

David G. Hallauer
District Extension Agent
Crops & Soils/Horticulture

Effect of Late Planting Dates on Corn Yield

2019 didn't provide ideal planting conditions for many producers, pushing planting dates later into the 'ideal planting window' than we typically like. The results were a mixed bag.

Late planting is a consideration, however, for producers looking at alternative strategies for dealing with high heat and often limited moisture during the critical pollination to early grain fill growth stage. Dr. Kraig Roozeboom and Dr. Eric Adee recently finished year two of trials comparing planting dates, with mixed results.

At the dryland site in Ottawa, both years showed yields maximized by April plantings, with May plantings more variable and typically lower. Later May and early June plantings, however, yielded similarly to the April plantings. The take home message: in situations where water is a limiting yield factor, delayed planting may have some value if it keeps corn from being at sensitive growth stages during hot/dry weather.

Water was not the limiting factor at the irrigated Kansas River Valley Experiment Field west of Topeka. Two years (2018/2019) of results both suggested that April and early – mid May plantings maximized yield over later plantings.

For a full summary of the 2018 trials, see Kansas Field Research 2019 available online at: <https://newprairiepress.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=7774&context=kaesrr> or request a copy of the results from your local District Office. 2019 results will be posted later this spring.

RSVP's Due Soon!

RSVP deadlines for upcoming meetings are just around the corner.

January 14th is the RSVP deadline for the Nutrient Management/Soil Health meeting scheduled for January 23rd in Holton. Contact Brian Boeckman at the Jackson County Conservation District at 785-364-3329, extension 136 to get signed up.

January 17th is the RSVP deadline for the KSU Soybean Schools on January 22nd in Atchison and Marysville. Online registration is available at: <http://bit.ly/KSUSoybean>.

RSVP's for the upcoming Farm Bill Education Meetings is requested, but not required a day in advance of the meeting you plan to attend. Meetings will be held at 10:30 and 1:30 each day on January 14th in Holton, January 15th in Seneca, and January 16th in Oskaloosa.

All meetings are free. Information is available online under Events section at www.meadowlark.k-state.edu or by contacting a District Office or myself at dhallaue@ksu.edu.

Conservation Trees from the Kansas Forest Service

The Kansas Forest Service offers low-cost tree and shrub seedlings for use in conservation plantings. Plants are one to two years old and vary from eight to 18 inches (species dependent) and are offered as bare root or container-grown. Approved uses include windbreaks, wood lots, wildlife habitat, timber plantations and streambank plantings. They may not be used for landscapes or grown for resale. All items are sold in units of 25 plants.

Orders are accepted through May 1, with shipping beginning in mid-March. Wildlife bundles and tree planting accessories are also available. For details and an order form, go to: <http://kfs.mybigcommerce.com/> or contact a District Office.