Evaluation of Transgenic Rootworm Corn, with and without Seed Treatments or Insecticide

Aaron J. Gassmann
Iowa State University, aaronjg@iastate.edu

Patrick J. Weber
Iowa State University, pjweber@iastate.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/farms_reports
Part of the Agricultural Science Commons, Agriculture Commons, and the Entomology Commons

Recommended Citation
Gassmann, Aaron J. and Weber, Patrick J., "Evaluation of Transgenic Rootworm Corn, with and without Seed Treatments or Insecticide" (2009). Iowa State Research Farm Progress Reports. 593.
http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/farms_reports/593

This report is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State Research Farm Progress Reports by an authorized administrator of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Evaluation of Transgenic Rootworm Corn, with and without Seed Treatments or Insecticide

Abstract
The purpose of this study was to evaluate potential benefits of combining transgenic rootworm protection with a soil insecticide. We tested the transgenic rootworm protected hybrid YieldGard VT Triple (DKC 61-69) and its near isole (DKC 61-72) in a full factorial design with two soil insecticides, Poncho 1250 seed treatment and Aztec.

Keywords
Entomology

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Entomology

This northwest and allee research and demonstration farm is available at Iowa State University Digital Repository: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/farms_reports/593
Evaluation of Transgenic Rootworm Corn, with and without Seed Treatments or Insecticide

Aaron Gassmann, assistant professor
Patrick Weber, agricultural specialist
Department of Entomology

Introduction
The purpose of this study was to evaluate potential benefits of combining transgenic rootworm protection with a soil insecticide. We tested the transgenic rootworm protected hybrid YieldGard VT Triple (DKC 61-69) and its near isolate (DKC 61-72) in a full factorial design with two soil insecticides, Poncho 1250 seed treatment and Aztec.

Materials and Methods
The corn was planted in an area that had been planted the previous year with “trap crop.” The seed planted for the trap crop was a mixed maturity blend with a greater proportion of late-maturing varieties. This trap crop constitutes a favorable environment for adult rootworm females late in the season when other fields are maturing and results in a high abundance of rootworm larvae the following year. The experimental design for this study was a split block design with four replications (i.e., blocks). Treatments were eight rows wide, to minimize border effects, and 75 ft long. The study was planted on May 9 by Ryan Rusk from the Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm at a population of 32,000 seeds/acre. The Poncho 1250 seed treatment was applied commercially on both hybrids tested. The insecticide, Aztec, was applied in furrow at an application rate of 6.7 ounces/1000 row-ft. Stand counts (Table 1) were taken by counting the number of plants in 17.5 row ft. The stand counts were taken both early and late in the growing season and averaged. After the majority of corn rootworms had finished feeding, five roots were dug per treatment from rows two and five. Prior to leaving the field, excess soil was removed. Roots were then soaked in water overnight, and subsequently washed with a pressurized water sprayer to remove the remaining soil. Roots were laid out by replication and evaluated for rootworm feeding injury (Table 2) following the Iowa State Node-Injury Scale (0–3). The percent product consistency was calculated for each treatment as the percentage of times a treatment limited feeding injury to 0.25 node or less. Lodging counts (Table 1) were taken at harvest time along with final stand count. A plant was considered lodged if it was leaning at least 30 degrees from vertical. Yields (Table 2) were taken by machine harvesting rows three and four from the plots. Weights were converted to bushels/acre of No. 2 shelled corn at 15.5% moisture.

Results and Discussion
Tables 1 and 2 summarize the means for nodal injury, stand counts, percent lodging, and yield. The percent lodging was statistically higher for DKC 61-72 (check) and DKC 61-72 treated with Poncho 1250 than for the other treatments. Yield was statistically higher for DKC 61-69 than DKC 61-72 regardless of soil insecticide treatment. No statistical differences were noted among stand counts.

Acknowledgements
Special thanks goes to Dekalb for providing the seed used in this study and Bayer CropScience for applying the seed treatment commercially. Funding for this study was provided by Bayer CropScience and Monsanto.

Additional Information
The 2008 Insecticide and Plant-Incorporated Protectants final report is available on-line at www.ent.iastate.edu under latest news.
Table 1. Average stand counts, percent lodging, and yield.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Hybrid2</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>Rate3</th>
<th>Placement4</th>
<th>Stand counts5,6</th>
<th>% Lodging6,7</th>
<th>Bushels/acre8,9,10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poncho 1250</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>600FS</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>29.40</td>
<td>0a</td>
<td>213a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aztec</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>2.1G</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>Furrow</td>
<td>29.60</td>
<td>0a</td>
<td>212a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHECK</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>29.50</td>
<td>0a</td>
<td>208a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aztec</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>2.1G</td>
<td>6.70</td>
<td>Furrow</td>
<td>30.75</td>
<td>1a</td>
<td>202 b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poncho 1250</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>600FS</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>30.75</td>
<td>12 b</td>
<td>202 b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHECK</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>29.60</td>
<td>35 c</td>
<td>195 b</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Planted May 9, 2008; evaluation dates: stand counts October 2; lodging October 2; yield October 30, 2008.
2Hybrids were YieldGard VTTriple (DKC 61-69) and the associated non-Bt near isoline (DKC 61-72).
3Insecticide listed as ounces per 1,000 row-ft; seed treatment (ST) listed as mg a.i./seed.
4T-band and Furrow = Insecticide applied at planting time; ST = seed treatment.
5No significant differences between means (ANOVA, P ≤ 0.05).
6Means based on 8 observations (2-row trt × 17.5 row-ft/treatment × 4 reps).
7Means sharing a common letter do not differ by Ryan’s Q Test (P ≤ 0.05).
8Means sharing a common letter do not differ based on ANOVA (P ≤ 0.05).
9Means based on four observations (2-row trt × 70 row-ft/treatment × 4 reps).
10Yields converted to 15.5% moisture.

Table 2. Average root injury and product consistency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Hybrid2</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>Rate3</th>
<th>Placement4</th>
<th>Node- Injury5,6,7</th>
<th>Product Consistency7,8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poncho 1250</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>600FS</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>0.01a</td>
<td>100a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aztec</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>2.1G</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>Furrow</td>
<td>0.02a</td>
<td>100a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHECK</td>
<td>DKC 61-69</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>0.03a</td>
<td>100a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aztec</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>2.1G</td>
<td>6.70</td>
<td>Furrow</td>
<td>0.63ab</td>
<td>50 b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poncho 1250</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>600FS</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>1.05 b</td>
<td>0 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHECK</td>
<td>DKC 61-72</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>1.56 c</td>
<td>0 c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Planted May 9, 2008; evaluated August 15, 2008.
2Hybrids were YieldGard VTTriple (DKC 61-69) and the associated non-Bt near isoline (DKC 61-72).
3Insecticide listed as ounces per 1,000 row-ft; seed treatment (ST) listed as mg a.i./seed.
4T-band and Furrow = Insecticide applied at planting time; ST = seed treatment.
5Chemical and check means based on 20 observations (5 roots/2 row treatment × 4 reps).
6Iowa State Node-Injury Scale (0–3). Number of full or partial nodes completely eaten.
7Means sharing a common letter do not differ according to Ryan’s Q Test (P ≤ 0.05).
8Product consistency = percentage of times nodal injury was 0.25 (¼ node eaten) or less.