

Twin Row Corn

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an increase of 10-20 percent in corn harvests with the twin row planting, which allows more growing room.


New equipment on the market makes available an all-purpose drill that replaces a planter and conventional drill.

Producers can change row spacings from 7½ to 15-inch rows or 10 inches to 30 inch rows by removing a pin, sliding the fill tube to off, and replacing the pin.

The precision singulating meter system covers all planting needs, from small grains to corn to soybeans, in one package, said Brown, as one unit can plant corn, beans, and alfalfa. The wheels can be changed to plant a variety of seeds.


A 22-inch spread between the double rows allows farmers to use the equipment they already have (the center is 30 inches) to harvest their double row crop.

Literature discussing twin row planters touts the twin row concept as providing the plants with the advantage of more growing room.



PENNSYLVANIA MASTER CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Between The Rows



Dr. Greg Roth
Penn State Agronomy Associate Professor

BIOTECH ISSUES FOR THE CORN GROWER

We're fortunate in Pennsylvania in many ways that we avoid some of the biotech issues that surface in the Corn Belt, where corn is processed. Even so, there are still many interesting issues that unfold as the biotech revolution unfolds here, too.

Late last year the Prodigene incident unfolded as traces of volunteer pharmaceutical corn ended up in harvested soybeans and resulted in a heavy fine and the destruction of 500,000 bushels of soybeans. Since this episode, the concept of pharmaceutical corn production has come under intense scrutiny.

Some believe that "pharma" corn should be restricted from being grown in the Midwest, others believe it should only be grown under tight security, while still others think that Midwest

corn growers should have the right to produce these added value crops. If you think pharma corns are still a "pie in the sky" thing, think again. Several different events are already being tested.

The National Food Processor Association expressed their concern this fall over food crops being used for production of industrial and pharmaceutical compounds. This whole controversy has caused the government to begin to reevaluate guidelines on pharma corn production.

Closer to home, there are signals that the Roundup Ready corn market will likely begin to take off. This year both Mycogen and Pioneer added Roundup Ready hybrids to their lineup on a limited basis and more hybrids will be coming in the future. Some industry analysts are projecting 30 percent market share of

Roundup Ready by 2005 or so. I hear mixed signals from producers and industry folks whether this will happen here, although we already have a good start, as I heard estimates that last year the market in Pennsylvania was eight to nine percent Roundup Ready already.

Weed scientists are a bit concerned about the idea of Roundup Ready corn grown in rotation with Roundup Ready soybeans. We may see an evolution of herbicide programs that include Roundup and other products to avoid weed resistance buildup and also to preserve some markets for traditional corn herbicides.

Coming soon we'll also see the rootworm Bt hybrids possibly as early as this spring but maybe not until 2004. Cost, performance, and resistance management will be issues with these hybrids. Efficacy testing data seems to suggest they work very well on controlling rootworms, but I haven't seen any yield performance data at this point. Other seed treatment insecticides may be an addition to help control secondary insects, but this will add to the cost.

Initially, some on-farm testing will be necessary to see how these particular hybrids will fit. The seed industry is improving their ability to develop transgenic iso-

lines that perform as well or better than their existing hybrids, so hopefully there won't be many surprises in performance.

Resistance management will likely be a serious consideration with the rootworm Bt hybrids. Now, annual surveys of corn grower adherence to insect resistance management (IRM) are conducted with the corn borer Bt hybrids. This year, as part of the IRM program, a survey of 551 corn producers in four regions of the U.S. was used to estimate the adherence to IRM guidelines. The survey found that 86 percent of Bt corn producers in 2002 planted the required acreage of non-Bt corn. As part of the reregistration of Bt corn in 2001, an IRM compliance assurance program was developed that included this survey and mandated more recordkeeping and grower awareness education by seed companies.

As these new products come on board in the next few years, all of us will be challenged to position these products and the stacked products where they will have the most value. Seed companies will need to address the seemingly endless combinations of biotech traits and the cost of inventory. Producers will have to push the pencil to make sure they capture some of the value of these more pricey products.

Taylor To Speak

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ognized expert on the Farm Bill with the National Corn Growers Association, is another of our guests this year. Willet will describe and explain the new Farm Bill components that have direct financial impact on Pennsylvania farmers with the help of Penn State extension agent John Berry. Willet and Berry will be using real Pennsylvania examples to illustrate the local effects of this program.

