



**Professional Dairy Managers of PA**

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January 18, 2021

*An invitation to seed industry professionals. . .*

The Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP) is soliciting entries for the 2021 corn silage hybrid trial. The collaborative effort of PDMP and The Pennsylvania State University provides leadership and producer-driven corn silage testing through innovative research. Further collaboration with Cornell University and Western NY Crop Management bring uniformity to the testing program and reporting of data in the northeast region.

PDMP and Penn State will collectively distribute the results in early November, as well as posting the results online. Information can be accessed at: <http://pdmp.org/testing-results> or <https://extension.psu.edu>. In addition, the results of the corn silage hybrid trial are presented 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 to further enhance this testing program.

The cost for each hybrid entered is \$1000. The maturity groups are listed on the protocol sheet and entry form. The testing protocol and directions for application are included.

- We will no longer offer a separate BMR class. Any BMR's entered will be entered as part of the designated maturity group, noted as BMR, and analyzed via wet chemistry.
- We will be using wet chemistry to test for starch and NDFD30 across all locations and entries in 2021. In 2019, we only tested one location within each maturity range. In 2020 we tested all entries and all locations. With the release of the Organic Matter Digestibility Index, entries must use this advanced testing.

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 1, 2021**. Seed must be submitted no later than **March 15, 2021**.

Contact Hanna Wells, Project Liaison, at [hwells517@gmail.com](mailto:hwells517@gmail.com) or 814-574-9863 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Hanna Wells  
PDMP Project Liaison

## 2021 Corn Silage Hybrid Trials PDMP / PSU Testing Protocols

**No provision is 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 |

### **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.

**Locations:** Tests will be located on production dairy farm fields on PDMP cooperator farms located in Chester, Lancaster and Juniata counties for the South Region hybrids. Central Region hybrids will be evaluated in Bedford, 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 34,000 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.

**Data Reporting:** Silage yields and dry matter concentrations at harvest will be reported for each location and averaged over all locations. Least significant differences and coefficients of variation will be reported for all variables. Forage quality traits will include: Dry Matter(%), Crude Protein(%DM), aNDFom(%DM), Lignin(%DM), uNDF240(%DM), Ash(%DM), Starch(%DM), Total Fatty Acids(%DM), and C18:2. Also included with analysis is 4hr starch(%starch), 1mm grind and NDFD30hr(%NDF) via wet chemistry on all hybrids at all locations. Any BMR's entered will be tested via wet chemistry, unless otherwise noted.

Data will be reported on the PDMP Corn Silage website at (<http://www.pdmp.org>) as well as the Department of Plant Sciences website at (<https://extension.psu.edu/>). Seed treatments and biotech traits will be reported with each entry.



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## CORN SILAGE HYBRID TRIALS

**Entry deadline March 1, 2021**

**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 |

#### **2) Submit Email Entry Form by March 1, 2021:**

Entry fees are \$1000 per hybrid.

Payment in full due no later than March 15, 2021. PDMP reserves the right to drop any entries not paid in full by this date.

Paying by credit card? The PDMP billing office will be in contact for your information.

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

Hanna Wells  
Attn: PDMP Corn Silage Project  
135 Wellwoods Ln  
Julian, PA 16844

#### **3) Mail Seed by March 15, 2021 or sooner:**

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

c/o Jim Breining  
The Pennsylvania State University  
Rm 104 AG Seed Bldg / Corn Breeding Lab  
Fox Hollow Road  
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: 814-863-4766  
Alt Phone: 814-863-7171  
Email: [jab94@psu.edu](mailto:jab94@psu.edu)