

Row, Oil and Specialty Crops Trial Information

Corn

Entries for the corn grain trial are solicited from corn companies on a yearly basis. In 2009 corn growing degree days for our trial were 1703, normal is 1761. The corn trials are overplanted and hand thinned to the correct population. Ears are picked and placed in the corn sheller by hand.

Description of traits:

Grain Yield: bushels per acre at 15.5 percent moisture.

Test Weight: pounds per bushel, dockage free.

Days to Silk: days from planting to 50 percent of ears beginning to silk.

Harvest Moisture: percent seed moisture at harvest.

Height: inches, to top of tassel.

Sunflower

The first killing frost for sunflowers in 2009 was on October 9 (23 F.). Our normal killing frost date is September 21(28 F.). Sunflower growing degree-days from May 15 to October 9 was 2367. Normal is 2387. Sclerotinia head rot disease levels were high this year having a significant impact on yield. Entries for sunflower trials are solicited from sunflower companies on a yearly basis.

Description of Traits

Yield: pounds per acre at 10 percent moisture, dockage free

Test Weight: pounds per bushel, dockage free

Harvest Moisture: percent seed moisture at harvest

Bloom: Days from planting to 10 percent bloom

Height: inches, taken at harvest

Oil: percent oil of seed, 10% moisture basis. Oil percentages of Tradition and NuSun hybrids were adjusted for oil type.

Seed Size: percent of seed that remains over the stated sieve size and smaller.

Days to Mature: a visual rating of plant maturity at the R-9 growth stage (bracts become yellow and brown).

Soybeans

Soybean trials were conducted at Langdon and off-station locations at Cavalier, Park River and Michigan. There were two variety trials conducted at each of the four locations, conventional and Roundup Ready. Entries for soybean trials are solicited from soybean companies on a yearly basis.

Soybeans respond to day length so the actual calendar maturity date is highly influenced by latitude location. Each variety therefore has a narrow range of north to south adaptation. Soybean yield and quality are affected if a season ending freeze occurs before a variety reaches its physiological maturity. Days to maturity are listed in the tables and indicate when the plants for a variety are observed and estimated to be physiologically mature. Relative maturity ratings are also provided by each company. These ratings consist of a number for the maturity group designation (00, 0) and are followed by a decimal and another number, ranging from 0-9, which indicates maturity ranking within each maturity group. For example, the variety Jim is indicated as 00.6 making it a medium maturing variety in the 00 group. Walsh would be a 0.0 making it one of the earliest variety in the 0 group where as Barnes is a 0.3 making it a early medium in the 0 group.

Soybean variety resistance to iron chlorosis results can be found in extension bulletin A-843 or at www.soilsci.ndsu.nodak.edu/yellowsoybeans.

Description of Traits:

Yield: bushels per acre, 13% moisture.

Test Weight: pounds per bushel.

Height: inches

Physiological mature (PM): days to planting to physiological maturity at R7 reproductive stage (one normal pod on the main stem obtains mature brown or tan color).

Lodging: scale of 0-9, 0 equals plants standing erect, 9 equals plants lying horizontal. Years with no lodging reported indicate no lodging in the trial.

Protein and Oil: reported on 13% moisture basis.

Drybean

Drybean trials were conducted at Langdon and Cavalier. The trial at Cavalier was not harvest. The stands were very poor because of saturated soil conditions at emergence.

Description of Traits

Yield: pounds per acre, dockage free

Days to mature: period from planting to 90 percent mature pods (pods change color and texture - termed "buckskin")

100 KWT: weight of 100 seeds in grams

Canola

The canola trials are composed of solicited entries from various companies. There are two canola trials, a Roundup Ready trial and a trial combining Clearfield and Liberty Link varieties. Each variety is sprayed with its own herbicide type. Two Roundup Ready check varieties were included in the Liberty and Clearfield trial for comparison.

Percent cover notes were taken to help determine differences in stand and vigor between varieties. The trials are sprayed for white mold. Seed is treated with an insecticide and fungicide package and an additional foliar spray treatment is applied for flea beetle control if warranted.

Description of traits:

1st flower: days after planting when 10% of plants have at least one open flower

End flower: days after planting when 90% of plants have completed flowering

Days to mature: days after planting when seeds on lower third of main raceme are dark brown to black, seeds on middle third of main raceme are turning brown to black and seed on top third of main raceme are green but firm and pliable

Plant height: height in inches from soil surface to top of main raceme

Yield: pounds of seed/acre

Lodging: scale of 0-9, 0 equals plants standing erect, 9 equals plants laying horizontal

Oil: percent oil, 8.5% moisture.

%Cover: Visual rating of percent area of plot covered by plant growth. This is a measure of stand and vigor. Plants were at 4-5 leaf stage at time of rating.

Specialty Crops

Description of Traits

Yield: pounds per acre, dockage free.

Test Weight: pounds per bushel, dockage free

Days to Flower: days after planting when 10 percent of plants have at least one open flower

Days to Head: days from planting to heading

Lodging(Harvest Ease): scale of 0-9, 0 equals plants standing erect, 9 equals plants laying horizontal.

Height: in inches, from base of plant to top, excluding beards if present

Oil: percent oil, "as is" moisture basis

Forage Trial

Description of Traits:

Yield: tons per acre

Height: in inches, from base of plant to top, excluding beards if present

Dry Matter: percent dry matter

Crude Protein: is calculated by taking the Nitrogen content of the forage x 6.25

Total Digestible Nutrients: This is an estimate of the digestibility of the forage.

Acid Detergent Fiber: This value refers to the cell wall portions of the forage that are made up of cellulose and lignin. These values relate to the ability of an animal to digest the forage. As ADF increases, digestibility of forage usually decreases.

Neutral Detergent Fiber: This value refers to the total cell wall, which is comprised of the ADF fraction plus hemicellulose. NDF values are important in ration formulation because they reflect the amount of forage the animal can consume.