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Michigan Corn Production Hybrids Compared
Michigan State University Extension Service
Keith Dysinger, Susan M. Canty, James J. Kells, Crop and Soil Science, Michael Allan,
David Main, Animal Science
Special Supplement
Issued 1998
22 pages

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A special supplement to *Michigan Farm News*, Michigan's only statewide farm newspaper



Corn Hybrids Compared in the 1998 Season

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Research conducted by Michigan State University

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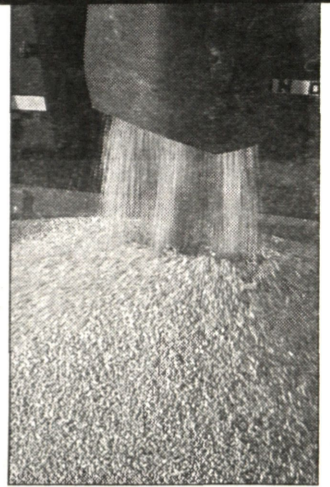
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<i>RIDGE-TILL IRRIGATED</i>				
1st	Janice A. Eickholt	Chesaning	3573	136.43
<i>IRRIGATED</i>				
1st	Jon & Jay Drozd	Allegan	33A14	252.44
2nd	Kenneth E. Sebasty Jr	Buchanan	33Y09	209.83
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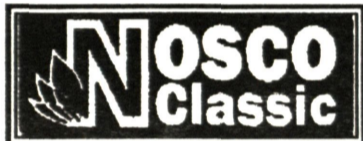
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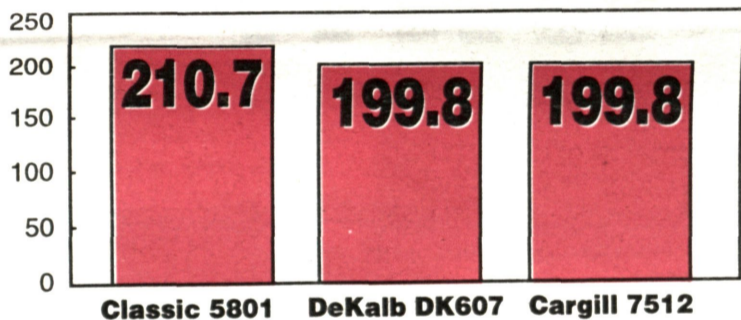
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CORN HYBRIDS COMPARED IN THE 1998 SEASON

By:

Keith Dysinger, Susan M. Canty, James J. Kells,¹

and

Michael Allen, David E. Main²

¹Research assistant, research technician, and professor, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences.

²Professor and research assistant, Department of Animal Science.

Hybrid corn trials are conducted each year by the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences in cooperation with MSU Extension, seed corn companies, and farmers.

Entries

Each year seed companies are invited to enter hybrids in the trials. A fee is charged to cover expenses.

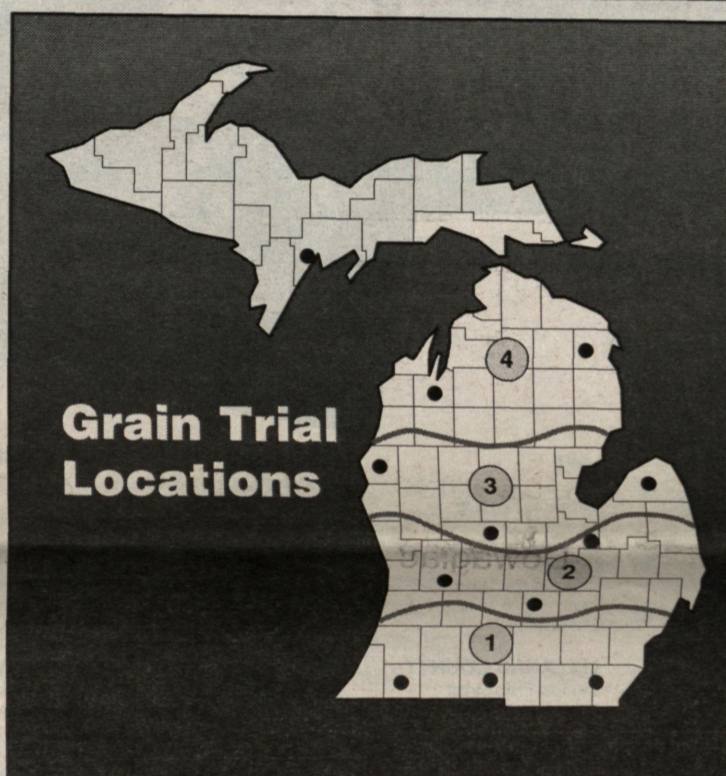
Table 8 presents a list of all hybrids planted in the 1998 trials. At 12 grain and 7 silage locations, 303 hybrids from 37 seed companies were tested for yield as 1,376 entries. Table 4 presents 3-year data for Alpena County, 2-year data for Delta County and 1998 data for Grand Traverse County. Dry stressful conditions in Grand Traverse County resulted in data not desirable for use in multiple year and site comparisons. Company names used in association with hybrid numbers refer to the brand. The numbers are the companies' designations.

