



# Northern New York Agricultural Development Program

## FACT SHEET

### **The Importance of Hybrid Selection**

**Dairy, and beef,  
producers need to  
make informed  
decisions before  
selecting corn silage  
hybrids to plant for  
the coming year.**

**The results of  
Northern New York  
Agricultural  
Development  
Program corn silage  
hybrid trials help  
farmers evaluate  
which hybrids will  
return the highest  
quality and best  
yield for their farm  
and their herd.**

## **Preliminary Results of Corn Silage Hybrids for NNY 2010 Evaluations**

Principal Investigators: William J. Cox, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Cornell University; Jerome Cherney, Department of Crop & Soil Sciences, Cornell University

### **Introduction:**

#### **Why Run Field Trials for Corn Silage Hybrids**

Hybrid selection is one of the most important management practices that affects corn silage yield and quality. Across Northern New York (Essex, Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Lewis and Jefferson counties), corn for silage is grown on 88,470 acres.\*

Dairy and beef producers need to make informed management decisions before selecting hybrids to plant for the coming year. Having actual silage yield and quality data obtained from testing hybrids in the region helps farmers make those vital decisions.

With funding from the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program, researchers from Cornell University annually run field trials in Northern New York to test different corn silage hybrids. The results help farmers in the region evaluate which hybrids will return the highest quality and best yield for their farm and their herd.

Cornell University researchers applied MILK2006 standards to determine milk/ton and milk yield/acre for the hybrids tested in Northern New York. Researchers in Idaho found that high quality corn silage produced \$315 more beef per acre than low quality silage.

Informed selection of hybrids is the first step toward a success crop. Combined with good management, proper harvesting, storage and feeding, planting a well-chosen corn silage hybrid will result in a crop that helps produce desired milk and beef yields.

\* 2007 Census of Agriculture data

**To learn more about  
corn hybrids,**

contact the  
Cornell Cooperative  
Extension office  
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● **Clinton-Essex** ●

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● **Franklin** ●

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## Methods:

This fact sheet provides the preliminary data from the 2010 field trial evaluations for 85-100 day corn silage hybrids grown at two locations in Northern New York: Greenwood Dairy, Madrid/Canton, and Robbins Farms, Sackets Harbor.

Researchers evaluated three relative maturity (RM) groups: 85-90 day RM, 91-95 day RM, and 96-100 day RM. Corn was harvested when the hybrids were in the 60-70% moisture range. A 2000-gram sample at harvest is evaluated for moisture and silage quality on four replications of each hybrid at each trial site.

## Results

Cornell researchers suggest planting hybrids with comparative milk yields at 100 or greater - the average milk yield of each hybrid RM group is adjusted to 100 and hybrids within the RM group with above-average milk yields have values above 100. The comparative milk yields, comparative silage yields, and milk/ton values for the 39 hybrids evaluated in Northern New York trials at Madrid/Canton are shown in Table 1 and at Sackets Harbor in Table 2.

## Notes:

The Sackets Harbor and Madrid farm sites were harvested on the same day. The harvest at Robbins Farms in Sackets Harbor was a tad early (wetter in moisture than actual physiological development because we harvested 4 days after a 3-inch rainfall so some rehydration occurred). The harvest at Madrid was one week later than planned due to mechanical problems with the chopper the week of 90 degree days the week before Labor Day when a 1/2 point or more of moisture was lost per day.

When averaging yields or milk yield across hybrid maturity groups, BMR hybrids are omitted in making the average. So look carefully if BMRs (you can pick them out by their NDFD values) are in a hybrid maturity group.

Hybrids should only be compared within their RM groups and hybrids that have been tested more than one year should be given more weight because they have performed above-average in more tests.

