orthmanresults

November 2011 volume 4

From the desk of: Mike Petersen, Orthman Mfg. Inc.

mpetersen@orthman.com
308 325 3474

fall HARVEST at the Orthman AGRICULTURAL nebraska Research Farm.

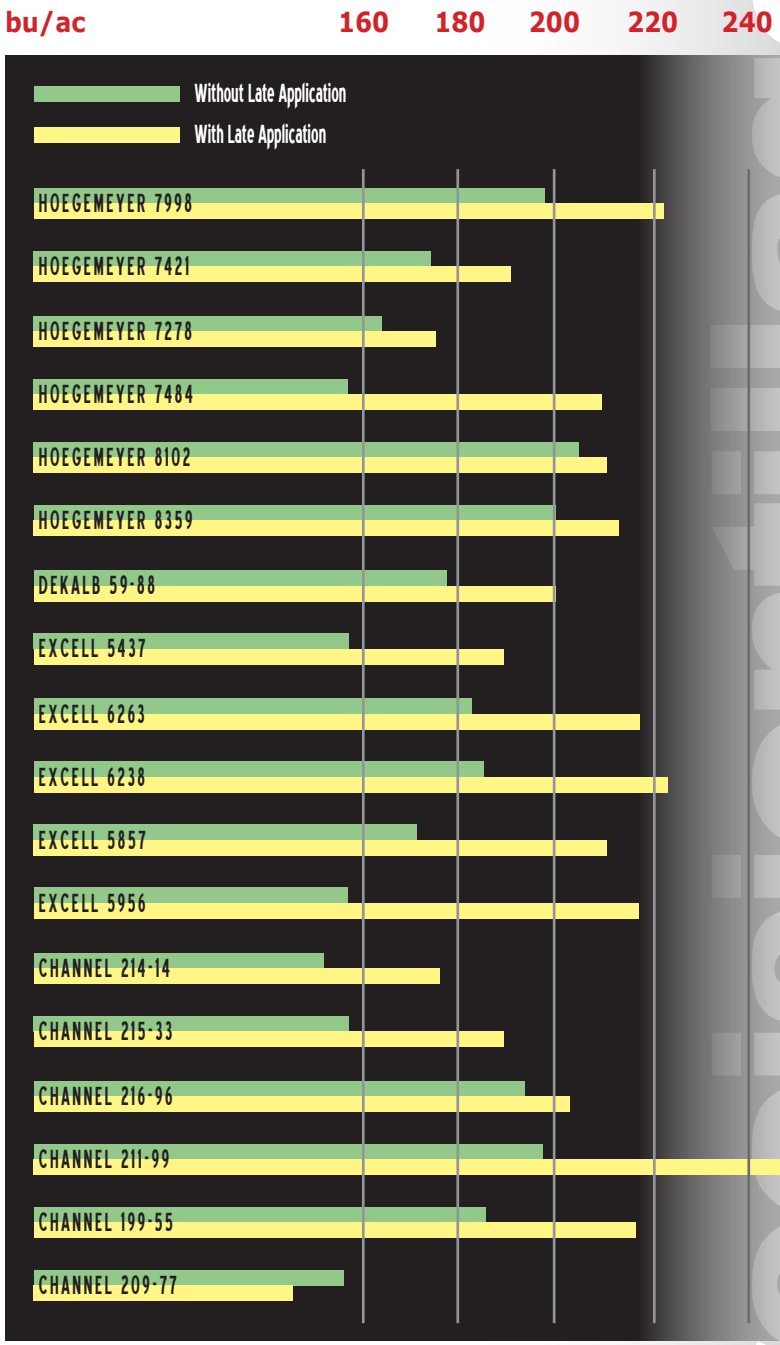
Lexington, NE - Orthman Headquarters

Cooperators: **Hoegemeyer Seed, Dekalb, Excell and Channel.**

A key project we established at the Orthman Research Farm was a hybrid comparison representing varying parent lines (6 to be exact) from three leading Seed Corn companies to measure yield differences, response to strip-till and a late season fertilizer application. All three brands activlely sell corn in Nebraska. Would specific corn lines respond more favorably to a late shot of fertility? Would these same hybrids do better with strip-till and a precision placement of that pre-plant fertility? What would the root growth be like?

All of the plots were strip tilled around 26 days prior to planting on May 3, 2011. We planted 33,000 seeds per acre and tallied a final plant population of 31,100 to 32,250. When strip tilling in April we applied 72# of N, 32# P, 12#K, 8#S, 1#Zn at 4 (30%) and 9 (70%) inch depths. The planter applied liquid product from Kugler Fertilizer 6#N, 6#P and 1.2#K per acre in furrow. Of the Nitrogen component, 40% of this is a slow release N material. As we irrigated during the season we fertigated 90 lbs of N through the center pivot, split four times. For the late fertilization trial, we applied Kugler's XRN™ product with a Micronutrient package and a small dose of humic acid. The pivot fertilization only covered the plots of the three seed company's plots of 6 varieties. It was applied when the tassles finished pollinating and the anthers were turning brown.

As you view the chart, the average yield for the late applied fertilizer is just a pinch over 200 bu/ac (purple vertical line) and the average for that not fertilized late is 177bu/ac (red vertical line). So a 23 bu increase, it looks to us that late fertilizer is worth the trouble and expense.



We would like to thank our partners who provided seed, equipment and fertilizer to make this a very successful trial.

facebook.com/orthmanag • orthmanag.com
youtube.com/precisiontillage

precisiontillage