

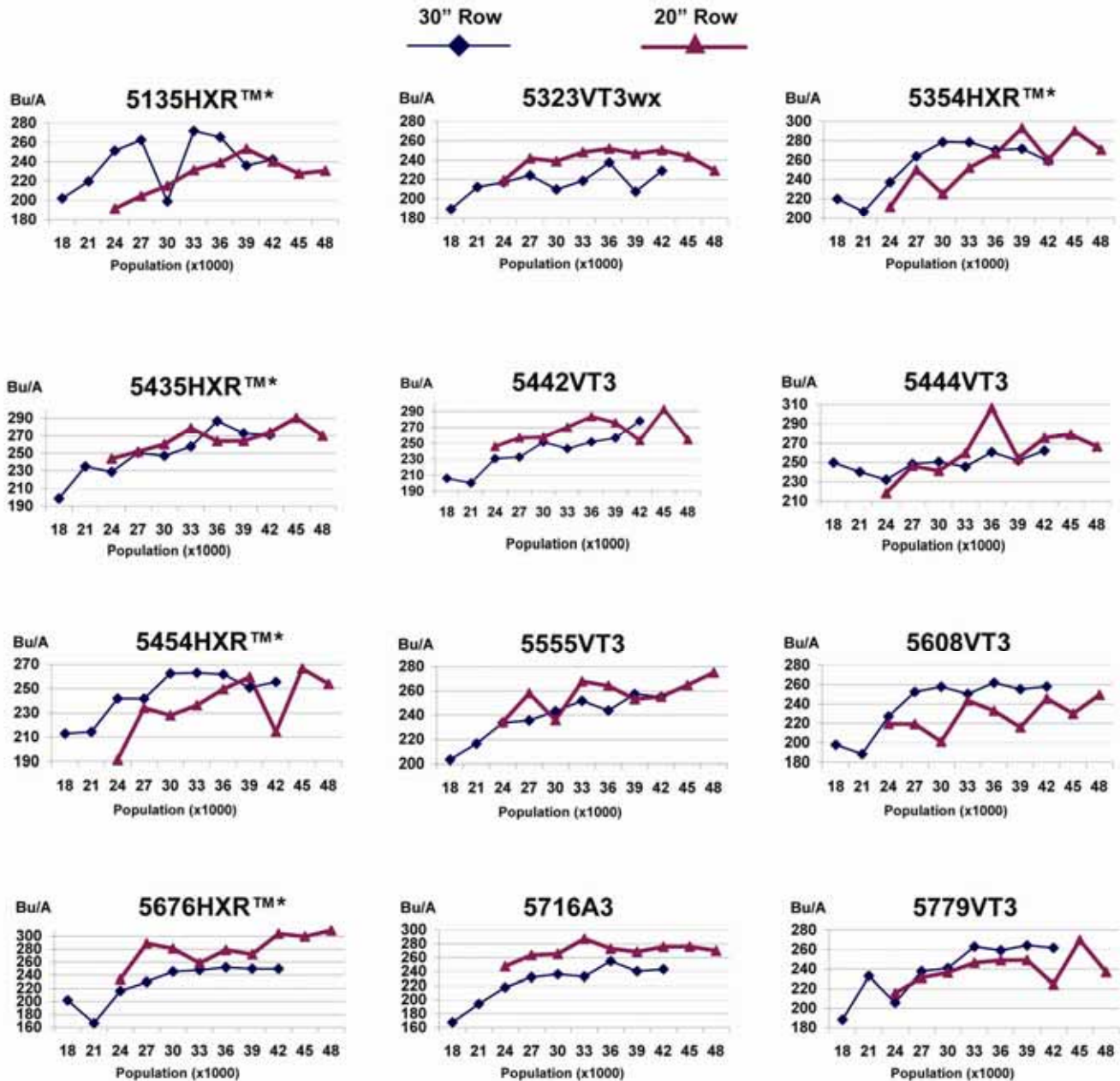
BECK'S 20" vs. 30" Row Corn Population Study - 2009

Location: D1-D2 plot
Planted: May 20, 2009
Harvested: October 20, 2009
Rows: D1 - Three 20" rows
 D2 - Two 30" rows
Population: Various
Soil Type: Crosby

Previous Crop: Soybeans
Tillage: V-Rip / S-tine
Herbicide: PPI: 2.3 qts. Bicep II Magnum
 1 qt. Princep 4L / 1 gal. 28% N
 Post: 32 oz. Durango / Amaze Gold
Fertilizer: 60 gal. 28-0-0

