

Impact of Planting Speed on Corn Stand Establishment and Grain Yield: On-farm research by Grower Learning Groups. (A08-iremonger162315-Poster)

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Abstract:

Several Grower learning groups (GLG) have been established in Minnesota dedicated to sharing knowledge about precision agriculture practices and conducting on-farm research. Members of the GLGs were interested in the effect of planting speed on corn grain yield. Informal trials conducted by some of the farmers suggested that planting speed had no effect on yield. Planter manufacturers recommend a range of optimum planting speeds, 6.4-12.9 k/h (4-8 mph). The GLGs consider the upper end too fast, but want to know how fast to plant before yield is impacted. In 2002 eleven farmers took part in the research. A randomized complete block design with three treatments, 6.4, 8.9 and 11.3 k/h (4, 5.5 and 7 mph), and five replications was set out by each farmer. Using a mechanical plant counter (Space Cadet), the within row plant spacing of 100 consecutive plants was measured in the center four rows from each plot. Total plant population and plant spacing variability were recorded. Harvest yield data was collected by the farmer with the use to yield monitors.

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