PennState Extension

Tool Name

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Description:

This report provides independent and unbiased information for the evaluation of commercial corn grain and silage hybrids available in Pennsylvania. The corn hybrid evaluation program provides farmers, seed corn companies and university personnel with information on the relative performance of corn hybrids gorwn under Pennsylvania conditions. It should be used to supplement other sources of information, such as seed industry performance tests, other independent testing data, and on-farm performance records, when making hybrid selection decisions.

User Instructions:

The "Background" tab provides information specific to each trial location. This information is useful to evaluate selected hybrids on your farm under your growing conditions and practices. The "Table" tab contains all the data needed to make a final determination of the proper hybrids for your operation. The first factor to consider when using this report is hybrid maturity. Moisture or dry matter is a good indicator of hybrid maturity. Hybrids with lower moisture or high dry matter are generally adapted to shorter season environments. Identify hybrids in the list that you know are adapted to your area. Then, select hybrids based on the qualities you are looking for on your operation. For grain, high yielding hybrids should be selected based on moisture and maturity. Silage has many quality factors that will vary from farm to farm. Dry matter is a good place to start when selecting a silage hybrid, but working with a nutritionist will help determine what forage qualities will be best for your operation. We do not recommend using data from a single site, even if it is close to your farm, to make hybrid selection choices. It is best to use data averaged over multiple locations. The last tab "Trait Key" contains all the commercial designation of individual traits. The "Table" tab will provide the company specific nomenclature, but the "Trait Key" will give a more in depth explanation of these traits.

References:

This report is prepared by: Alex Hristov (PSU Animal Sciences), Chris Canale (Cargill), Dayton Spackman (PSU Plant Science), and James Breining (PSU Plant Science).

Acknowledgement of Risk:

2020
Penn State/PDMP Corn Silage Hybrid Performance Trial Results

Prepared by Alex Hristov (PSU Animal Sciences), Chris Canale (Cargill), Dayton Spackman(PSU Plant Science), and James Breining (PSU Plant Science).

Produced in cooperation with the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP).

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Production Details: Penn State/PDMP Corn Silage Hybrid Evaluation Trials

Site:	Bainbridge, PA
Cooperator	Meadow-Vista Dairy
Planting Date	May 12, 2020
Soil Type	Lansdale Loam
Herbicides pre-	Credit Extra 2.25qts, Mesotrione 6oz, Brawl ATZ 1.8qt
post-	none
Previous Crop	Corn silage/rye forage
Tillage	none
Starter Fertilizer	15 gal/A UAN
Insecticide	Defcon 4.67G
Manure	9000 gallon dairy
Fertilizer	sidedress 110 lbs N liquid nitrogen-injected
Harvest Date	August 27, 2020
Field Summary:	This field was planted on May 12. There was some grass pressure at the rear of plot and a post herbicide application was applied. Overall, this site had extremely fast emergence and corn looked good. Very tall plants and nice ears. Rainfall was less than normal during grain fill and the ears were smaller than normal. Performance was still very good.

Weather Summary:

Month	Precip.	GDD
May 12th-June 1st	1.5	282
June 1st-July 1st	6.4	638
July 1st- August 1st	2.1	844
August 1st - August 27th	5.39	642
Seasonal Total	**15.39**	**2406**

Precip. Data:	https://climate.com
GDD data:	http://climatesmartfarming.org/tools/csf-growing-degree-day-calculator/

Penn State/PDMP Corn Silage Hybrid Testing Program 2020

Medium-Late maturity (107-118) day RM silage hybrids in Bainbridge, PA

PennState Extension College of Agricultural Sciences & PDMP Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania

