

BECK'S 300 Bushel Attempt – 2010

Location: 300-1 S & 300-4 S plots
Planted: April 12, 2010
Harvested: August 30, 2010
Population: 37,636 seeds/A.
Soil Type: Genesee Silt Loam
Tillage: Moldboard Plow & S-tine on continuous corn
 V-Rip & S-tine on corn after beans
Herbicide: 1.67 qts. Bicep II Magnum
 1 qt. Princep 4L

Fertilizer: Starter Mix: 8.5 gal 10-34-0
 8.5 gal 28-0-0
 Sidedress: 89.3 gal 28-0-0
Insecticide: Force 3G on some hybrids
Fungicide: 6 oz. Headline
 3.2 oz. Mustang Max

| RAINFALL | |
|----------|----------|
| April | 2.1 in. |
| May | 4.5 in. |
| June | 11.5 in. |
| July | 4.2 in. |
| August | 3.0 in. |
| Total | 25.3 in. |

Purpose: In our attempt to reach 300 bushels per acre, we have tried several different approaches in the past 30 years. In the early years, we increased our populations and applied extremely high rates of fertilizer as well as some micronutrients. In the mid to late 80's, we tried using different tillage methods like v-rip, chisel, and moldboard plow. From 1991 to 2002, we tested zone-till vs. conventional-till.

In 2003, we tested ultra-high populations and twin rows using conventional-till practices. Since 2004, we have compared the following crop rotations: continuous corn, two-year corn/one year soybean, and corn/soybean rotations.

| Brand | Harvested Population | Test [†] Weight | Percent Broken Stalks | Percent Root Lodging | Percent Moisture | Bushels [†] Per Acre |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>CORN AFTER SOYBEANS</u> | | | | | | |
| BECK 6077HR™* | 38,500 | 59.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 24.9 | 304.7 |
| BECK 5442VT3 | 37,000 | 57.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 23.9 | 291.1 |
| BECK 6903HR™* | 39,000 | 60.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 28.2 | 287.8 |
| BECK 5887HXR™* | 37,000 | 59.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 25.0 | 287.6 |
| BECK 6733HXR™* | 37,000 | 60.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 28.6 | 284.2 |
| BECK 6288A3 | 39,000 | 58.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 26.5 | 279.8 |
| BECK 6464HR™* | 33,500 | 59.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 27.7 | 272.9 |
| BECK 6179VT3 | <u>36,000</u> | <u>58.3</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>26.5</u> | <u>260.5</u> |
| AVERAGE | 37,125 | 59.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 26.4 | 283.6 |
| <u>CONTINUOUS CORN (10TH YEAR)</u> | | | | | | |
| BECK 6903HR™* | 37,500 | 58.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 26.3 | 296.8 |
| BECK 6733HXR™* | 37,000 | 62.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 28.3 | 296.6 |
| BECK 5442VT3 | 37,000 | 56.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 23.8 | 291.5 |
| BECK 6077HR™* | 36,500 | 59.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 24.4 | 286.4 |
| BECK 6288A3 | 36,000 | 57.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 26.8 | 274.6 |
| BECK 5887HXR™* | 38,000 | 57.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 25.0 | 270.4 |
| BECK 6464HR™* | 34,500 | 57.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 26.2 | 264.7 |
| BECK 6179VT3 | <u>36,000</u> | <u>58.4</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>0.0</u> | <u>25.9</u> | <u>261.1</u> |
| AVERAGE | 36,563 | 58.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 25.8 | 280.3 |

[†]Bushels per acre and test weight corrected to 15% moisture.
 *XL™ brand seed is distributed by Beck's Superior Hybrids, Inc.
 ™XL is a trademark of Pioneer Hi-Bred.



I feel like I gained a lot of knowledge from participating in the 300 Bushel Challenge. I found by increasing my nitrogen and population levels, I was able to keep in tune with the adverse growing conditions.

Gordon Seggebruch
 Onarga, IL

BECK'S 300 Bushel Attempt – 2010 (Continued)

Best yields in Corn after Soybean environment . . . Continuous Corn not far behind

Overall we have seen some variability from year to year in how continuous corn compares to first year corn in this study. Our average for the past six years would still show an advantage for corn after soybeans. Last year, corn after soybeans averaged 5 to 8 bushels per acre more than either of the two corn following corn environments and in 2010, corn after soybeans averaged 3.3 Bu./A. more than continuous corn.

Beck 6733 genetics . . . a proven top yielder!

In 2007, BECK 6733 (non-traited version) claimed the plot's top spot with a yield of 302.9 bushels per acre. In 2008, BECK 6733HXR™* took first place and yielded over 300 Bu./A. in all three replications. In 2009, it took first place in two of the replications, and in 2010, it placed second in the continuous corn environment at 296.6 Bu./A.

Better genetics overall . . .

The average yields in this study in the past three years have exceeded the yields in previous years' 300 bushel attempts by over 30 bushels per acre. A combination of better genetics, higher populations and favorable weather conditions all contributed to our yield improvements. Keys to the success of this year's plot were early planting, good stand establishment on most hybrids and adequate moisture (excessive in June) throughout the growing season. Also, with the high fertility levels in this highly productive soil, we have not applied any fall fertilizer since October 2005, and relied only on the starter and sidedress nitrogen to feed the crop.

Think about it...

What does it mean to raise 304.7 bushels per acre with a market price of \$3.80 per bushel?

Answer: Over \$1,157 per acre!!

New 300 Bushel Champions in 2010!

This year's plot winner, **BECK 6077HR™*** topped the plot at **304.7 Bu./A.** in the corn after soybeans environment. Other top performers in both the continuous corn and corn after soybean areas were BECK 6903HR™* (another double-stack hybrid) and BECK 5442VT3, both of which yielded over 290 Bu./A. when averaging both environments.


BECK'S
HYBRIDS

Did you know?



Sonny Beck, President &
Scott Beck, Vice President

Our Practical Farm Research 300 Bu. Attempt was successful! A new hybrid, BECK 6077HR™*, emerged as the new 300 Bu. winner in the corn after soybean attempt by yielding 304.7 Bu./A.! The previous three year winner, 6733HXR™* took second by yielding 296.6 Bu./A. in the continuous corn attempt.



Experience the Difference. Plant Beck's.

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