**Table 1. Recommended 85-100 day corn silage hybrids evaluated in NNY at Madrid, 2010. (\* See Notes)**

Brand	Hybrid	Silage Yield tons_65	Moisture %DM	30 hour			Milk 2006		Milk Yield lbs/acre
				NDF %DM	NDFD %	CP %DM	Starch %DM	Milk/Ton lbs/ton	
<i>85-90 day Relative Maturity</i>									
LICA	87S9	27.3	57.1	39.2	54.7	7.7	37.2	3446	33039
Hyland	HL SR35	27.0	57.5	40.4	55.5	7.8	36.3	3434	32383
Hyland	HL B24R	25.7	58.3	38.0	56.2	7.7	38.8	3559	31984
Master's Choice	480	25.7	55.1	36.3	54.0	7.5	40.8	3560	31916
TA Seeds	TA 290-11	25.5	54.8	37.7	54.2	7.3	40.1	3520	31441
Dairyland	ST-9789	24.8	60.2	34.4	54.3	7.7	42.8	3605	31230
RPM	435 HRQ	25.3	60.3	36.7	52.6	7.9	38.4	3515	31151
Dekalb	DKC 38-89	24.7	57.8	34.7	51.5	7.3	42.2	3543	30661
Dairyland	ST-7985	23.8	57.1	36.9	53.0	7.0	41.7	3498	29049
Pioneer	P8906HR	22.5	55.3	37.4	55.8	7.4	40.9	3540	27797
Doebler's	281 XY	22.7	60.1	38.0	52.0	7.1	39.6	3458	27410
LICA	1890 F	22.0	55.9	36.9	54.0	7.4	40.6	3498	26856
Dekalb	DKC 36-34	21.1	56.9	35.4	54.2	7.8	42.0	3581	26381
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>3520</b>	<b>30100</b>
<i>.....91-95 day Relative Maturity</i>									
Dairyland	HiDF 3195-Q	35.2	51.6	37.6	55.0	7.6	38.9	3522	43428
Doebler's	478SL	30.9	59.4	40.7	56.3	7.7	34.8	3473	37502
Hyland	H9407BRC	30.4	58.2	37.4	54.6	7.5	37.5	3507	37321
LICA	946 LRR	30.1	58.6	40.5	55.5	7.1	35.9	3451	36278
Dekalb	DKC 45-52	30.1	56.3	36.8	51.4	7.3	40.7	3432	36136
Dyna-Gro	34VN19	28.8	60.3	36.3	54.8	8.1	39.3	3565	35919
Croplan	DS95RB	28.0	60.7	36.9	57.1	7.9	38.8	3579	35087
NK	N34N-3000GT	28.4	59.2	36.3	52.1	7.6	40.3	3496	34712
NK	N29T-3000GT	27.7	59.2	34.2	51.6	7.5	42.2	3550	34379
Mycogen	TMF 2L418	27.6	58.1	37.9	55.1	7.4	38.9	3498	33815
TA Seeds	TA 451-19	26.8	59.7	34.2	53.2	7.7	42.5	3598	33589
TA Seeds	TA 370-11	27.2	55.5	35.3	50.2	7.0	42.2	3477	33129
Croplan	3514 VT3	26.4	58.7	37.5	56.6	7.5	40.5	3560	32884
Hyland	HL B42R	26.0	59.5	38.0	52.2	7.6	40.9	3435	31249
Hyland	HL B40R	24.6	58.1	38.4	60.7	7.9	36.2	3602	30970
Pioneer	38H08	25.1	58.8	38.3	56.7	7.3	39.4	3521	30913
Pioneer	P9512XR	25.1	58.3	38.6	53.3	7.6	38.6	3473	30501
TA Seeds	TA 327-20	23.1	57.7	38.2	56.8	7.0	40.1	3527	28489
Doebler's	491BMB	21.7	59.4	35.4	70.9	7.9	38.2	3715	28163
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>3527</b>	<b>33990</b>
<i>96-100 day Relative Maturity</i>									
Growmark FS	5288VT3	32.6	54.8	38.0	53.5	7.7	38.3	3481	39762
Wolf River Valley	2702 L	32.4	55.9	40.6	57.1	7.5	35.3	3496	39630
Doebler's	495XY	28.2	60.1	37.2	54.9	7.4	40.3	3531	34804
Wolf River Valley	2596 LRR	27.2	59.7	37.9	57.9	7.3	39.0	3590	34215
RPM	515HXR	27.7	61.1	39.9	55.6	7.8	40.2	3476	33612
Croplan	3724 VT3	26.8	60.8	37.7	54.7	7.4	39.9	3486	32685
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>3510</b>	<b>35784</b>
	<b>LSD 0.10</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>3.82</b>	<b>2.39</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>2.33</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>3414</b>
	<b>Overall Mean</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>3522</b>	<b>32969</b>

**Table 2. Recommended 85-100 day corn silage hybrids evaluated in NNY at Sackets Harbor, 2010.**

(\* See Notes)

Brand	Hybrid	Silage Yield tons_65	Moisture %DM	30 hour			Milk 2006		
				NDF %DM	NDFD %	CP %DM	Starch %DM	Milk/Ton lbs/ton	Milk Yield lbs/acre
<i>85-90 day Relative Maturity</i>									
LICA	87S9	27.7	69.2	42.1	59.3	8.7	33.1	3395	32968
Hyland	HL SR35	26.4	70.5	42.3	58.8	9.1	32.9	3373	31191
Dairyland	ST-7985	25.9	68.8	40.4	54.6	8.3	35.9	3333	30170
Master's Choice	480	24.9	70.1	40.4	56.1	8.8	34.4	3383	29446
TA Seeds	TA 290-11	24.1	68.7	41.0	58.3	8.7	35.3	3416	28787
Pioneer	P8906HR	23.8	66.9	41.4	58.7	9.0	33.8	3403	29298
Dairyland	ST-9789	23.1	70.5	39.5	58.3	9.1	34.8	3418	27538
Dekalb	DKC 38-89	22.7	71.1	39.5	57.5	9.0	34.1	3399	27028
RPM	435 HRQ	22.9	71.5	42.0	55.7	8.8	31.7	3318	26579
Hyland	HL B24R	23.2	69.6	42.8	55.8	8.5	31.1	3270	26530
Doebler's	281 XY	21.8	68.6	40.1	57.6	8.7	35.3	3409	26038
LICA	1890 F	20.6	70.7	41.8	60.0	8.7	33.9	3392	24443
Dekalb	DKC 36-34	18.9	69.3	41.8	57.0	9.6	30.5	3304	21805
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>3370</b>	<b>27755</b>
<i>..... 91-95 day Relative Maturity</i>									
LICA	946 LRR	26.2	69.7	43.0	62.1	8.1	33.6	3442	31606
Croplan	DS95RB	24.6	70.4	41.9	61.4	9.0	32.5	3427	29442
TA Seeds	TA 451-19	24.8	70.0	39.2	55.8	9.0	35.1	3381	29374
Mycogen	TMF 2L418	24.4	71.5	42.7	58.4	8.7	30.1	3325	28396
Doebler's	478SL	23.9	71.1	43.2	60.3	8.4	31.3	3385	28298
NK	N34N-3000GT	24.4	70.9	43.1	56.0	8.4	32.1	3261	27881
Pioneer	38H08	23.9	67.7	41.1	56.5	8.0	34.7	3336	27822
Pioneer	P9512XR	24.5	68.6	43.2	53.5	8.1	32.0	3231	27639
Croplan	3514 VT3	22.8	71.4	40.6	59.5	8.7	33.6	3417	27308
Mycogen	F2F 383	21.3	72.2	44.7	74.5	8.9	29.1	3650	27181
Dekalb	DKC 45-52	23.4	71.8	42.1	57.0	8.7	32.6	3297	26989
Dairyland	HiDF 3195-Q	23.7	71.8	44.5	56.5	8.7	31.1	3246	26875
TA Seeds	TA 327-20	22.4	68.4	40.3	57.1	8.4	36.1	3392	26599
NK	N29T-3000GT	22.4	70.7	39.2	54.6	8.5	35.4	3374	26366
TA Seeds	TA 370-11	21.9	70.7	39.6	53.2	8.4	34.6	3323	25399
Doebler's	491BMB	19.6	72.3	40.0	74.5	8.9	32.3	3691	25324
Hyland	HL B42R	22.2	71.9	41.8	54.1	9.6	31.1	3246	25171
Dyna-Gro	34VN19	20.9	73.6	41.7	59.1	9.3	31.7	3391	24778
Hyland	HL B40R	20.8	70.2	41.0	57.1	9.2	32.3	3352	24335
Hyland	H9407BRC	20.4	71.7	43.2	57.8	8.6	30.9	3324	23650
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>3374</b>	<b>27021</b>
<i>96-100 day Relative Maturity</i>									
Wolf River Valley	2596 LRR	26.8	69.9	43.1	63.1	8.6	33.0	3454	32390
Growmark FS	5288VT3	25.7	70.8	40.9	57.5	8.6	32.7	3385	30397
Wolf River Valley	2702 L	24.6	71.6	42.5	58.7	8.7	30.6	3369	29039
Croplan	3724 VT3	22.6	73.1	40.6	56.9	9.0	32.6	3333	26452
RPM	515HXR	22.8	72.1	44.4	56.9	8.3	30.5	3260	25977
Doebler's	495XY	21.6	70.4	42.5	57.6	8.4	32.5	3315	24957
	<b>Average*</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>3353</b>	<b>28202</b>
	<b>LSD 0.10</b>	<b>2.51</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>1.61</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>3145</b>
	<b>Overall Mean</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>3370</b>	<b>27448</b>

# Preliminary Results of Corn Silage Hybrids for NNY 2010 Evaluations

## Principal Investigators:

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## Participating Farms:

Madrid/Canton: Greenwood Dairy; Sackets Harbor: Robbins Farms

## Participating Educators and Research Institute Representatives:

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**For more information on Cornell's corn hybrid trials**, contact: your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office; or Bill Cox, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Cornell University, wjc3@cornell.edu, 607-255-1758

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**The Northern New York Agricultural Development Program** selects and prioritizes research the results of which can be practically applied to farms in the six-county region of Northern NY: Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton and Essex counties.

**To learn more about the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program**, contact Co-Chairs Jon Greenwood, 315-386-3231, or Joe Giroux, 518-563-7523; or R. David Smith, Cornell University, 607-255-7286. or visit [www.nnyagdev.org](http://www.nnyagdev.org) on the web.



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