Notes: SEE BACKGROUND TAB

Cooperator: Meadow Vista Dairy

						NIRS[3]							Wet Chemistry					
Brand	Hybrid	Traits[1]	Relative Maturity	Pop. Plants/ac	Dry Matter %[2]	Crude Protein %DM	aNDFom %DM[4]	Lignin %DM	uNDF 240 %DM	Ash %DM	Starch %DM	TFA %DM[5]	NDFD 30 %NDF[6]	IVSD %Starch[7]	Yield tons/ac[8]	OM Yield tons/ac[9]	OMD %[10]	DOM Yield tons/ac[11]
Medium-Late (107-114 day) RM Silage Hybrids																		
Seed Consultants	SCS 1071AM	21	107	32,167	30.9	8.9	33.9	3.0	12.0	3.8	37.3	2.5	55.0	55.1	17.6	5.3	51.2	2.7
Agrigold	A641-06STXRIB	34	111	33,500	32.8	8.8	33.5	2.9	11.8	3.6	39.1	2.7	51.8	51.6	21.3	6.8	48.7	3.3
Brevant Seeds	B14F89Q	36	114	34,000	32.8	8.5	35.2	3.1	12.9	3.4	36.8	2.2	53.7	58.7	21.8	7.1	51.8	3.7
Channel	Channel 213-93STXRIB	34	113	33,333	32.9	8.4	35.3	3.0	12.8	3.3	36.3	2.5	52.7	54.4	20.4	6.7	49.8	3.4
Blue River Organic	68C37	conv.	113	28,277	33.2	8.6	38.5	3.4	15.6	3.6	29.2	2.1	51.3	58.7	15.9	5.1	50.0	2.5
Dekalb	DKC64-44RIB	34	114	34,000	33.2	8.6	34.4	2.8	11.9	3.1	38.2	2.6	54.4	58.5	20.0	6.6	52.5	3.5
Kings Agriseeds	RT 63T13	3	113	33,167	33.5	9.3	36.1	3.0	13.3	3.5	32.7	2.3	53.9	54.9	20.5	6.8	50.4	3.4
Seed Consultants	SCS 1141AM	21	114	32,167	33.5	8.2	34.2	2.8	11.2	3.3	38.3	2.4	55.2	57.9	20.5	6.9	52.3	3.6
Seed Consultants	SCS 1121AM	21	112	34,000	33.5	8.9	33.0	2.9	12.5	3.4	34.6	2.1	53.6	56.4	20.3	6.8	50.1	3.5
Pioneer	P1380Q	36	113	34,000	33.9	8.5	36.4	3.2	13.6	3.4	34.1	2.2	51.3	58.9	22.4	7.4	50.4	3.8
Brevant Seeds	B13H87Q	36	113	33,333	34.6	9.0	32.9	3.0	11.9	3.7	39.4	2.5	52.4	55.4	21.3	7.2	50.3	3.6
Dekalb	DKC62-53RIB	31	112	34,000	35.1	8.2	32.8	3.0	11.9	3.3	41.6	2.8	51.6	55.9	20.8	7.1	50.6	3.6
Seed Consultants	SCS 1111Q	36	111	34,000	35.4	8.4	35.0	2.9	12.2	3.3	36.1	2.4	54.8	56.8	22.4	7.7	51.3	3.9
Blue River Organic	66G25	conv.	112	30,152	35.6	9.3	34.2	2.7	11.8	3.4	35.5	2.3	51.5	57.7	16.1	5.6	50.7	2.4
Syngenta	NK1239-5122	10	112	32,833	36.1	9.1	37.6	3.1	13.6	3.7	31.9	1.9	54.9	52.4	18.8	6.6	50.3	3.4
Blue River Organic	64K93	conv.	111	30,731	36.2	8.4	36.0	3.0	13.1	3.2	35.1	2.2	54.3	54.5	18.8	6.7	50.4	3.4
Local Seeds	LC1488 VT2PRIB	31	114	33,500	36.7	8.4	34.1	2.9	12.0	3.2	38.4	2.6	52.3	55.4	21.6	7.7	50.2	3.8
