

Weather Factors



This was a summer of discontent for we prefer to reap what we sow rather than depend upon the safety net of crop insurance to determine our fate. But this is just what occurred for those fortunate enough to have insurance.

Unseasonably warm temperatures (16 degrees above normal) during March enabled many to plant in March and early April. By mid April, slightly above normal rainfall delayed planting for the rest.

That delay may have proven costly, because after May there was very little rain. According to the rain gauge at our Pittsfield Independent Plot, just 10.1 inches of rain fell between May and August. This was bad in itself, but the temperatures made it worse.

Temperatures were well above normal all summer with 11 days over 100 degrees and 40 days in the 90's, with little or no temperature relief at night! It was oven-like and the corn baked. 2012 proved to be one of the worst and costliest droughts on record. Commodity prices soared with \$8 corn and \$16 beans.

Early September brought relief from the drought with the aftermath of hurricane Isaac but that proved too late for the corn crop. Yields in the 40's and 50's were common with some fields yielding nothing at all. The rainfall likely helped later beans.

Pike County Population Trial

31 different seed hybrids were planted in 28,000 and 34,000 seed populations to determine:

- 1.) Would higher populations bring higher yields?
 - **The result:** In eight of the 34 comparisons, the 34,000 population had a higher yield than the 28,000 population.
- 2.) Would the yield increase of the higher population offset higher seed costs?
 - **The result:** There was one comparison in 34 when the 34,000 population yielded enough to offset the higher seed costs (based on \$7/ bushel, 1,000 planted acres and seed corn at \$300 per bag).

Planting Information

Soil type: Keomah Silt Loam, Bethalto Silt Loam, Virden Silty Clay Loam
Planting date: Apr. 12, 2012
Harvest date: Sept. 21, 2012
Previous crop: Corn
Row length range: 894 ft. -1,257 ft, 36" rows
Planting population: 28,000; 34,000
Planted north to south

Chemical and fertilizer application schedule:
 Oct. 19, 2011 - 18-46-0 (DAP) applied @ 170 lbs./acre
 0-0-60 (Potash) - 100 lbs./acre
 Jan. 11, 2012 - 82-0-0 (NH3) - 230 lbs./acre
 Apr. 12, 2012 - Corvus - 5.6 ozs./acre -- Atrazine 90WDG - 1.5 lbs./acre

* Check rows were included to account for field and soil variations.

In the 28,000 population trial, 77% of the comparisons had a higher yield than the 34,000 population (26 of 34 rows), and averaged about 3.25 more bushels per acre. Drought conditions and competition for soil moisture partly explain trial performance. ■

Pike County Plot Results

Company	Variety	Population	Moisture	Test Weight	Scale Weight	Bushels Per Acre	Bu Per Acre	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	28,000	16.3	59.1	3684	175.35										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	34,000	16.0	59.1	3740	177.47										
Golden Harvest	H9138	28,000	18.0	57.1	3216	148.97										
Golden Harvest	H9138	34,000	18.1	56.6	3166	145.99										
Golden Harvest	H8928	34,000	14.4	59.7	3234	143.46										
Golden Harvest	H8928	28,000	14.7	59.6	3352	147.28										
Lewis Hybrids	1211 VT3 P	28,000	14.2	58.4	3592	158.27										
Lewis Hybrids	1211 VT3 P	34,000	14.4	59.1	3504	154.03										
Lewis Hybrids	1112 VT3 P	34,000	14.6	58.7	3580	156.53										
Lewis Hybrids	1112 VT3 P	28,000	15.0	61.0	3626	157.80										
Dyna-Grow	D54VP81	28,000	14.6	61.4	3652	159.68										
Dyna-Grow	D54VP81	34,000	14.8	61.5	3628	158.26										
Dyna-Grow	D51VP40	34,000	15.3	59.1	3604	156.76										
Dyna-Grow	D51VP40	28,000	14.9	60.7	3742	165.03										
Great Heart	HT120 VT 3P	28,000	15.2	59.3	3756	167.11										
Great Heart	HT120 VT 3P	34,000	15.8	60.2	3636	161.63										
Great Heart	HT7167 VT 3P	34,000	15.8	57.0	3780	169.08										
Great Heart	HT7167 VT 3P	28,000	16.0	58.2	3790	170.19										
LG Seed	2636 VT3 P	28,000	16.6	57.3	4012	179.44										
LG Seed	2636 VT3 P	34,000	16.8	58.0	3978	176.38										
LG Seed	2602 VT3 P	34,000	16.7	58.4	3910	173.57										
LG Seed	2602 VT3 P	28,000	16.4	57.2	3910	173.11										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	28,000	15.9	57.3	4044	178.44										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	34,000	16.1	57.7	4146	180.27										
Stone Seed	6128 RIB	34,000	15.0	61.4	3624	157.71										
Stone Seed	6128 RIB	28,000	14.7	61.4	3672	142.95										
Stone Seed	6404 GVT 3P	28,000	16.3	60.7	3338	137.64										
Stone Seed	6404 GVT 3P	34,000	16.1	60.5	3120	126.75										
Garst	84A40-3000GT	34,000	15.3	59.3	3450	139.50										
Garst	84A40-3000GT	28,000	15.3	58.1	3694	147.05										
Garst	83G41-3000GT	28,000	17.6	59.0	3254	121.50										
Garst	83G41-3000GT	34,000	17.3	59.2	3216	117.38										
Channel Seed	212-45 STXRIB	34,000	15.4	61.9	4054	149.41										
Channel Seed	212-45 STXRIB	28,000	14.2	58.9	4188	154.56										
Channel Seed	214-14 VT3P	28,000	14.7	61.1	4312	155.83										
Channel Seed	214-14 VT3P	34,000	15.7	62.4	4290	151.32										
Burrus	6A25	34,000	15.8	61.4	4000	139.89										
Burrus	6A25	28,000	16.2	62.0	4220	146.17										
Burrus	7A18	28,000	17.2	61.3	4664	158.08										
Burrus	7A18	34,000	17.4	62.9	4282	144.78										
DeKalb	61-88	34,000	15.7	60.0	3708	127.95										
DeKalb	61-88	28,000	15.4	61.0	3868	133.63										
DeKalb	63-87 RIB	28,000	14.5	59.5	4598	160.54										
DeKalb	63-87 RIB	34,000	15.1	60.1	4608	159.37										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	34,000	15.1	58.2	5020	173.20										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	28,000	15.8	59.7	5034	171.43										
FS Seed	FS63SV4	28,000	15.1	59.0	4666	160.99										
FS Seed	FS63SV4	34,000	15.4	59.9	4452	153.43										
FS Seed	FS60T30	34,000	14.1	57.9	4706	165.47										
FS Seed	FS60T30	28,000	14.5	61.0	4756	166.45										
Mycogen	2V715	28,000	14.4	56.6	4946	172.89										
Mycogen	2V715	34,000	15.1	58.3	4960	174.06										
Mycogen	2V707	34,000	14.2	58.4	5032	178.46										
Mycogen	2V707	28,000	14.8	59.3	5190	183.22										
Pioneer	1395	28,000	15.2	60.1	4906	171.96										
Pioneer	1395	34,000	15.3	62.2	4736	167.44										
Pioneer	33 D42	34,000	16.5	61.8	4510	157.19										
Pioneer	33 D42	28,000	17.1	63.0	4816	167.06										
Nutech	5X-915	28,000	15.5	61.4	4702	166.67										
Nutech	5X-915	34,000	15.9	61.6	4470	158.08										
Nutech	5X-515	34,000	16.2	61.4	4726	167.37										
Nutech	5X-515	28,000	17.1	62.3	4722	165.85										
Cropland	6914AS3000GT	28,000	15.3	58.9	3330	120.70										
Cropland	6914AS3000GT	34,000	14.8	60.1	3172	115.65										
Cropland	652SV3PMF	34,000	13.8	57.6	3348	124.77										
Cropland	652SV3PMF	28,000	14.3	59.2	3502	130.41										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	28,000	15.0	57.8	4224	170.44										
Check-LG Seed	2620 VT3	34,000	14.9	58.2	4280	172.90										

