THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center
Horticulture and Crop Science
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2020 OHIO ORGANIC CORN PERFORMANCE TEST
Plans and Guidelines

OBJECTIVE:
To provide an unbiased source of information on organic corn hybrids currently available to Ohio farmers. We welcome all seed companies marketing organic seed corn in Ohio to participate in these trials.

TEST SITE LOCATIONS:
The 2020 Ohio Organic Corn Performance Test will be conducted at the Ohio Agriculture Research & Development Center in Wayne, County. The proposed test site will be in Apple Creek and/or Wooster. Both locations have been certified since 2002, crop rotations vary from 4 to 6 years and are intensively managed. We are also proposing a third location in Sandusky, OH. Details are being finalized. The new location will be "On Farm" with field management (nutrients / weed control) based on the grower's standard practices.

METHOD OF SELECTING ENTRIES:
Producers and distributors of organic seed corn available to Ohio farmers may submit an unlimited number of entries in the Ohio Organic Corn Performance Test. **Experimental** hybrids may be entered. Companies entering experimental hybrids will be notified of the hybrid performance before publication of the results and given the option to include the data in the publication. This decision must be made promptly to meet printing deadlines. Company representatives are responsible for the appropriate timely notification to the project manager of the commercial sales numbers assigned to experimental hybrids. We recommend medium flat or medium round seed sizes for optimum planting accuracy.

FEE SCHEDULE AND SEED REQUIREMENTS:
The entry fee will be $150.00 per hybrid. Please return the entry form, fee, and seed (3000 kernels per entry) to the address shown on the entry form. Deadline for entries is March 20, 2020 to ensure acceptance of entries. Seed should be sent no later than March 30, 2020. If seed shipment is delayed for any reason (winter nurseries, etc.) please let us know so we can plan accordingly. Letter of certification stating that seed does not contain GMOs and any seed treatment applied meets organically approved standards (OCIA, OMRI, etc.) must accompany seed shipment.

PLOT DESIGN:
Hybrids will be planted in four replications per location using a randomized complete block design. Hybrids will be split into early and full season maturity groups based on company provided relative maturity information if there are 30 or more hybrids entered. Each replication will consist of a four-row plot with the center two rows harvested. Plot rows will be 25 feet in length by 30 inches wide. Plots will not be thinned. The planting rate will be approximately 34,000 seeds per acre.

PRODUCTION PRACTICES:
Hybrids will be planted with an Almaco Seed Pro 360 precision 4 row planter with SkyTrip GPS and hydraulic variable rate drive. Plots will be intensively managed to obtain optimum yield potential. The fertility program will include compost applied before spring tillage and sidedressed Chilean Nitrate. Weed control will include a combination of preplant tillage, rotary hoe and cultivation. An Almaco SPC 40 two row research combine equipped with the HarvestMaster Plot Harvest Data System will be utilized for harvest.

MEASUREMENTS AND RECORDS:
Notes and measurements will be taken on the following: yield, test weight, grain moisture, percent emergence, stalk lodging and final stand. Other data of value to farmers and/or seedsmen will be collected including insect/ disease ratings when such pest injury becomes severe at a test site.

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PUBLICATION:
Final results will be published and available for distribution as soon as the results are compiled. Results will be published by *Ohio's Country Journal,* the Agronomic Crops Network C.O.R.N. newsletter (agcrops.osu.edu) and available on our web site: oardc.ohio-state.edu/organiccorntrials.

CORRESPONDENCE:
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Every effort will be made to conduct the test as indicated. However, no financial liability is either expressed or implied.