Drought Tolerant Corn Strip Trial

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Abstract
The strip trial was designed to evaluate new drought tolerant corn hybrids for yield. Three of these drought tolerant hybrids were planted with other hybrids for comparison.

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Introduction
The strip trial was designed to evaluate new drought tolerant corn hybrids for yield. Three of these drought tolerant hybrids were planted with other hybrids for comparison.

Materials and Methods
The study was planted where there were soybeans the previous year. Phosphorus and potassium levels were determined to be adequate, so neither of these fertilizers were applied. The soil pH was determined to be within an acceptable range, so no lime was applied. The area was field cultivated twice on April 13 and planted the same day. Each hybrid was planted in a non-replicated strip across the field. The entire field was also side-dressed with 150 lb nitrogen/acre using liquid UAN.

Results and Discussion
Conditions were good at planting but turned cold and wet for two weeks after planting. All hybrids emerged well in May. Hot and dry conditions tested the hybrids for most of the summer.

All hybrids tested were Pioneer hybrids. The three drought tolerant hybrids were Optimum® AQUAmax™ hybrids as shown in Figure 1.

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Figure 1. Corn yield hybrid, Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm.