



48393 809th Rd. North Loup, NE 68859 USA

February 18, 2009

Enclosed you will find the results from our five regional research plots; Paxton-NE, Clearwater-NE, Imperial-NE, Shannon-IL, and Havana-IL. Thank you to our cooperators. We appreciate your willingness to assist us in our research. You are an invaluable tool for our business.

We enjoyed another beautiful day during our 3rd Annual Popcorn Rendezvous. We had a great turnout and a lot of beneficial information was shared. Thank you to those who attended and we look forward to seeing all of you at our next event.

As a reminder, our past and present research data, Spring 2009 pricing sheet and other detailed information regarding our hybrids is available on our website www.zanggerpopcornhybrids.com.

In order to continue our quest to add even better hybrids to our lineup; we planted additional research plots and more hybrids in 2008. Our current and experimental hybrids are yielding exciting results. Overall we have seen improvements in our new tender flake hybrids (15820, 8156, 42820) and our new mushroom 54830. These hybrids have shown the ability to tolerate stalk rots and leaf diseases without compromising their quality potential.

In 2008, most of the popcorn belt had a delayed harvest due to a cool Aug/Sept and late season moisture. Remember, when waiting for the crop to dry down, the kernels may still be at a higher moisture than what is normal for harvest but the cob may be dry enough for shelling. Test a few ears by hand shelling, if the kernels shell relatively easy, it may be ready for harvest. Hybrids with a more uniform cob and lighter husk will have a drier cob, while the kernels still show undesirable moistures. Hybrids with these characteristics are 1160, 15820, 42820, and 8156.

Two of our Nebraska plots were attacked by bacterial wilts (Goss's, Stewart's). 15820, 8156, and 54830 responded well to these attacks. We are working on more tolerant and resistant hybrids to these attacks and had great results with many of our experimental hybrids. When growing in an area where these attacks are more prevalent remember these points.

1. Crop Rotations. Avoid corn on corn. (Goss's Wilt)
2. If possible destroy and cover crop residues. (Goss's Wilt)
3. Scout for the Corn Flea Beetle early and throughout the season and control it. (Stewart's Wilt)
4. We recommend spraying Headline fungicide at 100% tassel to improve overall plant health.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding our hybrids or the research plot information. We are as interested in YOUR successful popcorn enterprise as YOU are. Our goal is to do everything we can to help you be successful.

Sincerely,

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