Methods

Three trial locations were planted in each of four maturity zones. These zones are based on available growing degree-day units established from long-term weather records. Hybrids entered in each zone are all tested in the three designated locations. The Delta County grain trial does not test the hybrids with maturities later than 90 day. Entries for Zones 1, 2, and 3 are divided into two maturity groups (early and late) based on maturity ratings provided by the seed companies. Zone 4 tests all hybrids in one group.

Four-row plots were used at all grain locations. The two center rows were harvested for yield. Plots were 22-feet long with a 30-inch row spacing.

Experimental design, data acquisition, analysis of variance, and data summarization were facilitated in part by ADaM, a software package developed jointly by MSU, CIMMYT (Mexico), and the Scottish Agricultural Statistics Service. The field research layout is a four-replication, lattice design. A hybrid's performance is reported as the adjusted mean averaged together from four replicated plots.



All hybrids were grown under similar conditions at each location. They were grown in farmers' fields with equal fertilizer, population, date of planting, and other management practices. Trials in Branch, Cass, Montcalm, Mason, and Missaukee counties were irrigated. In the field, hybrids were identified only by a plot number to assure unbiased comparisons.

Stand counts were recorded in June. Plots with stand counts higher than the desired population were thinned at this time. Desired population rates are listed in Table B (grain) and Table C (silage). Lodging measurements were made at harvest, counting all plants broken below the ear. Plots were harvested mechanically for both grain and silage. Moisture content, field weight and test weight were measured by the GrainGage™, a HarvestData System™ mounted on our plot combine using the grain sample provided. Grain yields are reported at a standard 15.5 percent moisture. Test weights are reported at harvest moisture. Automated test weight equipment loses some accuracy as harvest moistures increase. Test weight values should be used to determine relative rank and not as a precise weight.

Grain samples were collected from four replications in Cass and Ingham counties (Zones 1 and 2) and were tested for protein, starch, and oil content. Funding was provided by the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan and the results are presented in the corresponding tables following the yield results.

Growing Conditions

All yield trials were planted between April 28 and May 18. Mild weather and dry field conditions got the planting season off to an excellent start. Three locations were planted in April with wet weather hitting the first of May. Planting resumed on May 5 at locations in northern Michigan. The planting season continued without much interruption through its conclusion with only Huron and Monroe counties delayed by wet field conditions.

Growing degree day heat units were above long-term normals throughout Michigan all season long and considerably higher than the lower-than-normal recordings of 1996 and 1997. Rainfall was below normal in most parts of Michigan and drought stress occurred across the state with low recorded yields the norm. Timely rainfall did hit some areas of the state, and combined with the higher recorded heat units, resulted in some excellent yields.

Fall harvest was excellent. Early season drydown allowed harvest to begin in late September. Exceptional weather throughout the harvest season and drier corn at harvest reduced the delays from dryer backups with wet corn and resulted in 75 percent of the crop harvested by November 1. Field losses from lodging due to poor weather conditions were virtually non-existent in 1998.

Continued on page 3

How to Use This Bulletin

Tables have hybrids listed alphabetically. One-, two-, and three-year averages (1998, 1997, and 1996) averaged over three locations are presented for all hybrids wherever data are available. Results for individual locations in 1998 are also included in the same table. One-year single site results are less reliable than two- or three-year and multiple location averages and should be interpreted with more caution. Confidence in corn performance data increases with the number of years and locations of testing. For complete two- and three-year single site data, visit our web site at: www.css.msu.edu/varietytrials/.

The tables report the following information about the hybrids tested:

1. Average moisture content at harvest.
2. Average test weight at harvest moisture.
3. Average yield (in bushels) of shelled corn at 15.5 percent moisture.
4. Average percent of stalk lodging (plants broken below the ear at harvest).
5. Percent stand of target population.
6. Percent protein, starch, and oil content.

The results shown are the average of four replications grown in close proximity to each other. Two or more plots of the same hybrid in the same field may produce somewhat different results because of uncontrolled variability in the soil and other environmental factors. Replication and randomization of the entries are two methods used to reduce these errors. Because these methods do not eliminate all of these variables, the magnitude of difference necessary for statistical significance has been calculated for yield, moisture content, and test weight. The value calculated as the "least significant difference" or "LSD" is the amount that an individual hybrid would have to differ from another hybrid in the same test to be significantly different from that hybrid.

Hybrids which are not significantly different from the highest yielding hybrid are marked with an asterisk (*) in each table. Other agronomic information relative to each trial is given in Tables B and C. Fertilizer amounts are shown as total pounds per acre of nitrogen, P₂O₅ and K₂O applied during the season.