A distinguished panel of crop insurance experts will be on hand this year to explore how to more fully utilize this part of our risk management efforts. Insurance agency representatives will give us information from the perspective of the actual product users. Gene Gantz and Cliff Parker represent the USDA, Risk Management Agency and will supply answers to our questions on the formulation and implementation of crop insurance regulations and policy. Bring your questions and concerns. This session is sure to be a lively discussion of this important topic.

The Corn and Soybean Conference is a joint program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association, The Pennsylvania Soybean Board, and Penn State Extension. Registration for the meeting is \$20 and reservations can be made by contacting the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Penn State at (814) 865-2543 before Feb. 1.

For more information, contact Greg Roth in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Penn State at (814) 863-1018.


DOEBLER'S PERFORMS*



760DT 110 days RM					
PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS		LATE MED	2	151.7	25.7 2 OF 6
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	BLACKSBURG	MEDIUM	1	81.0	17.3 2 OF 14
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	MTHOLLY	MEDIUM (IRR)	1	172.0	21.3 5 OF 25
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	SHENANDOAH	MEDIUM	2	129.0	18.9 1 OF 7
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	WYTHE CO	MEDIUM	2	133.0	22.6 1 OF 5
HC560 112 days RM					
PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS		LATE	1	110.6	21.2 3 OF 32
PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS		LATE MED	1	182.0	25.6 1 OF 23
649XY 111 days RM					
OHIO CORN PERF TRIALS	BUCYRUS	LATE	1	188.1	21.8 1 OF 38
PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS		LATE MED	2	150.3	22.6 3 OF 6
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	MTHOLLY	EARLY (IRR)	1	190.0	18.4 4 OF 39
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	ORANGE	EARLY	1	105.0	14.2 4 OF 21
638XYG 110 days RM					
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	SHENANDOAH	EARLY	1	162.0	17.8 1 OF 16
VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS	SHENANDOAH	EARLY	2	142.0	18.8 1 OF 8
HC540 108 days RM VIRGINIA TECH CORN TRIALS BLACKSTONE					
		VERY EARLY	1yr	218.0	18.1 1 OF 5
241XRR 84 days RM					
PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS	EARLY				
1yr	92.4	20.7	1 OF 18	(low moisture)	
236X 81 days RM PSU COMM HYB CORN TESTS EARLY					
1yr	92.7	21.6	2 OF 18	(low moisture)	

800.853.2676
doeblers.com

*Note 2002 Performance Trials (read info across)
Location - Season - 1 cr? yr average yield (bu/a) - Moisture - Doebler's rank among all entries



"Your Regional Advantage"

2003
Corn and Soybean Conference

Holiday Inn, Grantville, PA
February 7, 2003
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
(Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Event Schedule

Keynote Address and the PSU Football Team
Dr. Peter Borel, Assistant Professor, School of Hotel, Restaurant and Recreation Management, Penn State
Grain Quality: Put It on Your Acker Screen
New Leaky Quality Assurance: Weigher Feeds

Growing Corn for Profitability: How We Grow the Corn for the Market "Signs"
Larry Nappier, Department Chair, Department of Agronomy and Ent. Science, Delaware Valley College
Brazil, the Competition: You Can't Ignore
Marta de Souza Trindade, author, Top Producer

Meet: Corn and Soybean Yield Contest Awards, Association Updates, Lunch, Visit Exhibits

Making the Most of the Farm Bill
Sam Willet, Director, Public Policy, National Corn Growers Association and John Berry, Ag Marketing Educator, Penn State
Cooperative Extension, Lehigh County

Farm Bill Questions and Answers
Crop Insurance: Advanced Issues from the Field
Our distinguished crop insurance specialists address the tough questions of crop insurance. Panelists: Cliff Parker, RMA, Director, Raleigh National Office; Gene Gantz, Ag Risk Strategies, Inc.; Rick McAdams, State Davis & Peck Insurance; Kris Weaver, Mortuary Insurance, Inc.

Sponsored by:
Pennsylvania Corn Growers Assn., Pennsylvania Soybean Board, Penn State Cooperative Extension
(Registration Form (attach and mail back))

Sign up for:	Price	No.	Total	Make checks payable to Penn State Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference	20.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr PCGA + NCGA membership	30.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 yr PCGA + NCGA membership	75.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> NCGA membership	45.00			
	Total			

Clip and send form by January 28 to:
Corn and Soybean Conference
Dept. of Crop and Soil Sciences
114 ACE Bldg.
University Park, PA 16802

For more information contact:
Greg Roth, 814-863-1018
Lisa Cryzler, 814-865-2543