

Recommended Corn Silage Hybrids  
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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 New York. 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 a 1000-gram sample at harvest to determine moisture and to run silage quality analyses on all four replications of each hybrid at each site.

MILK2006, the updated MILK2000 spreadsheet from the University of Wisconsin, calculates milk/ton, a silage quality index, derived from neutral detergent fiber (NDF), NDF digestibility, crude protein, ash, and starch concentrations in 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 (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 have listed the comparative milk yields as well as comparative silage yields and milk/ton values for hybrids that have performed above-average in our trials (Tables 1 and 2). **Hybrids 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)**

Table 1. Recommended 95-115-day corn silage hybrids in New York based on tests in Cayuga Co. (Aurora Research Farm) and Livingston Co. (Southview Farms).					
Brand	Hybrid	Comparative Silage Yield	Comparative Milk/Ton	Comparative Milk Yield	Years in Test
-----%-----					no.
<u>95-100 day Relative Maturity</u>					
Mycogen	TMF2T497	112	100	111	2
Dyna-Gro	54T42	109	100	109	1
Garst	8688GT	105	102	107	2
Hyland	HL S047	102	102	104	5
LICA	946LRR	103	101	104	2
Growmark FS	4955XRR	103	101	103	3
<u>101-105 day Relative Maturity</u>					
T.A. Seeds	TA557-00F	109	101	110	4
Hyland	HL S058	107	97	104	5
Pioneer	35F40	103	102	104	1
Garst	8693CB/LL	102	103	104	2

Doebler's	555XY	100	103	103	1
Dyna-Gro	55P86	107	96	103	1
DEKALB	DKC55-12	103	100	103	2
NK	N48-R3	102	101	103	2
Mycogen	F2F566	96	107	102	1
<u>106-110 day Relative Maturity</u>					
Growmark FS	6277XRR	108	100	108	1
Pioneer	34A89	109	100	108	3
Hyland	HL S067	107	100	107	7
Doebler's	632ARR	107	100	106	1
Garst	8381HT/LL	104	100	105	1
DEKALB	DKC57-47	102	100	102	1
Pioneer	34A20	101	103	102	2
Pioneer	33D14	106	96	101	1
Pioneer	33T59	101	101	101	1
<u>111-115 day Relative Maturity</u>					
T.A. Seeds	TA689-00F	111	100	109	2
Pioneer	34B38	101	101	108	3
Pioneer	33A88	104	99	104	1
DEKALB	DKC61-66	101	102	103	2
Dyna-Gro	57P12	103	101	103	2

Hybrids in the 95-100 day RM maturity group that performed well in previous years performed exceptionally well once again. Mycogen's TMF2T497 again yielded exceptionally well as did HL S047 from Hyland and 946 LRR from LICA. Garst's 8688GT and 4955XRR from Growmark FS continued to have high milk/ton values. Also the new hybrid, 54T42 from Dyna-Gro had a much-above average silage yield in 2007.

Previous recommended hybrids in the 101-105 RM continued to perform well in 2007, including HL S058 from Hyland and TA557-00F from T.A. Seeds with much-above average silage yields, and 8693CB/LL from Garst with an above-average milk/ton value. A new hybrid from Pioneer, 35F40, performed exceptionally well in 2007 because of above-average silage and milk/ton values. Other new hybrids that did well in 2007 include 55P86 from Dyna-Gro because of above-average silage yield and 555XY from Doebler because of an above-average milk/ton value. A new brown midrib hybrid, F2F566 from Mycogen, performed well in 2007 with silage yields only slightly below-average and the milk/ton value much-above average.

Previous recommended hybrids in the 106-110 day RM group, including HL S067 from Hyland and 34A89 from Pioneer, had outstanding yields in the 106-110 day RM group in 2007. Also, the new hybrids 6277XRR from Growmark FS, 632ARR from Doebler's, and 33D14 from Pioneer yielded exceptionally well in 2007. Other new hybrids that performed well in the 106-110 day RM group in 2007 include 33T59 from Pioneer because of its high milk/ton value and DKC57-47 from DEKALB because of above-average silage yields.