Nutrien Ag Solutions	D53VC33	31	113	34,000	37.3	8.2	33.5	3.0	12.2	3.0	40.8	2.5	50.8	60.0	21.9	7.9	51.9	4.1
LG Seeds	LG62C35VT2RIB	31	112	33,333	37.7	8.4	32.9	3.0	11.9	3.7	43.1	2.9	52.7	52.0	19.6	7.2	50.0	3.6
Dekalb	DKC63-57RIB	31	113	34,000	38.0	8.4	31.6	3.0	12.4	3.3	43.2	2.9	51.4	59.4	23.4	8.6	52.2	4.5
Chemgro	7305RDP	31	113	30,833	38.1	8.2	32.8	2.8	11.8	3.0	41.2	2.8	50.4	59.8	23.7	8.8	51.6	4.5
			107-114 day means		**34.8**	**8.6**	**34.5**	**3.0**	**12.5**	**3.4**	**37.3**	**2.4**	**52.9**	**56.4**	**20.4**	**7.0**	**50.8**	**3.5**
Late (115-120 day) RM Silage Hybrids																		
Growmark FS	FS 6797X RIB	34	117	34,000	29.9	8.7	37.2	3.3	14.0	3.6	35.6	2.4	49.0	59.9	17.8	5.1	50.8	2.6
Brevant Seeds	B15H98Q	36	115	32,500	30.7	9.1	33.3	2.9	11.7	3.6	37.8	2.5	53.7	55.8	20.1	6.0	50.7	3.0
Agrigold	A6652STXRIB	34	115	34,000	30.8	8.2	36.4	3.1	13.3	3.2	36.0	2.3	51.4	57.0	19.7	6.1	50.2	3.1
Growmark FS	FS 6595X RIB	34	115	32,167	31.8	8.7	37.2	3.3	13.6	3.5	34.9	2.3	53.1	60.2	21.2	6.7	52.4	3.5
Agrigold	A647-35-330	9	117	32,667	32.2	8.8	36.0	3.0	13.4	3.5	33.0	2.2	53.8	58.8	19.2	6.0	51.2	3.1
Masters Choice	MCT6552	4	115	33,333	32.7	8.8	33.8	3.0	12.6	3.6	37.4	2.5	50.7	60.0	20.3	6.4	51.1	3.3
Pioneer	P1847AMXT	27	118	34,000	33.2	8.4	37.8	3.0	12.9	3.3	31.5	2.1	54.7	54.3	20.6	6.8	50.4	3.5
Brevant Seeds	B15B75SX	34	115	34,000	33.4	8.5	40.4	2.5	9.4	3.3	31.8	2.3	61.7	57.4	19.5	7.3	56.0	4.1
Local Seeds	LC1688 SSXRIB	34	116	34,000	33.9	8.4	35.3	3.1	13.3	3.3	36.0	2.6	51.1	53.5	22.1	7.3	48.9	3.5
Local Seeds	LCX17-21 VT2PRIB	31	117	32,000	34.7	8.6	38.8	3.4	14.8	3.5	33.5	2.4	52.4	51.8	19.8	6.7	49.3	3.3
Growmark FS	FS 65R87SS	34	115	31,000	35.0	8.8	33.0	3.1	12.9	3.3	40.9	2.8	52.4	56.1	20.4	6.9	51.2	3.5
Nutrien Ag Solutions	D55VC80	31	115	33,500	36.4	9.1	36.4	3.1	13.0	3.2	33.0	2.2	53.2	57.9	20.3	7.2	51.2	3.7
LG Seeds	LG66C32VT2RIB	31	116	33,000	36.5	8.3	34.6	3.4	14.1	3.5	39.1	2.7	50.2	54.6	21.4	7.6	49.4	3.8
Chemgro	7658G3	3	116	32,027	37.1	8.5	36.2	2.7	11.5	3.1	37.2	2.4	55.9	60.2	20.8	7.6	54.1	4.1
Local Seeds	LCX17-22 VT2P	31	117	34,000	38.0	8.9	33.5	3.1	13.2	3.0	41.5	2.8	49.4	59.4	23.9	8.8	51.9	4.6

