

Plant Normal (N) Corn Seed, Firm Advises

Since much of 1972's seed corn will be available in normal cytoplasm, it might seem that the subject of normal seed versus Texas male steriles or blends is now a dead issue.

Far from it, according to DeKalb Ag-Research, Inc.

In spite of 1971's massive crop, there were numerous areas where Race T of Southern corn leaf blight caused substantial yield decreases. Certain areas of the central Corn Belt and sections of the East and Northeast were most affected.

Many farmers in the blight-damaged areas suffered significant yield losses where T cytoplasm male steriles, rather than normal seed, had been planted. Losses were generally smaller when blends were used

Research Tests

Results of N-B-Tms comparisons at the Thomasboro, Illinois, DeKalb research farm, a location that experienced a heavy Southern leaf blight infestation in 1971, provided a vivid example of the differences.

Five hybrids of varying maturities were involved. The normal, blend and male sterile versions of each hybrid were grown in the same test to determine blight effect. Blight

moved into the area about two to three weeks after pollination.

There was a striking yield advantage for the normals over the male steriles and to a lesser extent over blends. The average yield for the five hybrids was 180.4 bushels per acre with normal seed. This dropped off to 165.4, or 15 bushels fewer, for the blends and slumped to 147.9, or 32.5 bushels fewer, with the male steriles.

One hybrid produced 174.6 bushels in the normal version, dipped to 153.9—20.7 bushels less—as a blend and went on down to 130.1—a 44.5 bushel drop—in the male sterile form.

What It Means

The N-B-Tms test results point out that farmers affected by blight in 1971 have some things to keep in mind when making their final seed selection for 1972.

If they planted the male sterile or the blend version of a hybrid in 1971, the can, under similar weather and blight conditions, generally expect an increased yield and improved standability from the normal form of the hybrid in 1972.

Since it is uncertain whether Southern corn leaf blight will be a factor in these areas, they should ask for normal seed, and

provide themselves with a form of insurance, DeKalb recommends.

Farm Family Night Tonight

The second of two Farm and Home family night programs will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, January 29 at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.

The Rev. Glenn M. Eshelman will give his visual presentation on "God's Great Masterpiece."

The full evening of family entertainment will also feature Lancaster County 4-H talent winners during the past year plus a vocal trio from a Farm Woman's Society.

A collection will be taken for the Farm and Home Center mortgage reduction fund.

Changed Coat of Arms

President Harry Truman made a change in the U.S. coat of arms. The eagle now not only faces to its right—the direction of honor—but also toward the olive branches of peace which it holds in its right talon. Formerly, the eagle faced toward the arrows in its left talon, symbolic of war.



Jay Irwin, associate Lancaster County ag agent, shows the triangular Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem which is now required on all vehicles on public roads which travel at speeds less than 25 miles per hour. Irwin and other local farm officials have been urging use of the emblems as a means of cutting down on the numbers of highway accidents involving farmers and their equipment and vehicles.



Wouldn't you rather keep your farm in the family than have it sold for taxes?

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