

Recommended Corn Silage Hybrids for New York

Bill Cox and Jerry Cherney, Department of Crop & Soil Sciences,
Cornell University

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Cornell University evaluates 95-115 day corn silage hybrids at two locations in central/western NY and 75-100 day corn silage hybrids at two locations in Northern NY. We arrange the hybrids in the field into 5-day relative maturity (RM) groups (i.e. 95-100, 101-105 day hybrids, etc.) and harvest one or more RM groups at a particular site when the hybrids are in the 60-70% moisture range. We also take an initial 10,000-gram sample from each plot and then sub-sample to 700 grams to determine moisture and to run silage quality analyses on all four replications of each hybrid at each site.

MILK2006, a spreadsheet from the University of Wisconsin, calculates milk/ton, a silage quality index, derived from neutral detergent fiber (NDF), NDF digestibility (30 hr), crude protein, ash, and starch concentrations from the quality analyses. MILK2006 also calculates milk yield/acre of each hybrid by combining silage yield and milk/ton values. We recommend hybrids that have comparative milk yields of greater than 100 across the two sites (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). We list the comparative milk yields as well as comparative silage yields and milk/ton values for recommended hybrids in central/western (Table 1) and Northern NY (Table 2). **Hybrids within each table should only be compared within RM groups. Hybrids that have been tested more than 1 year should be given more weight because they have performed above-average in more environments.**

CENTRAL/WESTERN NY (TABLE 1)

95-100 day RM

The new 100-day hybrid, 55R10, from Dyna-Gro had exceptionally high silage yields, and a new hybrid, HID.F.-3195-Q from Dairyland Seed, had above-average silage yields and milk/ton values in 2009. As in 2008, 5057VT3 from GROWMARK FS and HiD.F.-3000-6 from Dairyland Seed had much-above average silage yields in 2009. A new hybrid, HL CVR64, also had above-average silage yields in 2009.

101-105 day RM

Three new hybrid releases, N53W-3000GT from NK, 86T82-3000GT from Garst, and V4592VTNS from Dyna-Gro, had much-above average silage yields and above-average milk/ton values in 2009 as did 553GRB from Doebler's. The hybrid, N53W-3000GT, in particular, had exceptionally high

silage yields in both Cayuga and Livingston Co.; and HID.F.-3195Q, a new hybrid from Dairyland Seed, had exceptionally high silage yield in Livingston Co. Also, HL B337 and HL SR59 from Hyland had much

above-average silage yields; and the new hybrid, 5595VT3 from GROWMARK FS, had an above-average silage yield and milk/ton value in 2009.

New hybrid releases, MC 530 from King's Agriseeds and TMF2R521 from Mycogen, had above-average silage yields and 36V53 from Pioneer had an above-average milk/ton value in 2009. The hybrids, TA557-00F from T.A. Seeds and 1056 SRR from LICA, had average performances in 2009 but are still recommended because of superior performances in previous years.

106-110 day RM

The hybrid, 34A89 from Pioneer, which had a much-above average silage yield and above average milk/ton value, and 1084 LHX, a new high-yielding hybrid from LICA, had the highest milk yields in 2009. A new brown midrib hybrid from Mycogen, F2F622, showed good agronomic characteristics, including average yield and harvest moisture within this maturity group, and the expected much-above average milk/ton value in 2009. The hybrid, DKC59-64 from DEKALB, had a much above-average silage yield and TA607-20 from T.A. Seeds had above-average milk/ton value in 2009.

111-115 day RM

New hybrids, 6296VT3 from GROWMARK FS, which had much above-average silage yield, and TA689-12F from T.A. Seeds, which had much-above average silage yield and an above average milk/ton value, had the highest milk yields in 2009. The DEKALB hybrids, DKC67-87, which had much-above silage yield, and DKC61-69, which had above-average milk/ton values, performed well for the second year in a row as did 33F88 from Pioneer, which had an above-average milk/ton value.



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Table 1. Recommended 95-115-day corn silage hybrids in New York based on tests in Cayuga Co. (Aurora Research Farm) and Livingston Co. (Sparta Farms, formally Southview Farms).

