



Beck 300 Challenge



What does it take to raise 300 bushel corn?

That's a good question. In 2008 and 2009 Beck's Hybrids broke the 300 bushel mark, with Beck's 6733HXR™*, in their Practical Farm Research replicated 300 Bushel Attempt plot in Central Indiana.

Ask everyone, and they will tell you that the foundation for reaching high yields starts with the base genetics. In 2008 and 2009 we proved that 300 bushels is possible. Our question now is...“How can we consistently reach 300 bushels?”

Beck's 2009 Practical Farm Research study on the 300 Bushel Attempt found the following conditions were right for 300 bushels:

- Planted April 24, 2009.
- Planted at 36,500 seeds/A.
- 8.5 gal of 10-34-0, and 8.5 gal of 28-0-0 used as starter mix, 2 x 2.
- 97 gal of 28-0-0 used as sidedress at V4.
- 3.2 oz. Mustang Max and 6 oz. of Headline applied at tassel stage.
- The area was moldboard plowed followed with S-tine.
- Total rainfall from April – August was 22.7 inches.
- The area is considered highly productive soils with high levels of P and K so no fall fertilizer has been applied since October 2005.

Other key factors to the success of this year's plot were good stand establishment, adequate rains throughout the growing season and low disease pressure.

You can see the complete plot details published in our annual Practical Farm Research book or online at www.beckshybrids.com/research.

In 2009, Beck's also opened the doors for growers to participate in the Beck 300 Challenge. Over 20 growers from Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Ohio completed the challenge.

A summary of the results from the challenge were:

- Average top yield = 257.25 Bu./A.
- Average historical yields = 201.73 Bu./A.
- Management Practices most often changed
 1. Increased plant populations by 2,000 – 4,000/A.
 2. Increased nitrogen rates
 3. Use of fungicide
- Highest yield = 266.0 Bu./A. by Donnie Poore from Albany, KY

The top 5 participants in the 2009 challenge were:

- Donnie Poore – Albany, KY – 266.0 Bu./A.
- Mark Rosene – Monroeville, IN – 264.6 Bu./A.
- Mike Nocton – Richmond, IN – 264.3 Bu./A.
- David Shepherd – West Chester, OH – 261.9 Bu./A.
- Randy Bensman – Sidney, OH – 258.9 Bu./A.

If you would like to see more information regarding the 2009 Beck 300 Challenge and our participants, please visit

www.beckshybrids.com/products/corn/300Challenge.aspx.

Beck's is challenging you to reach for that 300 bushel target by participating in our Beck 300 Challenge. What will it take on your farm to break the 300 bushel mark?

To participate in the challenge simply complete the attached enrollment form and submit it to Beck's by April 15.

Follow the Rules and Regulations page and contact your local DSM when it comes time to harvest the field.

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