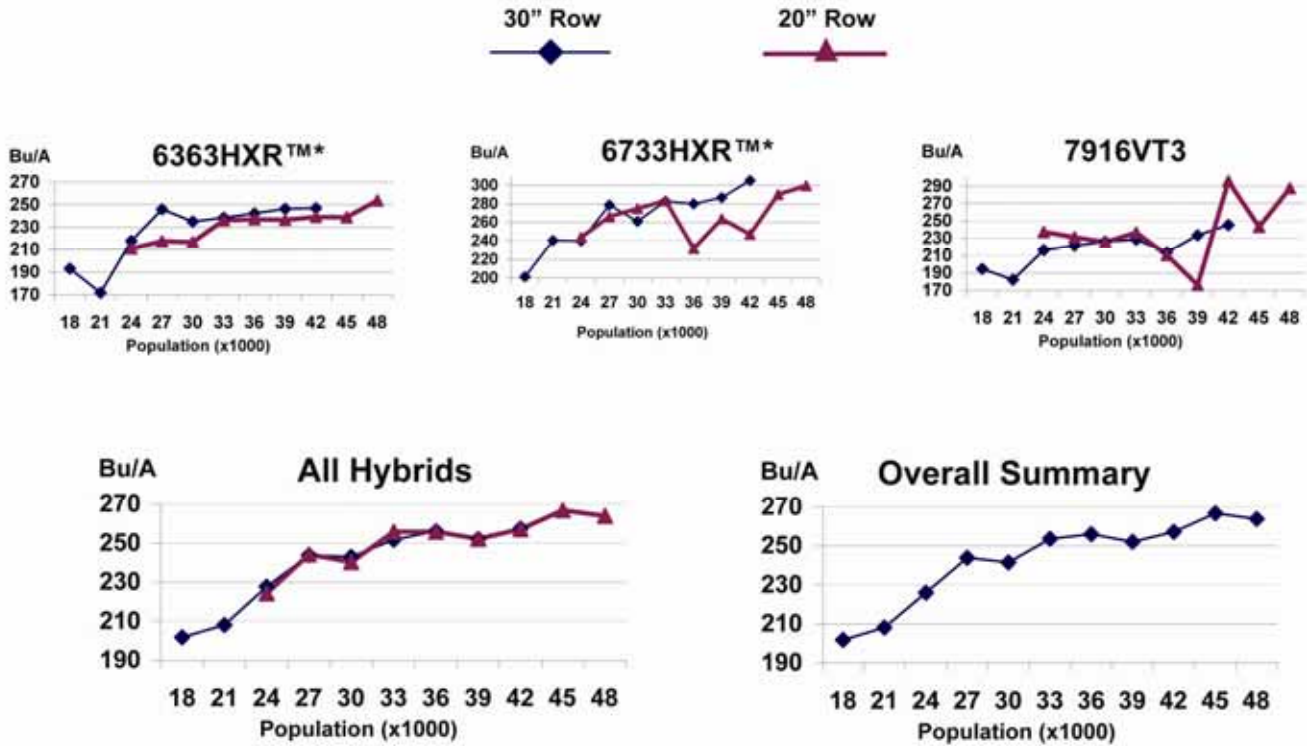
RAINFALL	
April	7.3 in.
May	4.5 in.
June	5.6 in.
July	2.3 in.
August	<u>3.0 in.</u>
Total	22.7 in.

Purpose: An increasing number of farmers have shown an interest in 20" corn rows. This study compares fifteen hybrids in 20" and 30" row spacing at populations ranging from 18,000 to 48,000 to determine the performance difference between 20" and 30" rows and to provide hybrid specific data for farmers planting Beck products in 20" rows. Plots were over seeded and thinned to achieve final populations.



*XL Brand is distributed by Beck's Superior Hybrids.

BECK'S 20" vs. 30" Row Corn Population Study – Cont.



Population Summary:

The last several years Beck's Hybrids and the industry as a whole have been talking about higher populations equating to higher yields. This year's population studies continue to show this trend. The overall summary in the right center of this page show all hybrids across 20" and 30" rows yielding more at higher populations. The highest yield actually came at 45,000 plants per acre (20" rows only at that population).

Summary for 20" vs. 30" Rows:

At first glance our study shows an advantage for 20" rows this year as all hybrids in the 20" system yielded an additional 13.2 Bu./A. over all hybrids in the 30" system. However when looking at the 24,000 to 42,000 population range (the population range where both systems overlapped) the two systems were within 0.4 Bu./A. It was apparent that the 20" rows handled the extremely high populations well this year as the 45 – 48,000 range were the two highest yields in the study. We cannot definitively state that 20" rows had an overall advantage as there were no 30" rows planted at the two highest populations. Previous year's studies as well as studies at our other PFR locations in 2009 would suggest that 30" rows generally would trend down at these extreme populations.

These populations are all final stands planted on medium-high productivity soils. In general, you should slightly reduce populations in soils with less productivity. Please refer to our population studies from all of our PFR locations, as well as our 2010 Company Profile and Product Guide, to decide the optimum population range for each hybrid.

We also need to consider that the 20" rows were planted with a tractor set-up with 30" rows, so we planted into tire tracks. Also we harvested the 20" rows with a 30" row head. As we consider higher populations and narrow rows, we need to switch equipment to fit the program being used.

*XL Brand is distributed by Beck's Superior Hybrids, Inc.