Influence of Planting Date on Corn Yield, Grain Moisture and Test Weight. (C03-smelser105301-Oral)

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Abstract:

Trials were conducted during 1993 to 2001 at seven locations in the Western Corn Belt to determine the effect of planting date on grain yield, grain moisture and test weight of corn as influenced by hybrid maturity and geographic region. All trials included three replications and a wide maturity range of up to 20 adapted Golden Harvest brand hybrids. Studies were planted at three planting intervals: generally late April to early May, mid-May, and late May/early June. The response to planting date was similar between test weight and yield. The greatest potential for both variables was generally realized when corn was planted by May 7th. These declined slowly during mid-May then dropped more rapidly as planting was delayed into late May/early June. Yield and test weight loss associated with later planting dates was greater in northern locations than in southern locations. Planting date accounted for yield variability more in northern locations than in southern locations. Harvest grain moisture increased on the average 1 percent for every 4-5 days planting was delayed. Some hybrids maintained yield potential better than other hybrids when planting was delayed.

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