



Corn Stats:

Yield Range: 185.8-235.3

Yield Average: 216.5

Top \$ Per Acre: 829.00

Corn Field Notes: Illinois North

Jason Beyers, FIRST Manager

Grand Ridge—The Grand Ridge test site was planted on May 5. This location started out with a cool wet spring, then the lack of heat throughout the summer did not help with maturing the corn at a normal rate. July was dry for the most part, limiting the top-end yield potential for this area. There was a mess of diseases present at the time of harvest. The site was also hit by a windstorm just before pollination, causing a good majority of the hybrids to have some goosenecking. This was significant enough to slow the harvest process. This site averaged 229 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 232.8 bu. per acre in the early-season test and 224.3 bu. per acre in the full-season test.

Malta—This site, which was planted on May 7, got off to a tremendous start as far as emergence. The corn was nice and even at the V5 stage. June turned out to be on the wet side, and FIRST farming partner Steve Drendel felt that the excess amount of rain in June hurt the corn more than the lack of rain in July. At the time of harvest, stalk quality was starting to deteriorate at a rapid pace. Windblown diseases from the summer showed up and created a significant presence throughout the testing area. This site was harvested on October 18 and averaged 192.7 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 189.7 bu. per acre in the early-season test and 179.8 bu. per acre in the full-season test.

Mazon—The Mazon site was planted on May 21 and harvested on November 7. The trials started off great! Corn was nice and uniform at the V3 growth stage. It continued to receive good, timely rainfalls and experienced an excellent pollination period. I was glad to see that this area had a good year, as it has not fared very well for rainfall in the last five years. Stalk quality was still pretty good at harvest, with only 30% failing a pinch test. There was evidence that anthracnose and some common rust were present in September. This test averaged 223.5 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 222.4 bu. per acre in the early-season test and 220.2 bu. per acre in the full-season test.

Sublette—The Sublette test site was planted on May 4. There may have been excess moisture in June followed by a lack of moisture in July, but most hybrid ears had good girth and kernel fill out to the tip. This location received some wind damage prior to pollination, which caused goosenecking in some hybrids. All other lodging was due to stalk lodging. There were areas where anthracnose was present, and some hybrids showed signs of stalk rot. Several of the full-season hybrids still had some green leaves present at harvest. Overall, this was a good, uniform location with high-end yield potential. This test averaged 224.3 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 232.2 bu. per acre in the

early-season test and 231.5 bu. per acre in the full-season test.

Geneseo—A few days after the May 10 planting date, this location received a pounding rain that really made the corn seedlings struggle to emerge. Plants were extremely uneven shortly following emergence. Plant heights ranged from just a spike to 3" tall. The trial area began to look better going into the month of June. There was evidence of some disease in late September, specifically common rust, anthracnose and leaf blights. Stalk quality was still pretty good at harvest. This site averaged 204.2 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 213.7 bu. per acre in the early-season test and 213.9 bu. per acre in the full-season test.

Winnebago—This location looked great all year long. It was planted on May 10 and saw excellent emergence with almost every seed germinating. Early-season growth was all uniform. Rainfall was good leading up to pollination, and it appeared that every ear was filled to the tip. The site caught more timely rains during grain fill, which produced some nice deep kernels. The only downfall was test weight, which only ranged from 53 to 57 lbs. This site was harvested on November 6 and averaged 217.4 bu. per acre in the ultra-early-season test, 224.9 bu. per acre in the early-season test, and 220.4 bu. per acre in the full-season test.