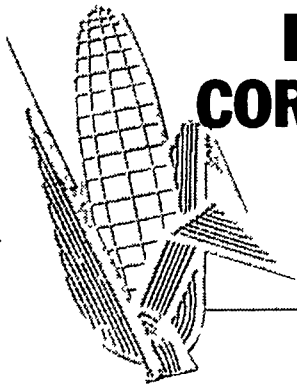


# PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION



## Between The Rows

**Dr. Greg Roth**

Penn State Agronomy Associate Professor



(Continued from Page 1)

affect nitrogen (N) nutrition of the corn plants. Many plants appeared off color for a long time and leaf analyses conducted by crop consultants confirmed that in many cases this was a symptom of N deficiency. Some of these cases were

associated with high rates of N applied to the field. Apparently poor root development, lack of rain to incorporate sidedressed N, and poor soil N mineralization all contributed to the N-deficient corn. This may contribute to lower protein levels in grain and silage this year.

When the rains relieved the drought, many fields regained their color and ear development increased nicely. Some recent research has shown that short corn tends to have less lignin and higher stover digestibility. Some of our crop will have a higher grain to stover ration as well. The combination of reduced lignin and high grain content should make for excellent silage quality from some fields this year.

In some areas, crop maturity will be a problem this year. In central and northern part of the state, many fields will likely be killed by frost before maturity. This could have a negative impact on grain quality. In the southern portions of the state the crop is delayed somewhat but generally not to this extent. Even though many fields recovered somewhat, yields will be down significantly in many areas.

The USDA yield estimate for Pennsylvania is 85 bushels per acre compared to 119 bushels per acre last year. Even this yield is respectable given the conditions the crop endured. Yes, corn is an amazing crop sometimes.



Drought stress limited yields in many fields, particularly where weed control was less than ideal.

## NCGA Selects New Industry Relations Director

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) announces the appointment of Randy P. Krotz as director of industry relations.

His responsibilities include managing and building relationships with major agribusiness industry partners. Krotz's duties will also include coordinating NCGA's strategic plan and industry participation in the annual Commodity Classic

Event.

Krotz was raised on a diversified crop and livestock farm in Kansas. He earned his graduate degree at Kansas State University in plant pathology and entomology. Prior to joining the NCGA, Krotz was in product management for FMC Corporation's North American pesticide group, Philadelphia. His 12 years with FMC includes sales, product marketing, and project management.



Common corn smut was a problem in many fields, favored by hot and dry conditions across the state.

# See Binkley & Hurst Bros. Inc. For Tractors That Perform

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