Brand/Co.	Hybrid	Comparative Silage Yield	Comparative Milk/Ton	Comp. Milk Yield	Years in Test
		-----%-----			no.
95-100 day Relative Maturity					
Dyna-Gro	55R10	111	100	112	1
Dairyland Seed	HiD.F.-3000-6	108	99	106	2
GROWMARK FS	5057VT3	107	99	106	2
Dairyland Seed	HiD.F.-3195-Q	102	102	104	1
Hyland	HL CVR64	102	99	101	1
101-105 day Relative Maturity					
NK	N53W-3000GT	114	102	116	1
Garst	86T82-3000GT	106	101	108	1
Dyna-Gro	V4592VTNS	105	103	108	1
T.A. Seeds	TA557-00F	107	101	108	6
Doebler's	552GR	104	102	107	2
Dairyland Seed	HID.F.-3105-Q	111	95	106	1
Hyland	HL B337	108	99	106	2
GROWMARK FS	5595VT3	104	101	105	1
LICA	1056 SRR	105	98	104	2
King's Agriseeds	MC 530	104	100	103	1
Hyland	HL SR59	104	98	101	2
Mycogen	TMF2R521	101	100	101	1
Pioneer	36V53	100	101	101	1
106-110 day Relative Maturity					
Pioneer	34A89	107	101	108	5
LICA	1084 LHX	108	99	107	1
Mycogen	F2F622	97	109	105	1
DEKALB	DKC59-64	105	99	104	1
T.A. Seeds	TA607-20	103	100	103	2
111-115 day Relative Maturity					
GROWMARK FS	6296VT3	109	99	108	1
T.A. Seeds	TA689-12F	105	101	106	1
DEKALB	DKC67-87	106	98	104	2
DEKALB	DKC61-69	103	102	103	2
Pioneer	33F88	101	101	102	2

NORTHERN NY (TABLE 2). 80-85 day RM

The hybrid, TA290-11 from T.A. Seeds, which had exceptionally high silage yields and an above-average milk/ton value in St. Lawrence Co., had a much-above average milk yield in 2009 as it did in 2008. Also, HL B29R from Hyland Seeds, which had exceptionally high silage yields in Clinton Co, also had above-average milk yield in 2009.

86-90 day RM

The hybrid, HL SR35 from Hyland, continued to have high milk yields, mainly because of its exceptional silage yields in both St. Lawrence and Clinton Co. Also, a new hybrid from LICA, 1890 F, had much-above average milk yields at both locations, mainly because of its exceptional silage yields.

91-95 day RM

The hybrids, 946 LRR from LICA and HL S047 from Hyland Seeds, had the highest milk yields in 2009 because of much-above average silage yields and above-average milk/ton values. Both hybrids have been above-average performers at both locations in previous years. New hybrid releases, 478SL from Doebler's, which had

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Table 2. Recommended 80-100-day corn silage hybrids in Northern NY based on tests in St. Lawrence Co. (Greenwood Farms) and Clinton Co. (Miner Institute).

Brand	Hybrid	Comparative Silage Yield	Comparative Milk/Ton	Comp. Milk Yield	Years in Test
-----%-----					no.
80-85 day Relative Maturity					
T.A.Seeds	TA290-11	109	103	111	2
Hyland	HL B29R	107	97	104	1
86-90 day Relative Maturity					
Hyland	HL SR35	108	100	107	3
LICA	1890 F	105	102	107	1
91-95 day Relative Maturity					
LICA	946 LRR	109	101	110	4
Hyland	HL S047	105	102	107	2
Doebler's	478SL	109	98	107	1
Dyna-Gro	V3593VT3	105	102	107	1
RPM	515HXR	109	98	107	1
Mycogen	TMF2L418	102	101	103	3
Garst	89B87CB/LL	102	102	103	1
Hyland	HL BSR40	98	103	101	1
96-100 day Relative Maturity					
T.A. Seeds	TA489-00F	106	100	106	2
T.A. Seeds	TA510-11	102	101	103	2
DEKALB	DKC50-44	102	101	103	2
T.A. Seeds	TA476-11	103	99	102	2
Mycogen	F2F485	93	110	102	1

the hybrids from T.A. Seeds, TA489-00F, which had much-above average silage yield and above-average milk/ton value; TA510-11, which had above-average silage and milk yield, and TA476-11, which had above-average silage yield; continued to perform well, as did DKC-50-44 from DEKALB. The new brown midrib hybrid, F2F485 from Mycogen, had a silage yield about 9% below average but similar harvest moistures to other hybrids in this group, and the much-above average milk/ton value resulted in the third highest milk yield for this hybrid in this RM group.

Conclusion

Hybrid selection is one of the most important management practices that affect corn silage yield and quality. With high grain corn prices, hybrid selection for corn silage has increased in importance. In addition, dairy producers

much-above average silage yields and above-average milk/ton values, and V3593VT3 from Dyna-Gro and 515HXR from RPM, which had much-above average silage yields, also had much-above average milk yields in 2009. New hybrid releases, 89B87CB/LL from Garst, and HL BSR40, had above-average milk/ton values and 89B87CB/LL also had above-average silage yields in 2009. The hybrid, TMF2L418, had an average performance in 2009 but continues to be recommended because of superior performances in previous years.

96-100 day RM

Proven performers and a new brown midrib hybrid are the recommended hybrids in the 96-100 day RM group. In 2009,

must select the best adapted hybrid for their region because the relatively low milk price that they have received over the last year makes each management decision crucial. We urge seed companies to enter their hybrids in our corn silage hybrid testing program so New York dairy producers can make informed decisions, based on tests under NY environmental conditions. You can access the detailed 2009 Corn Silage Hybrid Report at our Web site, www.fieldcrops.org.