+4880 Brand and XL45A Brand, respectively.

• Similar results were obtained in 2015.

• The DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product had significantly less stalk lodging and barren plants than the other products (data not shown).





1990s product NC+ 4880 Brand at 50% FI



1970s product XL45A Brand at 50% FI



DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product at 50% FI

Key Learnings

- The DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend product performed well across the different irrigation treatments.
- The value of DroughtGard® Hybrids with VT Double PRO® RIB Complete® Corn Blend products is the ability to perform across a wide range of environments, a consideration for farmers when evaluating corn products for a variable environment.
- Corn breeders and crop technologies help improve drought stress for higher yield potential.

Legal Statement

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