

Narrow vs. Wide Row Corn Spacing

Mike Stork

Private Industry Cooperator: Jerry Mulliken

OBJECTIVE: To determine and document the profitability of wide versus narrow rows in corn.

DRILLED (7")

18" ROWS

36" ROWS

Treatment:

Treatment:

Treatment:

Drill (1995 only)

Double plant 36" rows

Plant 36" rows

Comparative cost (per acre)		Comparative cost (per acre)		Comparative cost (per acre)
	<u>1995</u>		<u>1995</u>	
Drill	\$8.97	Plant (9.08 x 2)	\$18.16	Plant
				<u>1995</u>
				\$9.08
	<u>1996</u>		<u>1996</u>	
Drill	N/A	Plant (9.08 x 2)	\$ 18.16	Plant
				<u>1996</u>
				\$9.08

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VARIABLE	1995 CORN	1996 CORN
Population (plants/acre)		
36" Rows	23,600	24,800 *
18" Rows	23,700	23,400
7" Drilled	21,200	N/A
Moisture (%)		
36" Rows	17.6	18.4 **
18" Rows	17.6	18.8
7" Drilled	17.8	N/A
Test Weight (pounds/bushel)		
36" Rows	56.0	53.9 ***
18" Rows	56.1	53.1
7" Drilled	56.0	N/A
Yield (bushel/acre @ 15.5%)		
36" Rows	96	116
18" Rows	93	100
7" Drilled	83	N/A

* significantly different at 90% confidence level

** significantly different at 95% confidence level

*** significantly different at 99% confidence level

Summary: No significant differences were measured in 1995. In 1996, yield difference was not significant at 90% confidence level. Population and test weight were slightly higher and moisture lower with wide rows.