Penn State/PDMP Corn Silage Hybrid Testing Program 2020

Medium-Late maturity (107-118) day RM silage hybrids in Bainbridge, PA

PennState Extension College of Agricultural Sciences & PDMP Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania

Notes: SEE BACKGROUND TAB

Cooperator: Meadow Vista Dairy

						NIRS[3]							Wet Chemistry					
Brand	Hybrid	Traits[1]	Relative Maturity	Pop. Plants/ac	Dry Matter %[2]	Crude Protein %DM	aNDFom %DM[4]	Lignin %DM	uNDF 240 %DM	Ash %DM	Starch %DM	TFA %DM[5]	NDFD 30 %NDF[6]	IVSD %Starch[7]	Yield tons/ac[8]	OM Yield tons/ac[9]	OMD %[10]	DOM Yield tons/ac[11]
Local Seeds	LCX15-20 VT2P	31	115	34,000	38.6	8.3	36.2	3.5	14.3	3.5	38.1	2.9	48.5	55.3	20.7	7.7	49.1	3.8
			115-120 day means		**34.1**	**8.6**	**36.0**	**3.1**	**13.0**	**3.4**	**36.1**	**2.5**	**52.6**	**57.0**	**20.5**	**6.9**	**51.1**	**3.5**
			Overall Mean		**34.5**	**8.6**	**35.1**	**3.0**	**12.7**	**3.4**	**36.8**	**2.5**	**52.7**	**56.7**	**20.5**	**6.9**	**50.9**	**3.5**
			LSD(0.1)		**NS**	**0.4**	**3.4**	**0.3**	**1.7**	**NS**	**5.6**	**0.5**	**2.9**	**3.7**	**NS**	**NS**	**1.8**	**NS**
			CV%		**11.8**	**3.7**	**7.1**	**6.7**	**9.7**	**10.6**	**11.1**	**13.5**	**4.0**	**4.8**	**14.2**	**23.7**	**2.6**	**24.3**

[1] **Traits:** See tab " Trait Key" for individual trait designation.

[2] **Dry Matter:** Tables are sorted by dry matter. Avoid making comparisons with hybrids that differ significantly in dry matter.

[3] **NIRS**: Near Infrared Spectroscopy

[4] **aNDFom**: aNDF on an ash-free basis.

[5] **TFA:** Total Fatty Acids.

[6] **IVSD:** Starch digestibiliy (% of starch) is analyzed by an in vitro wet chemistry method on samples ground through a 1-mm screen and incubated for 4 hours (IVSD).

[7] **NDFD30**: is analyzed by an in vitro wet chemistry method on samples ground through a 1-mm screen and incubated for 30 hours

[8] **Yield:** Silage yields are expressed on a 35 percent DM basis; all other parameters are expressed on a dry matter basis.

[9] **OM Yield:** silage yield (tons/ac) expressed on an organic matter (OM) basis.

[10] **OMD: Organic Matter Digestibility -** Please see "OMD Story" tab for information on how to use this column

[11] **DOM Yield:** Yield of digestible organic matter.

NS = Not Significant

Prepared by Alex Hristov (PSU Animal Sciences), Chris Canale (Cargill), Dayton Spackman (PSU Plant Science), and James Breining (PSU Plant Science).

Table Key #	Trait Family Product	Bt protein(s)	Marketed for control of:	Resistance to a Bt protein in the trait package has developed in :	Herbicide tolerant?
Conv.	Conventional	None	None	---	No
RR2	Roundup Ready 2	None	None	---	GT
		Agrisure			
1	Agrisure GT	None	None	---	GT
2	Agrisure 3010 & 3010A	Cry1Ab	ECB SWCB	---	GT LL
3	Agrisure 3000 GT, 3011A	Cry1Ab, mCry3A	ECB SWCB RW	RW	GT LL
4	Agrisure Viptera 3110	Cry1Ab, Vip3A	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC	---	GT LL
5	Agrisure Viptera 3111	Cry1Ab, mCry3A, Vip3A	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC RW	RW	GT LL
6	Agrisure 3120 E-Z Refuge	Cry1Ab, Cry1F	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB	FAW WBC	REFER TO BAG FOR SPECIFIC LETTER CODE: EZ0=GT ONLY EZ1= GT LL
7	Agrisure 3122 E-Z Refuge	Cry1Ab,Cry1F, mCry3A, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	
8	Agrisure Viptera 3220 E-Z Refuge	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, Vip3A	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC	---	
9	Agrisure Viptera 3330 E-Z Refuge	CryAb, Vip3A, Cry1A.105+CryAb2	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC	---	
10	Agrisure Duracade 5122 E-Z Refuge	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, mCry3A, eCry3.1Ab	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	
11	Agrisure Duracade 5222 E-Z Refuge	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, Vip3A, mCry3A, eCry3.1Ab	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC RW	RW	
		Herculex			
12	Herculex 1 (HX1)	Cry1F	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB	ECB FAW SWCB WBC	LL RR2 (most)
13	Herculex RW (HXRW)	Cry34/35Ab1	RW	RW	
14	Herculex XTRA (HXX)	Cry1F, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW SWCB WBC RW	
		Optimum			
15	TRIsect (CHR)	Cry1F, mCry3A	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	ECB FAW SWCB WBC RW	LL RR2
16	Intrasect (YHR)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB	FAW WBC	LL RR2
17	Intrasect TRIsect (CYHR)	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, mCry3A	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
18	Leptra (VYHR)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, Vip3A	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC	---	LL RR2
19	Intrasect Xtra (YXR)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
20	Intrasect Xtreme (CYXR)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, mCry3A, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
21	AcreMax (AM)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB	FAW WBC	LL RR2
22	AcreMax CRW (AMRW)	Cry34/35Ab1	RW	RW	LL RR2
23	AcreMax1 (AM1)	Cry1F, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW SWCB WBC RW	LL RR2
24	AcreMax Leptra (AML)	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, Vip3A	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC *CEW*	---	LL RR2
25	AcreMax TRIsect (AMT)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, mCry3A	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
26	AcreMax Xtra (AMX)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
27	AcreMax Xtreme (AMXT)	Cry1F, Cry1Ab, mCry3A, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
		Yieldgard/Genuity			
28	YieldGard CB (YGCB)	Cry1Ab	ECB SWCB	---	RR2
29	YieldGard VT Rootworm (YGRW)	Cry3Bb1	RW	RW	RR2
30	YieldGard VT Triple	Cry1Ab, Cry3Bb1	ECB SWCB RW	RW	RR2
31	VT Double PRO VT Double PRO RIB complete	Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2	CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB	CEW	RR2
32	VT Triple PRO VT Triple PRO RIB complete	Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Cry3Bb1	CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	CEW RW	RR2
33	Trecepta (or RIB complete)	Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2,Vip3A	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB TAW WBC	---	RR2
		Others			
34	Smartstax Smartstax Refuge Advanced Smartstax RIB Complete	Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Cry1F, Cry3Bb1, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW CEW ECB FAW SB SWCB RW	CEW WBC RW	LL RR2
35	Powercore (or Refuge Advanced)	Cry1A.105, Cry2Ab2, Cry1F	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB CEW	CEW WBC	LL RR2
36	QROME (Q)	Cry1Ab, Cry1F, mCry3A, Cry34/35Ab1	BCW ECB FAW SB SWCB	FAW WBC RW	LL RR2
	BCW = black cutworm	**SB** = stalk borer	**GT** = glyphosate tolerant		
	CEW = corn earworm	**SWCB** = southern corn borer	**LL** = Liberty Link, glufosinate tolerant		
	ECB = European corn borer	**TAW** = true armyworm	**RR2** = Roundup Ready 2, glyphosate tolerant		
	FAW = fall armyworm	**WBC** = western bean cutworm			
	RW = corn rootworm				