How to Choose a Hybrid

Adaptation

The map on page 1 shows the locations of the grain trials, and divides Michigan into four generalized maturity zones. Local variations in weather, soil type and fertility, time of planting, and other conditions all affect adaptation. Corn hybrids are often adapted to more than one zone.

In the selection of a hybrid there is no real substitute for observing individual characteristics while plants are growing. The best time to compare plants is usually in late August or early September as they approach maturity. Each year, at a limited number of locations, demonstration plantings of each hybrid are planted at the front of the test field. In 1998, four locations had demonstration plantings. A field day plot tour was scheduled and the public invited to observe the hybrids. Examining plant and ear characteristics can help in selecting hybrids suitable for your production operation. Yield results are not taken from the demonstration plot.

Planting Rate

The number of seeds sown per acre in Michigan has increased steadily over the past several years. Increased planting rates are not a guarantee of increased yields. Check with your seed dealer for information on which hybrids perform better at the higher populations when grown on your soil type.

Maturity

Early-maturing hybrids are generally lower in moisture content than later-maturing hybrids at harvest. Differences among hybrids in rate of drydown in the field also affect moisture content at harvest but usually do not greatly disturb the relative maturity ratings as determined by moisture content.

One percent more moisture at harvest reflects a delay in maturity of about two days. Another estimate of corn maturity is when a black layer of cells forms at the base of the kernel. This black layer is an indication of the end of active growth processes. At this time, kernel moisture will be between 32 and 35 percent.

For Grain

When selecting a hybrid, yield should not be the only consideration. Identifying hybrids with lower moisture but above average yield will often have higher net returns than top yielding hybrids with higher moisture. One point higher moisture requires about two more bushels in yield to breakeven. It is often better to choose earlier hybrids (below average moisture content) than later hybrids for grain. Data in the tables show that good yields do not totally depend on later maturity. In 1998, early hybrids in Zone 1 produced about 15 bushels per acre less than the later maturing group. Moisture averaged 2.5 percent lower at harvest with 2 pounds higher test weight. The economic disadvantage for early hybrid selection with \$2.00 corn was about \$12.00 per acre for Zone 1. In Zone 3, where average moisture was 3.5 percent dryer and yields were only 7 bushels less for the early trial, the economic advantage was \$5.00 per acre for the early season hybrids.

Advantages of early-maturing hybrids are:

- They usually mature before killing frosts.
- Adapted early hybrids can generally yield as much as late hybrids in most areas of Michigan.
- Early hybrids with lower moisture content at harvest reduce drying time and market discounts for moisture.
- Test weights are generally higher resulting in reduced market discounts.
- Mature, dry corn makes a superior feed grain when used in swine or poultry rations.
- Harvest can take place earlier in the fall when weather conditions are most favorable. Early harvest may reduce corn losses resulting from broken stalks and dropped ears.
- Fall tillage of corn stubble can be more timely with early harvest on land not subject to erosion.

Narrow Row Corn Trials in Michigan

In 1997, the Corn Marketing Board of Michigan funded a study to document the interaction of multiple row spacing and populations. Four locations were selected for trial sites in Monroe, Ingham, Saginaw, and Huron counties. In 1998, a site in Calhoun County was added to compare non-irrigated and irrigated corn in narrow rows. Data from previous years have raised some additional questions that require further investigation. In 1998, the narrow row test sites were expanded to include not only the row spacing by population trials, but also a planting date study and a study looking at Bt technology in narrow rows.

Six hybrids were selected based on their various plant type, ear type, and maturity characteristics. Of these six hybrids, the two mid-maturity hybrids were planted at all six locations. Two earlier maturity hybrids were added to the Central Zone test and two later maturity hybrids were added to the Southern Zone test. This made a total of four hybrids at each location. Plots were planted in the same manner as the previous year in 30-, 22-, and 15-inch rows with five target populations of 26-, 30-, 34-, 38-, and 42- thousand plants per acre. The Huron County location was abandoned this year due to early season drought stress resulting in poor uneven plant populations.

The planting date study was set up to investigate if a disadvantage existed for narrow rows in late season plantings. In 1997, our trials were planted late in the season and did not show a significant yield advantage for narrow rows. Numerous MSU Extension trials were conducted by local farmers to compare narrow row plantings. These trials, planted

earlier in the season, did show some yield advantage with narrow rows. In the study conducted at Michigan State University, three planting dates were used: early, mid, and late season. A set of three hybrids were selected so that one hybrid-out of the set would best fit the maturity for each planting date. The plots were planted with a two-week delay between planting dates on April 25, May 9, and May 23. The three hybrids were planted in 30-, 22-, and 15-inch row spacings at populations targeted for 26-, 32-, and 38-thousand plants per acre.

