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## Effectiveness of Foliar Fungicides by Timing on Northern Leaf Blight and Common Rust on Hybrid Corn

#### **Abstract**

Fungicide use on hybrid corn has increased considerably, primarily due to reports of increased yields, even in the absence of disease and higher corn prices. A number of fungicides are registered for use on corn. The objectives of this project were to 1) assess the effect of timing of application of fungicides on disease, 2) evaluate the yield response of hybrid corn to foliar fungicide application, and 3) discern differences, if any, between fungicide products.

#### **Keywords**

Plant Pathology and Microbiology

#### Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Agronomy and Crop Sciences | Fungi | Natural Resources and Conservation

### Effectiveness of Foliar Fungicides by Timing on Northern Leaf Blight and Common Rust on Hybrid Corn

#### **RFR-A1444**

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#### Introduction

Fungicide use on hybrid corn has increased considerably, primarily due to reports of increased yields, even in the absence of disease and higher corn prices. A number of fungicides are registered for use on corn. The objectives of this project were to 1) assess the effect of timing of application of fungicides on disease, 2) evaluate the yield response of hybrid corn to foliar fungicide application, and 3) discern differences, if any, between fungicide products.

#### **Materials and Methods**

The corn hybrid Agrigold A6252 VT3 PRIB, with a resistance rating of 7 for northern corn leaf blight (NCLB) (1–10 scale, 1 = best), was planted into a Sac silty clay loam following soybeans in a minimum tillage system on May 9, 2014. The experimental design was a randomized complete block design and each plot was 4 rows wide (30-in. row spacing) by 44 ft long. All plots were bordered by four rows on either side, and 6-ft alleys were cut between replications at V4. Fungicides were applied at either V6 (June 24), R1 (July 25), or at both growth stages (Table 1) using a sprayer fitted with Tee Jet flat fan spray nozzle XR8002VS spaced 20-in. apart and

delivering 15.5 gal/acre at 40 psi. On September 8 (1/4 milk line), disease severity in the upper canopy (ear leaf and above) of each plot was assessed. Disease severity was an estimate of percent leaf area diseased. All four rows of each plot were harvested with a small plot combine on October 21. All data were subjected to analysis of variance and means were compared at the 0.1 significance level using Fisher's protected least significant difference (LSD) test.

#### **Results and Discussion**

The 2014 growing season was predominantly cool and wet with above average rainfall in June, August, and September. Common rust and NCLB were observed in the trial. Disease severity in the two non-sprayed controls was 8.4 and 7.8 percent. Although an application of Priaxor at V6 did not reduce northern corn leaf blight severity compared with the nonsprayed controls (P < 0.1), applications of Custodia, Fortix, or Stratego YLD at V6 did reduce disease. Applications of Fortix, Priaxor, and Stratego YLD at V6 reduced common rust severity compared with the nonsprayed controls, but Custodia did not (P < 0.1). All treatments that included an application of fungicide at R1 reduced both northern corn leaf blight and common rust severity (P < 0.1), however applications at V6 followed by R1 were not different from application at R1 only. In general, treatments applied at R1 resulted in greater yields than the untreated check and V6 applications alone (P < 0.1).

Table 1. Effect of fungicide and timing of fungicide applications on northern corn leaf blight and common rust severity, yield and harvest moisture of corn at Sutherland, Iowa in 2014.

rust severity, yield and narvest moisture of corn	Northern	Common		Grain
	corn leaf	rust		moisture
	blight severity	severity	Yield	at harvest
Treatment, rate/A, application timing <sup>z</sup>	໌ (%) <sup>y</sup>	(%)	(bu/A) <sup>x</sup>	(%)
Non-treated control 1	10.5	10.8	205.7	19.7
Custodia, 6 fl oz, V6	5.8	9.5	209.7	19.8
Fortix, 5 fl oz, V6	6.0	7.8	207.6	20.0
Priaxor, 3 fl oz, V6	7.8	8.0	202.8	19.9
Stratego YLD, 2 fl oz, V6	6.5	7.8	210.8	19.7
Aproach, 6 fl oz, R1	3.0	8.5	210.2	19.8
Custodia, 12.8 fl oz, R1	1.9	4.0	219.2	20.0
Fortix, 5 fl oz, R1	0.8	7.3	223.3	19.9
Headline Amp, 10 fl oz, R1	2.3	6.0	219.8	19.8
Quilt Xcel, 10.5 fl oz, R1	1.8	3.3	217.2	19.8
Stratego 4 YLD, 4 fl oz, R1	5.5	4.0	219.4	19.8
Aproach, $3 + 6$ fl oz, $V6 + R1$	3.5	6.3	207.0	19.8
Fortix, $5 + 5$ fl oz, $V6 + R1$	0.5	3.3	216.7	19.8
Priaxor, 3 fl oz, V6; Headline AMP, 10 fl oz, R1	2.3	3.3	218.4	19.7
Stratego YLD, 2 + 4 fl oz, V6 + R1	3.0	2.8	222.8	20.0
Non-sprayed control 2	9.3	11.3	197.3	19.8
Aproach, 3 + Aproach Prima, 6.8, V6 + R1	0.9	2.3	212.1	19.8
Aproach Prima, 6.8, R1	1.8	3.0	216.4	19.9
7.77 (0.04)				0.5
LSD (0.01)	1.8	2.7	7.6	0.2
CV (%)	38.25	37.40	2.99	0.82
P-value	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	< 0.0001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>z</sup>V6, 6-leaf stage; R1, silking.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>y</sup>Percent upper canopy (ear leaf and above) diseased at ½ milk line (Sept. 8).

<sup>\*</sup>Corrected to 15.5 percent moisture content.