



Professional Dairy Managers of PA

74 Crestview Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823
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Email: info@pdmp.org

February 18, 2016

An invitation to seed industry professionals. . .

The Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP) is soliciting entries for the 2016 corn silage hybrid trial. The collaborative effort of PDMP and The Pennsylvania State University maintains a top-notch corn silage hybrid research project.

As we do each year, PDMP will present the results of the corn silage hybrid testing in November as part of the PSU Dairy Nutrition Conference. This presentation encourages and allows for open dialogue between the PDMP Corn Silage Committee persons and industry representatives. We invite you to attend this conference, view the results, and join in on the discussion.

Information can also be accessed at: <http://www.pdmp.org/>. Click on "Research". We ask that seed companies complete the entry form as accurately as possible to prevent incorrect information and avoid follow up.

The cost for each hybrid entered is \$550*. The maturity groups are listed on the protocol sheet and entry form. The testing protocol and directions for application are included. No provision is made for reimbursement of application fees due to dropped test sites or late arriving seed entries. The deadline for submission of forms and entry fees is **March 10, 2016**. Seed must be submitted no later than **March 15, 2016**.

***New for 2016: Select Hybrid Characterization Option**

Include 7hr starch via wet chemistry on selected hybrids in any maturity group. This will include 3 replications at 1 location for selected hybrids. An additional charge of \$120 / hybrid will be added for this option. Total entry fee/selected hybrid will be \$670.

Contact Tammy Perkins, Project Liaison, at taperkins10@gmail.com or 814-380-1340 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gary Kline
Project Leader, Corn Silage Hybrid Trial

Tammy A Perkins
PDMP Project Liaison

**2016 Forage Hybrid Trials
PDMP / PSU Testing Protocols**

No provision made for reimbursement of fees due to dropped test sites or late arriving seed entries.

Hybrid maturity: Entries will be grouped based upon four geographical regions. Hybrids will be separated and analyzed based on entered maturity date within each geographical region. The groups are as follows:

North Region	85 – 94 RM	and	95 – 103 RM
Central Region	100 – 104 RM	and	105 – 111 RM
South Region Early Harvest	98 – 104 RM	and	105 – 110 RM
South Region Late Harvest	111 – 115 RM	and	116 – 120 RM
South Region – BMR ONLY	110 – 115 RM		

North Region

These hybrids will be evaluated at three locations in northern and central PA and will consist of North Region (85 to 94 day) and (95 to 103 day) RM hybrids.

Central Region:

These hybrids will be evaluated at three locations in central PA and will consist of Central Region (100 to 104 day) and (105 to 111 day) RM hybrids.

South Region:

These hybrids will be evaluated in three southern PA locations and will consist of and Early Harvest region and a Late Harvest Region. South Region Early Harvest will consist of (98 to 104 day) and (105 to 110 day) RM hybrids. South Region Late Harvest will consist of (111 to 115 day) RM and (116 to 120 day) RM hybrids.

South Region BMR ONLY:

These hybrids will be evaluated in three southern PA locations and will consist of South Region BMR (110 to 115 day) RM hybrids. These hybrids will be analyzed via wet chemistry.

Select Hybrid Characterization Option: 7hr starch via wet chemistry on selected hybrids in any maturity group. This will include 3 replications at 1 location for selected hybrids

Locations: Tests will be located on production dairy farm fields on PDMP cooperator farms strategically located in Chester, Cumberland and Lancaster counties for the South Region hybrids. Central Region hybrids will be evaluated in Blair and Centre counties. The North Region hybrids will be evaluated at locations in Bradford and Cambria counties. Within a maturity zone, the same set of hybrids will be evaluated at each location. A backup site will be planted at the Penn State research farm in Landisville for the later maturity groups and at the Rock Springs farm for the earlier groups. These will be used if any problems occur at the other sites.

Planting: All hybrids will be replicated three times at each location. Plots will be planted in four row plots 17.5 feet long using a vacuum precision planter set to drop 33,500 seeds per acre. Trials will be planted into fields previously cropped to corn and planter applied insecticide will be applied.

Harvesting: Harvesting will take place when the silage is near 65-70% in each maturity test. Sub samples will be taken from each plot and analyzed for typical corn silage nutrient levels including the 24-hour digestibility and NDF digestibility (NDFD) data using NIRS.

Data Reporting: Silage yields and dry matter concentrations at harvest will be reported for each location and also averaged over all locations. Least significant differences and coefficients of variation will be reported for all variables. Forage quality traits will include crude protein, NDF, NDFD (24 Hour) Starch, NEL, and lignin. Milk/ton and milk/acre will be calculated using the University of Wisconsin Milk 2006 spreadsheet using 24 hour NDFD data. Samples in the BMR study will be analyzed via wet chemistry. Data will be reported in November on the PDMP Corn Silage website at (<http://www.pdmp.org>) as well as the Department of Crop & Soil Sciences website at (<http://cornandsoybeans.psu.edu/>). Seed treatments and biotech traits will be reported with each entry. Two-year performance tables will also be developed to show the average performance of hybrids over two years.



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In Cooperation With



CORN SILAGE HYBRID TRIALS
Deadline March 10, 2016

No provision is made for reimbursement of application fees due to dropped test sites or late arriving seed entries.

Application Directions:

**1) Complete application form:
Maturity Groups:**

North Region	85 – 94 RM	and	95 – 103 RM
*Central Region	100 – 104 RM	and	105 – 111 RM
South Region Early Harvest	98 – 104 RM	and	105 – 110 RM
South Region Late Harvest	111 – 115 RM	and	116 – 120 RM
South Region – BMR ONLY	110 – 115 RM		

7hr starch wet chemistry add on available for all entered hybrids.

2) Submit Email Entry Form by March 10, 2016:

Entry fees are \$550 per hybrid.

Hybrids entered into the Select Hybrid Characterization will have an additional \$120 entry fee.

Payment in full due no later than April 15, 2016. PDMP reserves the right to drop any entries not paid in full by this date.

Paying by credit card? To do so, please contact the PDMP billing office at **877-326-5993**.

Paying by check? Mail check payable to “**PDMP**” to:

Tammy Perkins
Attn: PDMP Corn Silage Project
101 Orchard Road
Port Matilda, PA 16870

3) Mail Seed by March 15, 2016:

Send 4 lbs, medium round or medium flat seed via UPS, Federal Express, etc, to:

c/o Jim Breining
The Pennsylvania State University
AG Seed Bldg / Corn Breeding Lab
Fox Hollow Road
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: 814-238-6402
Fax: 814-863-4767
Email: jab94@psu.edu