Corn hybrids with corn borer resistance have been gaining exposure in recent months. This has raised two key questions. First, how do Bt hybrids react to narrow rows; and second, how do narrow rows affect corn borer pressure? Locations were planted in Monroe and Calhoun counties utilizing one non-Bt hybrid that also had two versions with different Bt events. Each event was selected for the length of time the Bt was expressed and where. These plots utilized the same row spacing and populations as the planting date study. Five random corn plants from each plot were selected and hand split to evaluate corn borer damage. The number, length, and location of tunnels were recorded as well as live corn borers present in the stalks.

To date, the analysis of the 1998 data has not yet been completed. The data can be accessed through the web at <http://www.css.msu.edu/varietytrials/> as soon as the information becomes available.

Average of Monroe, Branch & Cass County EARLY trials
One-, two-, three-year averages - 1998, 1997, 1996

EARLY TRIAL (106 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Main data table with columns for Hybrid, Variety, 1998, 2 Year Avg (97/98), 3 Year Avg (96-98), Monroe, Branch, and Cass. Includes sub-headers for H2O, BU/A, WT, SL, STD and TEST %.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID IN 1998
* NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

Grain Quality - Percent Protein, Oil and Starch

Funding Provided by Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

EARLY TRIAL (106 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table showing grain quality metrics (Protein, Oil, Starch) for various hybrids and varieties, organized into three columns of data.

Average of Kent, Ingham & Saginaw County EARLY trials One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

EARLY TRIAL (101 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))
Table with columns: HYBRID, VARIETY, 1998, 2 YEAR AVG (97/98), 3 YEAR AVG (96-98), KENT, INGHAM, SAGINAW. Rows include various hybrid varieties like AGRI PRO, BAYSIDE, BIO GENE, etc., with detailed yield and test data.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID IN 1998
* NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

Grain Quality - Percent Protein, Oil and Starch

Funding Provided by Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

EARLY TRIAL (101 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))
Table with columns: HYBRID, VARIETY, % 97/98, Protein %Prot, Oil, Starch. Rows include hybrid varieties and their corresponding grain quality metrics.

Average of Kent, Ingham & Saginaw County LATE trials
One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

LATE TRIAL (102 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR LATER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with 20 columns: BRAND, VARIETY, 1998, 2 YEAR AVG (97 / 98), 3 YEAR AVG (96 - 98), KENT, INGHAM, SAGINAW. Each year/region group contains 16 sub-columns for H2O, BU/A, WT, SL, STD, and TEST %.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID IN 1998

* NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

Grain Quality - Percent Protein, Oil and Starch

Funding Provided by Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

LATE TRIAL (102 RELATIVE MATURITY OR LATER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with 16 columns: BRAND, VARIETY, Protein %Prot, Oil, Starch. It is split into three sections: Kent (left), Ingham (middle), and Saginaw (right).

Average of Huron, Montcalm & Mason County EARLY trials
One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

EARLY TRIAL (97 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with columns for Hybrid, Variety, and three-year averages (1998, 1997, 1996) for Huron, Montcalm, and Mason counties. Each county's data is split into H2O BU/A, WT, SL, and STD. Includes summary rows for Average, Highest, and Lowest, and LSD values.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID IN 1998
* NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

1998 GROWING SEASON WEATHER SUMMARY

Jeff Andresen, agricultural meteorologist/Extension specialist, MSU Dept. of Geography

The beginning of the 1998 growing season coincided with the final stages of the strongest El Nino event of the century. The El Nino conditions were at least partially responsible for abnormally mild temperatures across much of the Great Lakes region for much of the winter and spring of 1998.

in the southern sections to below normal in the north. Spring fieldwork, planting progress, and early crop vegetative development rates were consistently well ahead of normals for the date, due mainly to drier than normal conditions and to abnormally warm soil temperatures.

While the early start to the growing season benefitted many, the major weather story of the 1998 growing season was undoubtedly the drought conditions which developed during the early summer and resulted in reduced crop yields.

Continued on page 10

Average of Huron, Montcalm & Mason County LATE trials
One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

LATE TRIAL (98 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR LATER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with columns for Hybrid, Variety, 1998, 2 Year Avg (97/98), 3 Year Avg (96-98), Huron, Montcalm, Mason. Rows include brands like Bayside, Brown, Callahan, etc., with yield and test weight data.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID IN 1998

Table A - Weather Summary

Temperature, Precipitation, and Growing Degree Day Summary
1998 Growing Season

Table with columns for County, Zone, and months May-September. Rows list counties like Monroe, Branch, Cass, Kent, Ingham, Saginaw, Huron, Montcalm, Mason, Alpena, Grand Traverse, and Delta.