Previous recommended hybrids, TA689-00F from T.A. Seeds and 34B38 from Pioneer, yielded exceptionally well in the 111-115 day RM group in 2007. Also, previous recommended hybrids,

DKC61-66 from DEKALB and 57P12 from Dyna-Gro, continued to have above-average milk/ton values. A new hybrid, 33A88 from Pioneer also had above-average silage yield in 2007.

**Northern New York (Table 2).**

Table 2. Recommended 75-100-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	Comparative Milk Yield	Years in Test
-----%-----					
<u>75-85 day Relative Maturity</u>					
T.A.Seeds	TA240-11	111	101	112	1
Doebler's	377BWR	108	102	110	2
Hyland	HL S011	107	99	105	5
<u>86-90 day Relative Maturity</u>					
Pioneer	38N87	108	101	109	1
Hyland	HL SR35	109	99	107	1
Hyland	HL S034	108	100	107	6
Garst	8866	104	98	102	1
NK	N29-A2	98	103	103	3
<u>91-95 day Relative Maturity</u>					
Mycogen	TMF2N422	120	104	119	1
T.A.Seeds	310-02F	118	99	116	1
Pioneer	38K47	115	100	115	1
LICA	946LRR	109	101	110	2
Doebler's	468RB	112	98	110	1
Growmark FS	EX2604	106	101	108	1
Dyna-Gro	53K69	106	100	106	1
Mycogen	TMF2L416	106	100	106	1
DEKALB	DKC45-82	102	99	101	1
<u>96-100 day Relative Maturity</u>					
DEKALB	DKC50-48	108	102	109	1
LICA	964L	108	100	106	2
LICA	99 S27	108	99	100	1
LICA	99 BS7	104	102	106	1

Previous recommended hybrids, 377BWR from Doebler's and HL S011 from Hyland, had excellent yields in the 75-85 day RM group in 2007. A new hybrid, TA240-11 from T.A. Seeds, also yielded exceptionally well in 2007, especially at the St. Lawrence Co. site.

Three new hybrids, 38N47 from Pioneer, HL SR35 from Hyland, and 8866 from Garst, yielded exceptionally well in the 86-90-day RM group in 2007. The hybrid, HL S034 from Hyland, which has been in the corn silage hybrid trial in NNY for 6 years, had the highest numerical yield in the 86-90 day RM group in 2007. The previously recommended hybrid, N29-A2 from Northrup King, continued to have above-average milk/ton values in 2007.

New hybrids dominated the 91-95 day RM group in 2007 with TMF2N422 from Mycogen, TA310-02F from T.A. Seeds, and 38K47 from Pioneer, yielding much-above average in 2007. Other new hybrids that yielded above-average included EX2604 from Growmark FS, 53K69 from Dyna-Gro,

TMF2L416 from Mycogen, and DKC45-82 from DEKALB. The previously recommended hybrid, 946LRR from LICA, continued to have above-average yield in 2007.

A new hybrid, DKC50-48 from DEKALB, had much-above average yield and milk/ton in the 96-100 day RM group in 2007. The previously recommended hybrid, 964L from LICA, had the highest numerical yield in the 96-100 day RM group in 2007. New hybrids from LICA that performed well include 99 S7 with much-above average yield and 98 BS7 with a much-above average yield and milk/ton value.

### **Conclusion**

Hybrid selection is one of the most important management practices that affect corn silage yield and quality. With the recent rise in corn grain prices, hybrid selection for corn silage has become even more important. Dairy producers should make an informed management decision, based on actual silage yield and quality data from New York, before selecting hybrids for the coming year. We urge seed companies to enter their hybrids in our corn silage hybrid testing program so New York dairy producers can make informed decisions in selecting their hybrids.