Source: https://www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html

The OMD Index

The digestibility of nutrients in corn silage is paramount when determining nutritional value. Starch and NDF are responsible for much of the digestible energy in corn silage. In order to give dairy producers and nutritionist a tool to evaluate corn silage hybrids, we developed a new digestibility index, called the Organic Matter Digestibility Index (OMDI or just OMD), and is based on digestibility of protein, fat, NDF, and starch, the sum of which makes up approximately 86-88% of the organic matter in corn silage.

The OMD index represents the digestible portion of silage organic matter and is based on chemical analyses only. It does not predict dry matter intake or milk production, although numerous studies clearly show that digestibility of forage organic matter is directly related to lactation performance of dairy cows. The OMD index does not represent the absolute digestibility of silage organic matter, as this can be reliably determined only in experiments with live animals. But, OMD is representative of the potentially digestible organic matter of the whole plant and can be used to compare silage hybrids. Furthermore, simulation analyses using the Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS v.7.0; Cornell University, Ithaca, NY) show that OMD correlates reasonably well with model-predicted milk production of dairy cows fed a standard diet containing approx. 40% corn silage (dry matter basis).

How is the OMD Index Used?

Feeding value of corn silage is mostly associated with digestibility of NDF or starch. A long-standing goal of PDMP is to create a single measure of silage nutritive value using several variables associated with digestibility. Traditional variables, crude protein (accounted for fiber-bound nitrogen), NDF, starch, lignin, and fat, are combined with in vitro digestibility determinations for NDF (NDFD30) and starch (IVSD; 4-hour, 1-mm grind). Once combined, these digestibility coefficients sum to predict OMD.

The OMD Index is calculated using the following equation: OMDI (%) = {[(crude protein – NDFCP) × 0.89] + (total fatty acids × 0.75) + (starch × IVSD ÷ 100) + [(aNDFom - lignin) × NDFD30 ÷ 100)]} ÷ [(crude protein – NDFCP) + total fatty acids + starch + (aNDFom – lignin)] × 100.

Where: OMDI (%) is **Organic Matter Digestibility Index**; crude protein, total fatty acids, starch, NDFCP (NDF-bound crude protein), aNDFom (ash-free basis, amylase-treated NDF), and lignin (ash-free) are expressed as % of corn silage dry matter; 0.89 is assumed (based on literature data) coefficient of digestibility of silage crude protein; 0.75 is assumed (based on literature data) coefficient of digestibility of silage total fatty acids; IVSD is starch digestibility (by wet chemistry at 4-hour and sample ground through a 1-mm sieve) expressed as % of starch; and NDFD30 is NDF digestibility at 30 h in vitro (by wet chemistry and sample ground through a 1-mm sieve) expressed as % of NDF.

Use of OMDI: The OMD index is intended to represent the digestible portion of silage dry matter and is based on chemical analyses. OMD does not represent the absolute digestibility of silage organic matter, but it is representative of the potentially digestible organic matter and can be used when comparing silage hybrids. ***Simply put, the higher the OMD value, the higher the overall expected digestibility of the silage.*** OMD reflects the digestibility of key nutrients within the entire plant. Producers without carryover of silage should consider the interaction of OMD and DOM (digestible organic matter yield per acre) as yield of digestible organic matter will be equally as relevant as OMD.

Conclusion

Organic matter digestibility is not a new measure. For years, researchers and nutritionists have used digestibility estimates to formulate rations for dairy cattle. Today, integrating these data is a useful practice to gauge silage value and match hybrid to farm needs. Put simply, OMD measures whole plant digestibility. Emphasis is on digestibility of all main nutrients. In the end, we hope OMD serves to facilitate discussion among producer, seed consultant, and dairy nutritionist as to which hybrids offer the best nutrient value for dairy cows.