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CC123 Let's Reach for Top Corn Yields

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RULES

- 1. Entries must be made at the county agents office.
- 2. Any corn grower may enter.
- 3. Field must be 5 acres or larger.
- 4. Soil samples must be taken and brought to the county agents office who will send them to the Soil Testing Service at the University of Nebraska. Samples will be tested for nitrogen, phosphate, potash, and lime. (Charge is \$2.00 per sample)
- Soil sample cartons and information sheets must be labeled as Reach for Top Yields of Corn, along with name, address, and county. This information is needed to speed up processing in the soil testing laboratory.
- Complete information on management and history of the field must be submitted.
- County agent makes all recommendations based on suggestions of specialists
- Each cooperator keeps a record of practices and expenses
- Cooperator must follow recommendations as closely as possible.

Some risk involved on dry land.

Corn production practices geared for 80 bushels of corn per acre involves some risk on dry land. This is particularly true on fields having little subsoil moisture.

CORN PRODUCTION PRACTICES TO BE STRESSED IN LETTERS TO EACH COOPERATOR

- 1. Soil fertility-nitrogen, phosphate, potash, lime
- 2. Rootworm and corn borer control
- 3. Date and method of planting
- 4. Tillage practices
- 5. Hybrid
- 6. Plant population
- 7. Irrigation on irrigated fields

YIELDS

The official yield of the field will be determined when corn contains 30 percent or less moisture. The method to be used consists of making counts in the field for the number of ears per 100 feet of row and harvesting a representative sample of ears to determine average ear size. The yield will be expressed as the amount of shelled corn per acre on a 15.5 percent moisture basis. The method has proved to be accurate as well as rapid.

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The University of Nebraska will award certificates of achievement to all copperators completing the program. The certificate will show the official yield of the field.

SUMMARY OF 1954 PROGRAM

The "Reach for Top Corn Yields" program was started in the fall of 1953. Two hundred and fifty fields were entered in 37 counties. About 80% of the fields were irrigated. A complete summary of yields has not yet been prepared, however, yields to date vary greatly. Stands, corn borer, and drought have been the principal limiting factors. Some top yields of corn under irrigation include 115 bushels per acre on the Bob Boeka farm in Hall County and 112 bushels per acre on the Jack McDowell farm in Dawson County. On dry land, yields varied from less than 25 bushels per acre to 84 bushels per acre on the Walt Bohling farm in Nemaha County.