TEMP = Temperature (°F)
PPT = Precipitation (inches)
GDD = Growing Degree Days calculated at base 50°, with 50°F and 85°F cutoffs
OBS = Totals observed in 1998
NORM = Normals calculated over 30 year period (1951-1980)
DEV = Deviation of observed from normal

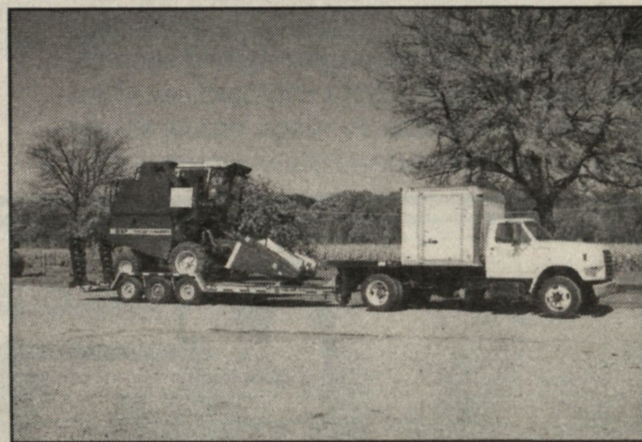
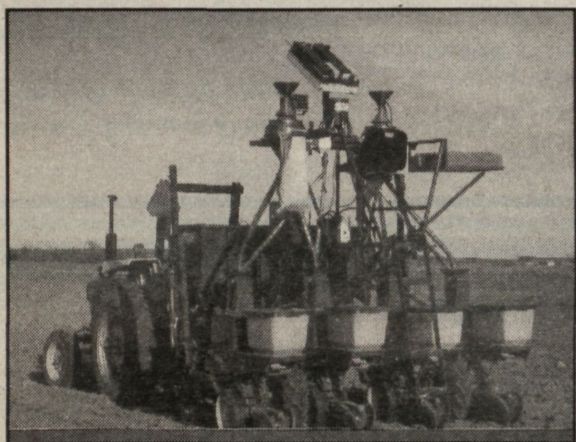
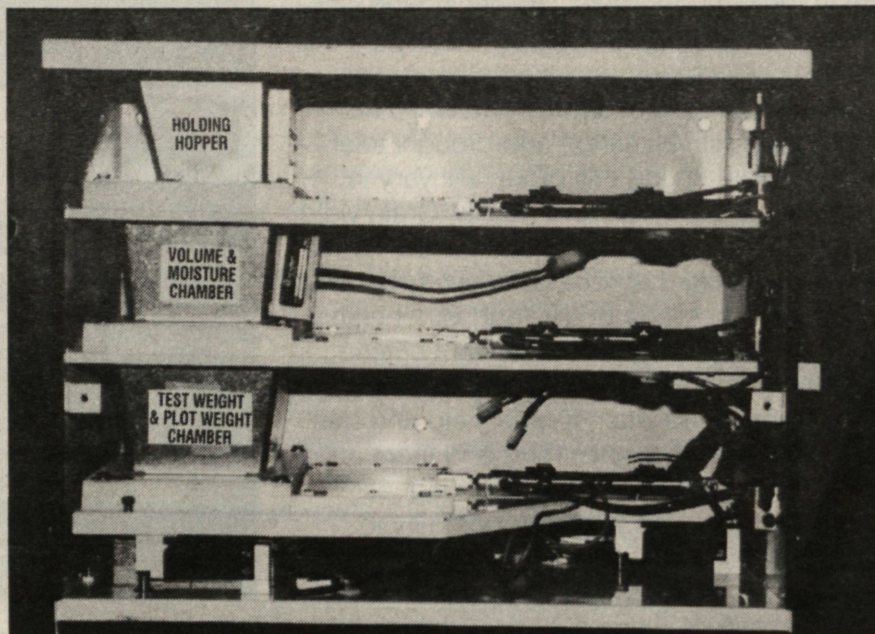
Data provided by MSU-AGRICULTURAL WEATHER METEOROLOGY OFFICE
Jeff Andresen and Tom Cate
(517/355-0231)

PLOTS REQUIRE SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT

From planting through harvest, specialized equipment is needed to conduct variety trials around the state. Up to 140 hybrids are tested at a location. The plot planter allows for planting of individual seed packets of each hybrid and divides the seed equally into four rows. Plots are 22-feet long with a 3-foot alley between plots.

A mounted sprayer and an adjustable 4-row cultivator make it possible to care for the plots at the different locations. Weed control and side dressing are both possible with one machine.

Grain harvesting is done with a 2-row combine designed for plot harvest. All data are measured by the GrainGage™ system pictured here. The grain cycles through the system via pneumatically-controlled gates at the base of each chamber. The first chamber determines the volume for each cycle taken (size of the plot determines the number of cycles per plot), the second chamber determines moisture while the third chamber measures weight. At the end of each plot, all cycles are averaged for moisture and test weight, and plot weights are totaled. These data are then stored in the memory of the HarvestMaster Data System.™ This complete system allows for one person to handle the harvesting operations.



