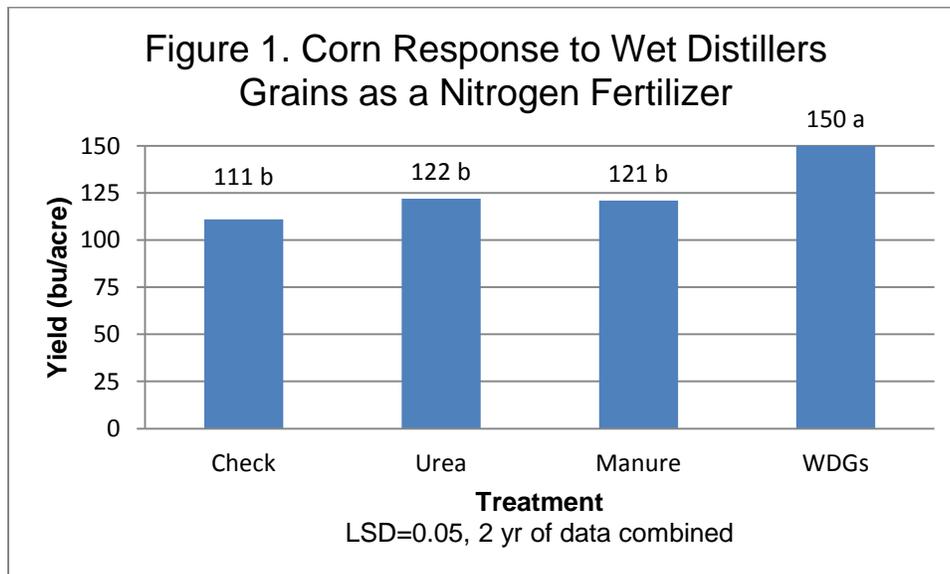


Corn Response to Wet Distillers Grain as a Nitrogen Fertilizer

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Introduction: Wet corn distillers grains (WDGs) were used two years as a treatment in a larger study to investigate the nitrogen (N) mineralization of manure. It is well known that the protein in WDGs can be utilized as a soil N amendment but there has been very little data collected on its use. For this study, the WDGs were treated similarly to manure assuming that 60% of the total N in the WDGs would be available for uptake by the corn.

Results and Discussion: According to Figure 1, the WDG treatment significantly out-yielded the other treatments. Numerically, the urea and manure treatments yielded about 10 bu/acre higher than no fertilizer but the WDG treatment out-yielded the check by about 40 bu/acre and the other N treatments by about 30. This data suggests that the availability of N in WDGs for crop uptake is greater than 60%. Application of WDGs to crop land can be a challenge because of the product consistency but if there is ever a glut of WDGs on the market, it could be used successfully as an N soil amendment.



^{ab} Values with the same letter are not significantly different.