

NC+ Introduces 1993 Crop Varieties

LINCOLN, Neb. — NC+ Hybrids has introduced six new corn hybrids and three new soybean varieties for the 1993 growing season.

The company conducts extensive tests on all products prior to release. Each product released exhibited superior characteristics during breeding and research trials, according to NC+ Hybrids President Gary Duncan.

"The six new corn hybrids for 1993 are the strongest group we've ever released in any one

year," Duncan said. "Each one exhibits clear performance standards."

NC+'s new corn releases include four yellow dent hybrids and two white corn hybrids.

The six new corn hybrids include:

- NC+ 1991: A 99-day hybrid with excellent yield potential and fast drydown. Good early color and growth turn into a strong stalk with large ears.

- NC+ 2844: A 104-day hybrid with excellent stay-green and rapid drydown. Girthy ears with

deep kernels deliver extra yield.

- NC+ 6485: A 116-day hybrid with excellent standability and grain quality along with good yield potential. Shows good stress tolerance and some corn borer tolerance. Excellent food corn potential.

- NC+ 6959: A 117-day hybrid with good disease tolerance and high yield potential. Medium-tall plants combine excellent standability and stay-green with good foliar disease tolerance.

- NC+ 6555W: A 116-day white corn hybrid with high yield potential and excellent drydown. A Texas Supreme-approved hybrid that can handle moisture stress under a wide range of populations.

- NC+ 7161W: A 117-day white corn hybrid with excellent yield potential and standability. Bred to match southern environments. This Texas Supreme-approved hybrid has fast drydown and excellent grain quality.

NC+'s three new soybean varieties include:

- NC+ 2A42: Mid Group II, a top choice for conventional, no-till drilled, or 30-inch row beans. Thrives under high fertility and good management. Combines excellent standability with good disease tolerance.

- NC+ 2A93: Late Group II, a medium-tall, moderately thin variety made-to-order for no-till or conventional planting. Offers excellent emergence and phytophthora tolerance.

- NC+ 3A51: Mid Group III, narrow, upright plants stand strong, perform well in all row widths. Offers improved tolerance to phytophthora and iron chlorosis.

Pork Prose

(Continued from Page E35)

second room, we used a humidistat to raise or lower the curtain.

The idea behind the humidistat is that as ventilation rate drops, humidity level goes up (along with dust, gases, and bacteria). In a thermostatically controlled system, the set point on the thermostat (65 degrees, for example) may never be reached during cold weather. As a result, the curtain stays shut, and air quality suffers.

In each of the three trials, the thermostat room was set at 65 degrees. The humidistat room was set on 55-60 percent relative humidity. If the moisture level exceeded this setting, the curtain would open, and vice-versa.

Based on daily carbon dioxide and actual humidity measurements, the humidistat was effective at improving air quality in all three trials.

Hog performance and respiratory health, however, were a different story. The combined results from all three trials are listed below.

Effect of Using a Humidistat on Hog Performance

	Thermostat	Humidistat
Carbon dioxide, ppm	2272	1637
Relative humidity, %	70.4	59.7
Avg daily gain, lb	1.58	1.65
Lung Score, % lesions	4.4	4.2
Snout Score*	1.5	1.4

*1=normal, 5=severe.

In the second and third trial, growth rate was higher in the humidistat group. But lung scores and snout scores in all three trials wouldn't have been closer if we had cheated.

Summary

1. Respiratory problems continue to cost the industry a lot of money — perhaps more than any other single group of diseases.

2. Common sense and even some research tells us that respiratory disease is related to air quality. The puzzling issue is why pigs don't respond more dramatically to improvement in air quality under controlled experimentation.

3. Air quality will continue to be an issue for the next several decades in our industry, and the result will be a better environment. That will be good for the hogs, but it will probably be even better for the people that work there.

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Soybean Farmers Want Tough Stance

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. soybean farmers are calling on the U.S. Trade Representative to move swiftly to implement trade retaliation if the European Community does not present a satisfactory settlement offer by their mid-August deadline in the ongoing U.S./EC oilseeds trade dispute.

In comments submitted to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the American Soybean Association and the U.S. should "target retaliation against EC products from nations most opposed to a fair settlement which provides redress to the injured party, the U.S. soybean farmer."

ASA first filed a Section 301 Unfair Trade Petition against the EC in 1987, charging that the EC has nullified and impaired its 1962 duty-free commitment for soybeans and soybean meal by offering lucrative subsidies to growers and processors of EC origin oilseeds at the expense of U.S. soybean exports.

A General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Dispute Settlement Panel has twice ruled in favor of the U.S. position. Despite numerous promises, the EC has yet to offer a meaningful solution to the problem, according to ASA.

ASA contends that EC oilseed production, as a result of lucrative subsidies, increased 550 percent from 1980 to 1991 or by 11 million acres. At the same time, U.S. export volume to the EC fell 70 percent (15.1 million acres worth of soybean and soybean meal exports) while total U.S. soybean acreage fell 13.5 million acres.

ASA says U.S. export losses to the EC were "responsible, in large part, for the dramatic acreage decline suffered by U.S. soybean farmers in the 1980s." ASA estimates annual economic losses to U.S. soybean growers from the EC oilseed regime exceed \$2 billion.

"ASA's intent is not to damage another U.S. industry or economic segment through this trade dispute," ASA says in their comments. "U.S. soybean farmers simply seek the opportunity for their crop to compete fairly in the EC market."

ASA reiterates in their comments that the 301 is a "litmus case for the future of GATT. If the U.S. cannot achieve its rights and gain reform in GATT-illegal oilseed subsidies under existing GATT agreements, of what value is a new GATT agreement?"



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