BECK'S Corn Trait / Population Study – 2008

Location:	B1 plot	**Tillage:**		No-Till
Planted:	May 1, 2008	**Herbicide:**	Pre:	1.6 qts. Bicep II Magnum
Harvested:	September 30, 2008			1 qt. Princep
Population:	Various		Post:	1.67 qts. Lexar
Previous Crop:	Soybeans			6 oz. Stinger
Replications:	Two (averaged)	**Insecticide:**		Force on non-RW only

RAINFALL	
April	1.63 in.
May	4.91 in.
June	4.80 in.
July	3.50 in.
August	2.94 in.
Total	17.78 in.

Purpose: Improved genetics and insect protection traits may allow farmers to improve yields by simply planting higher populations. This study compares RR to VT3 and HXR hybrids at 30,000, 33,000, 36,000 and 39,000 populations.

Brand	Target Population	Harvested Population	Percent Moisture	Bushels* Per Acre	$ Net Return Per Acre^	$/A. Advantage vs. 30,000^^	Yield Advantage VT3
BECK 5444RR	30,000	26,500	23.0	211.7	$989.36		
BECK 5444RR	33,000	30,250	21.0	227.2	$1,061.35	+$71.99	
BECK 5444RR	36,000	34,000	21.6	228.1	$1,060.33	+$70.98	
BECK 5444RR	39,000	37,000	20.3	226.7	$1,048.04	+$58.68	
AVERAGE			21.5	223.4			
BECK 5444VT3	30,000	29,750	22.1	227.4	$1,067.42		
BECK 5444VT3	33,000	31,000	21.3	228.2	$1,064.46	-$2.96	
BECK 5444VT3	36,000	35,000	20.8	233.5	$1,084.20	+$16.78	
BECK 5444VT3	39,000	36,500	19.0	231.9	$1,069.27	+$1.85	
AVERAGE			20.8	230.3			+6.9
BECK 5684RR	30,000	29,250	20.0	230.9	$1,085.56		
BECK 5684RR	33,000	27,250	20.1	228.0	$1,065.77	-$19.79	
BECK 5684RR	36,000	34,500	19.4	227.7	$1,058.62	-$26.95	
BECK 5684RR	39,000	38,500	18.1	223.2	$1,030.62	-$54.95	
AVERAGE			19.4	227.5			
BECK 5684VT3	30,000	27,000	22.4	237.6	$1,114.92		
BECK 5684VT3	33,000	28,250	20.7	236.5	$1,102.34	-$12.58	
BECK 5684VT3	36,000	35,500	19.2	244.9	$1,137.19	+$22.28	
BECK 5684VT3	39,000	34,500	19.6	227.3	$1,041.59	-$73.32	
AVERAGE			20.5	236.6			+9.1
BECK 6733	30,000	29,750	26.0	236.6	$1,127.52		
BECK 6733	33,000	30,000	25.4	233.0	$1,105.18	-$22.34	
BECK 6733	36,000	32,750	25.1	221.4	$1,043.10	-$84.42	
BECK 6733	39,000	36,750	26.8	197.6	$919.84	-$207.69	
AVERAGE			25.8	222.2			
BECK 6733HXR™**	30,000	32,750	22.5	237.3	$1,114.51		
BECK 6733HXR™**	33,000	32,000	24.7	230.4	$1,072.99	-$41.52	
BECK 6733HXR™**	36,000	35,500	26.2	209.3	$960.38	-$154.13	
AVERAGE			24.5	225.7			+3.5

*Bushels per acre corrected to 15% moisture.
**XL Brand distributed by Beck's Superior Hybrids, Inc.
^Net return/acre calculated at yield times $5.00/Bu. less $14.00/A. insecticide cost (if applied), less 2008 seed corn prices with typical discounts.
^^The $/A. Advantage versus 30,000 population shows the difference in return versus the return for 30,000 planting population.

Summary: VT3 products out-yielded RR products in every comparison. However, we did not see the yield and economic advantage for higher populations in many of the hybrids in this study. This plot is on more variable and rolling soil and the lack of abundant moisture may have affected the higher populations, even though overall yields were still above 200 Bu./A. See the Illinois PFR results on this study for the more general trend we are seeing with higher populations.