Narrow Row Corn Trials...Continued from page 3



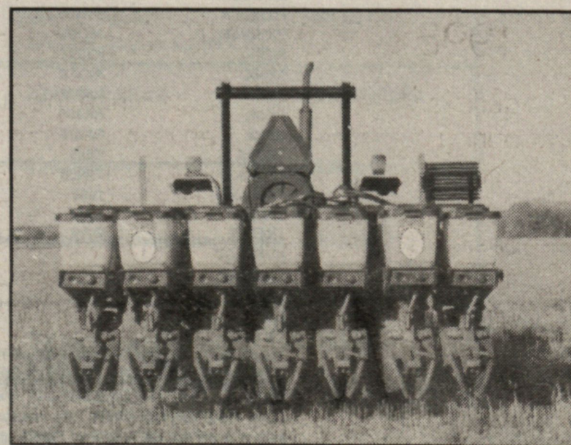
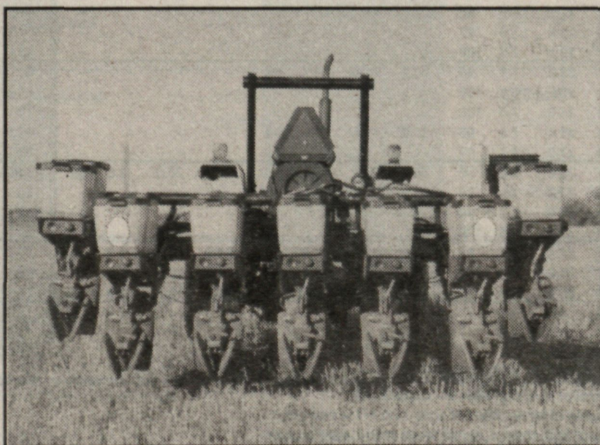
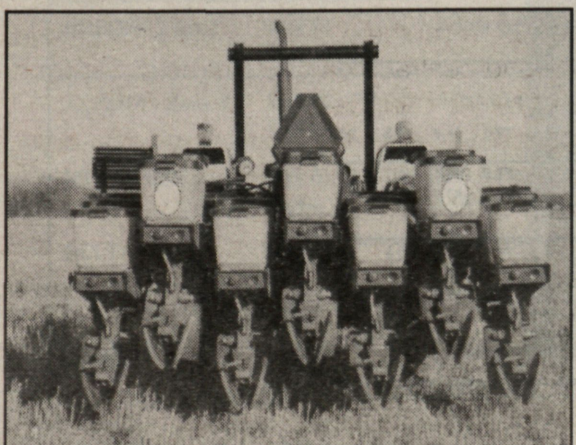
30" Row Configuration



22" Row Configuration



15" Row Configuration



RELIABLE SILAGE QUALITY ESTIMATES ARE NOW POSSIBLE

Seven locations containing 10 silage tests were harvested.

Table 8 contains a list of all hybrids planted in the 1998 silage trials. The 10 silage tests included 101 hybrids from 26 seed companies comprising 228 entries. Company names used in association with hybrid numbers refer to their brands. The numbers are the companies' designations.

Methods

Testing procedures (randomization, replication, planting rates, etc.) for silage evaluation are the same as used in the grain trials except for the use of 2-row plots. Silage tables are arranged by company order.

Chopped silage (fodder plus grain) samples are weighed. A representative sample is collected for use in determining moisture content. Percent dry matter for estimating silage yield is based on an air-dried sample. A second sample is collected and ensiled in a PVC mini silo to ferment for 30 days. It is then opened, air-dried and finely ground for further evaluation by means of in-vitro silage digestibility analysis* conducted by the Department of Animal Science.

Trials conducted in Ionia, Ingham, and Huron counties contain two maturity groups with yield data presented in Table 5. Additional silage trials were conducted in Alpena and Missaukee counties in 1998 (Table 6).

The Delta County silage trial (Table 4B) contains the same entries as the Zone 4 grain trials (Table 4A). Table 4B contains one-, two- and three-year yield data while the analyses for digestibility started in 1997 contain one- and two-year data. Alger County started a silage trial in 1998 and has one year data for yield and digestibility (Table 7).

The results from the 1998 silage digestibility trials are presented in the adjoining tables.

*All analyses were determined by wet-chemical methods.

Results of four analyses are presented. They are:

- DMD=dry-matter digestibility.** This is a measure of energy available from the corn forage. The higher the DMD, the greater the energy content. It is determined by a laboratory method which incubates a sample of the corn forage with microbes from the rumen of a cow. Thirty hours is used to represent the average retention time of feed in the rumen. Differences among hybrids in DMD are approximately equal to differences in total digestible nutrients of TDN. A high DMD is desirable.
- FD=fiber digestibility.** This is a measure of the degree of fermentation of fiber by ruminant animals. It is determined as the disappearance of neutral detergent fiber during an in-vitro rumen fermentation. High fiber digestibility has been found to increase intake of ruminants as it decreases the filling effect of the feed and provides energy to microbes in the rumen increasing microbial protein production. A high FD is desirable.
- NDF=neutral detergent fiber.** This is a measure of the fiber content of the corn forage. Fiber must be fermented by microbes in the gastrointestinal tract to be utilized by ruminants. It is less digestible than non-fiber constituents of the forage. Forages with high levels of NDF have lower energy. It is also a measure of the gut-filling properties of the forage and high NDF decreases forage intake. A low NDF content is desirable.
- CP=crude protein.** Forages are generally supplemented with high protein concentrates such as soybean meal to increase the protein content of ruminant diets. Corn hybrids with high protein require less supplementation and therefore lowered feed costs. A high protein content is desirable.

