

# 2015 BEI Corn Yield Survey

## Observations & Conclusions

1. 2015 corn crop will be slightly above the 5 year average of 190 BPA based on a sampling of 142 fields (284 tests=852 ears).
2. The kernel count per ear is right at the 5 year average (508 kernels per ear) due to good pollination weather and moderate days and nights following pollination. There is some tipping back of the ears. The higher populations this year may be some of the reason for the moderate tipping back.
3. 90% of the tour participants rated the early planted corn as being the best.
4. 50 % of the tour participants concluded that the crop would not be mature (black layer) by Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. 2 out of 3 of the participants also concluded that additional rains would add yield to the crop.
5. Seeding rates were moderately higher this year leaving early season plant populations at a record. These record plant populations translated into the highest ear count in our 20 year tour history. We recorded a 32556 average ear population, but also found again this year a few barren stalks although not significant.
6. Corn on corn in most instances will yield same as corn on beans.
7. There was, to note, a few and only a few fields that revealed a viable second ear in the measured distance. This was contrary to what we all see on the outside of the fields. Outside rows prove to be deceiving almost every year.
8. Kernel weights were heavier compared to the 5 year average and very similar to 2014 crop.
9. The average number of rows decreased  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a row per ear from last year. (see attached summary)
10. The average ear length in kernels decreased 4 kernels per row. (see attached summary)
11. The stalk quality seems to be good to excellent. Plant disease generally appears to be minimal.
12. Industry standard for estimating yield includes a factor of 90000 kernels per bushel assumption. We have what I suggest is a heavier weight kernel than average based on the average ear weights divided by average kernel count per ear. Based on that observation I have adjusted the factor in the calculation to 83000 kernels per bushel (similar to 2014) from 90000. The 142 scorecards recorded an average yield of 184.84 BPA (raw yield @ 90000 kernels) with an adjusted yield of 200.43 BPA (83000 kernels).

## SUMMARY OF 2015 B.E.I. CORN YIELD TOUR

<u>AREA</u>	<u>RANGES</u>	<u>AVERAGE YIELD</u>	<u>AVERAGE POPULATION</u>	<u>AVERAGE # OF ROWS</u>	<u>AVERAGE KERNELS LONG</u>	<u>AVERAGE EAR WEIGHT LBS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF FIELDS SAMPLED</u>	<u>TOTAL SAMPLES TAKEN</u>	<u>EARS SAMPLED</u>
Congerville/Carlock/Danvers	99.81 - 237.91	172.46	32380	16.02	29.77	0.524	43	86	258
Deer Creek/Morton	145.31 - 229.96	194.96	32890	16.18	33.17	0.581	47	94	282
Goodfield	84.77 - 233.20	182.24	32400	16.14	31.10	0.583	26	52	156
Mackinaw/Minier	74.33 - 247.28	<u>194.39</u>	<u>32400</u>	<u>16.5</u>	<u>32.58</u>	<u>0.600</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>156</u>
AVG RAW YIELD (Standard 90,000 seeds/BU)		184.84	32556	16.18	31.65	0.567	142	284	852
AVERAGE ADJUSTED YIELD ASSUMING 83000 SEEDS PER BUSHEL BASED ON AVERAGE KERNEL WEIGHTS		200.43							
ACTUAL YIELD									

### SUBJECTIVE SURVEY (of Tour Participants)

- |   |          |          |               |
|---|----------|----------|---------------|
| 1) SOIL MOISTURES WERE:   | 7% Poor  | 67% Good | 26% Excellent |
| 2) STALK QUALITY:   | 10% Poor | 80% Good | 10% Excellent |
| 3) WILL THE CORN CROP BE MATURED(BLACK LAYERED) BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2015? | 50% Yes  | 50% No   |               |
| 4) WOULD ADDITIONAL RAIN ADD YIELD TO CORN CROP?                      | 67% Yes  | 33% No   |               |
| 5) PARTICIPANTS RATES THE CROP:                                       | Best     | Early    | 90%           |
|   |          | Late     | 0%            |
|   |          | Same     | 10%           |