Jersey County Plot Results

Company	Variety	Moisture	Test Weight	Scale Weight	Bushels Per Acre	Bu Per Acre	25	50	75	100	125	150
Check-FS	FS60TV4	16.0	56.0	1636	128.98							
AgVenture	8899 AM	19.0	58.7	1478	112.37							
AgVenture	RL89504 BW	18.2	59.3	1630	125.15							
LG	2620 VT3	16.2	57.8	1604	126.16							
LG	2626 VT3 PRO	16.6	54.0	1674	131.04							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	15.5	56.3	1542	122.30							
Lewis	1311 VT3 P	14.9	57.0	1582	126.36							
Lewis	1313 VT3 P	16.0	58.5	1644	129.62							
FS	63SV4	16.1	55.2	1556	122.53							
FS	62MV4	15.3	56.7	1368	108.75							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	14.5	54.2	1358	108.98							
Stine	9734 VT3 PRO	15.2	57.0	1240	98.70							
Stine	9731 VT3 PRO	16.1	56.6	1336	105.20							
Masters Choice	MCT-6273	15.5	59.1	1226	97.23							
Masters Choice	MCT-6323	15.9	56.5	1292	101.98							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	15.3	55.5	1304	103.67							
DeKalb	DKC 65-19	16.6	58.4	1546	121.02							
DeKalb	DKC 67-57	17.4	58.7	1660	128.70							
Wyffels	7477	16.0	57.6	1490	117.47							
Wyffels	7997	17.1	56.8	1438	111.90							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	15.6	55.9	1470	116.45							
NuTech	5N-517	17.7	56.2	1522	117.57							
NuTech	3D-811	16.7	59.7	1600	125.10							
Channel	215-52 VTP3	15.2	56.5	1406	111.91							
Channel	212--09 STX	16.9	57.1	1714	133.69							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	14.8	54.7	1388	110.99							
NK	N785-3111	16.9	55.8	1616	126.04							
NK	N74R-3000 GT	19.2	55.2	1426	108.15							
DynaGrow	D53 VP 61	14.7	56.7	1600	128.10							
DynaGrow	D54 VP 81	15.0	60.3	1434	114.41							
Check-FS	FS60TV4	15.2	55.1	1478	117.64							
Greatheart	HT7240 VT 3P	15.7	57.8	1634	129.30							

FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am pleased to present Farmers State Bank's Independent Plot results for 2012!

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Pittsfield plot. To commemorate this important occasion, we decided to make some enhancements to our plots in Pittsfield and Jerseyville. In prior years the most promising seed hybrids were planted so yields could be compared. This year we also ran trials on two issues that affect yields:

1. Population in Pittsfield
2. Nitrogen application in Jerseyville

The results of the research are presented in this publication. I hope this information will assist you in your future endeavors. Farmers State Bank remains committed to agriculture and appreciates the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Lewis M. Grigsby, Jr.
President



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