HARVESTING AND HANDLING SILAGE DATA

Silage plots are harvested with a single row, side-mounted forage chopper. Plot weights are measured by electronic scales mounted on the tractor and chopper. After weighed samples are dumped, subsamples are collected for use in determining percent dry matter and quality analysis.

Samples for dry matter are weighed, air dried till weight loss is zero, then weighed again to determine the percent dry matter. Multiple replications of the quality samples are then combined and dried. At this point, samples are finely ground for analysis.

IN-VITRO SILAGE ANALYSIS

In-vitro analysis is an in-the-laboratory (literally "in glass") system to estimate the actual nutrient content of a silage sample. A few of the steps are illustrated by a series of pictures.

- A sample of the rumen contents of a cow is removed, blended, and filtered to remove fiber.
- Measured amounts of rumen fluid and media are added to weighed amounts of the ground silage sample (flasks 1 & 2).
- This media and silage is incubated in a heated water bath at 40°C for 30 hours. In this step, the microbes from the rumen sample attack the ground silage sample in a process similar to the digestive processes of the ruminant animal. Following this digestion step, the undigested materials can be separated and measured.
- Other evaluation procedures estimate the protein and fiber content of the silage. Here the samples are shown on a fiber reflux condenser. Samples are boiled for an hour in detergent solutions and filtered to determine fiber.

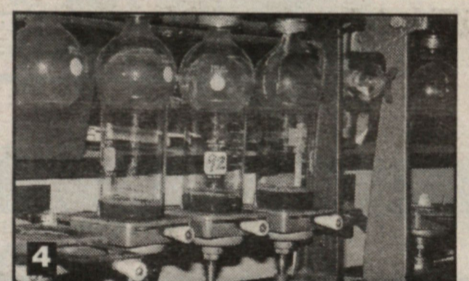
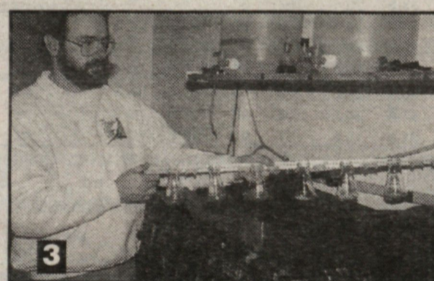


TABLE C AGRONOMIC TABLE - SILAGE TRIALS

COUNTY	PLANTING/ HARVEST DATES	SOIL TYPE	PREVIOUS CROP	PLANTING- RATE/ AVG. STAND	FERTILIZER	SOIL TEST	FARM COOPERATOR	LOCATION
IONIA - Zone 2	May 7 Sept. 1, 8	Miami Clay Loam	Soybeans	30,096 29,675	151-15-51	pH 6.8 P 172, K 352	Clarksville Hort. Res. Stn. Michigan State University	Clarksville
INGHAM	May 7 Aug 27, Sept 3	Capac Loam	Soybeans	30,096 29,780	175-51-51	pH 5.9 P 52, K 79	Crop & Soil Scs. Res. Fac. Michigan State University	East Lansing
HURON - Zone 3	May 13 Sept. 5, 21	Kilmanagh Loam	Soybeans	26,928 24,222	179-57-60	pH 6.5 P 75, K 248	Wil-Le Farms William, Ron & Ed McCrea	Bad Axe
ALPENA - Zone 4	May 12 Sept 11	Selkirk Loam	Dry Beans	26,928 26,874	132-48-48	pH 6.4 P 182, K 281	Allen Schiellard	Hubbard Lake
MISSAUKEE	May 6 Sept 2	East Lake Rubicon Sands	Corn	28,512 26,887	175-50-50	pH 6.7 P 356, K 570	Ken Dezeeuw	McBain
DELTA	May 5 Sept. 10	Onaway Fine Sandy Loam	Alfalfa	26,136 25,718	51-51-51 9,000 Gal. Liq. Manure	pH 7.3 P 185, K 400	Benny Herioux	Bark River
ALGER	May 5 Sept. 10	Chatham Stoney Loam	Barley	25,340 24,860	65-19-19	N/A	UP Experiment Station Michigan State University	Chatham

Average of Ionia, Ingham & Huron County EARLY Silage Trials One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

