

RESEARCH UPDATE

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markers were not readjusted leaving a 30-inch guess row spacing between every plot. This served as a guide for positioning the outer row dividers when harvesting the 15-inch plots with the 6-row corn head. Two 15-inch rows were pulled into each of the combine row units. Both hybrids were standing well at harvest. After harvest a survey of the field showed no more lost ears in the 15-inch plots than in the 30-inch plots. This demonstrated that 15-inch corn should be harvested efficiently with a 30-inch corn head if: 1) the corn is standing well and, 2) wider guess rows are left as a guide.

Plot yields were weighed in a weight wagon and sampled for moisture content. Yields, converted to bushels/acre and adjusted to 15.5 percent moisture content, ranged from 86.5 to 156.1 bushels/acre.

Statistical analysis using ANOVA showed no significant difference in yield for row spacing, hybrid, and no interaction at the 0.05 probability level. There were, however, some noticeable, if not significant, trends. In the upper two blocks (good soils) the Pioneer hybrid responded positively while the Ciba hybrid responded negatively to 15-inch row spacing. In the lower two blocks (poorer soils) 15-inch row spacing depressed yields substantially for both hybrids.

From just one year of data it is difficult to make many conclusions, but this was a learning experience. We did prove that it is possible to successfully produce narrow row corn with conventional farm equipment. We also showed that narrow row corn may not be suitable for all environments. Our data, like Penn State's research, suggests that narrow row corn is probably better suited to more productive soils and better growing environments.

We also saw what appeared to be a hybrid interaction. On the upper two blocks (good soil) Pioneer 3163 gave a 24 percent yield increase in narrow rows while Ciba 5190X had a 10 percent decrease. On the lower two blocks (poorer soils) Pioneer 3163 and Ciba

5190X had yield decreases of 32 percent and 18 percent respectively when comparing 15-inch rows to 30-inch rows. At the present time much more research is needed to identify suitable hybrid and environments before narrow row corn can become a recommended practice. Thanks to Carl Windsor and Pioneer Brand Products for providing their weigh wagon for this study.

Hybrid	Row Spacing (in)	Block	Population	Yield (bu/A)
Pioneer	30	1	25,000	111.5
Ciba	30	1	23,666	137.5
Pioneer	15	1	29,000	156.1
Ciba	15	1	24,333	133.3
Ciba	30	2	24,333	133.7
Pioneer	30	2	26,666	128.5
Pioneer	15	2	27,000	141.6
Ciba	15	2	21,666	112.2
Pioneer	30	3	27,333	120.9
Ciba	30	3	21,666	109.0
Ciba	15	3	27,333	84.9
Pioneer	15	3	21,666	69.0
Pioneer	30	4	23,666	108.9
Ciba	30	4	23,000	107.3
Ciba	15	4	25,333	92.3
Pioneer	15	4	24,333	86.5

Eastland Hybrids Perform In Independent Penn State University Trials

E334

100
% of check

- * Standability 1% better than check
- * Moisture 1% lower than check
- * Large ear, early

Eastland

93 DAYS
CCB

SEED CORN

E540

115.5
% of check

- * #1 Yelder
- * #1 Stander (tied for #1)
- * Good Gray Leaf Spot Resistance In Maturity

Eastland

100 DAYS
CCB

SEED CORN

E590

106 %
of check

A leading
yielder
In Penn State
Grain Trials

----- and -----

Outstanding silage
yielder In Seedway
Silage Trials at
26.0 tons/AC
(68% mois.)

Eastland

105 DAYS
CCB

SEED CORN

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