EARLY TRIAL (103 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR EARLIER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with 24 columns: BRAND, HYBRID, VARIETY, 1998 (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 2 YEAR AVG (97 / 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 3 YEAR AVG (96 - 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), IONIA (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), INGHAM (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), HURON (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD). Includes rows for various hybrids like AP9272, RX490, BH510, Super 88, 7526XS, 7938X, 7941X, etc.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID FOR DRY WEIGHT PER ACRE
* DRY WEIGHT NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

Average of Ionia, Ingham & Huron County LATE Silage Trials One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

LATE TRIAL (104 DAY RELATIVE MATURITY OR LATER (BASED ON COMPANY RATING))

Table with 24 columns: BRAND, HYBRID, VARIETY, 1998 (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 2 YEAR AVG (97 / 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 3 YEAR AVG (96 - 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), IONIA (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), INGHAM (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), HURON (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD). Includes rows for various hybrids like AP521, AP9560, BH612, C567, STEALTH-1406, etc.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID FOR DRY WEIGHT PER ACRE
* DRY WEIGHT NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

Average of Alpena & Missaukee County Silage Trials One-, two-, three-year averages — 1998, 1997, 1996

Table with 20 columns: BRAND, HYBRID, VARIETY, 1998 (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 2 YEAR AVG (97 / 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), 3 YEAR AVG (96 - 98) (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), ALPENA (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD), MISSAUCKEE (% DryM, Tons Gwt/A, Tons Dwt/A, % STD). Includes rows for various hybrids like Super 88, STEALTH-1195, STEALTH-1289, GS998, 3362, etc.

** HIGHEST YIELDING HYBRID FOR DRY WEIGHT PER ACRE
* DRY WEIGHT NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM TOP YIELDING HYBRID

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The DEKALB corn grower field report.

**Hilltop Farms
Bad Axe, MI**

DK493RR

"The Roundup Ready® Corn Program is easy to use and the spraying window was wide. The crop looked very good. The weed control was very good, too. I was very happy with it. I will use Roundup Ready® Corn in 1999."

**Jim Mesko
Cassopolis, MI**

DK512RR

"My Roundup Ready® corn was cleaner than any corn I've ever had. You don't have to worry about getting back to spray pre-emerge, giving me a large window to apply after corn is planted. I have found that Roundup can be applied in all kinds of weather and the nice thing about it is that it works every time with no crop injury. I will be planting Roundup Ready® in '99."

**Tom Green
Portland, MI**

DK493RR

"DK493RR was my best-looking corn. It will yield the best on my farm. It has been very dry and I cannot believe the ear size."

**Craig Benore
Erie, MI**

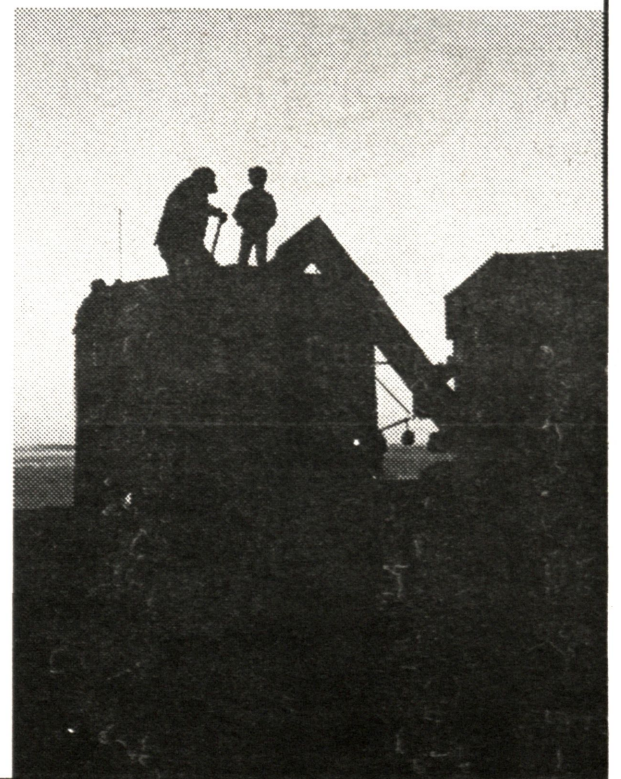
DK566RR

"DK566RR ear size was larger than other hybrids. I used it where my soil types varied; I'm very satisfied. It was better on lighter soils where carryover is always a concern. We had better control on giant ragweed, with good all-around weed control."

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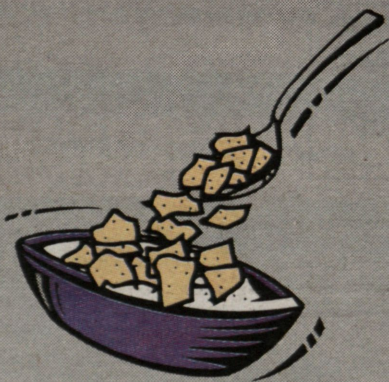
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**Corn Marketing
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