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Field Notes

This column is designed for you to give us updates on how the season is going in your area. If you have some comments you'd like to share, please send them to:

info@blueriverorgseed.com
or call **1-800-370-7979**.

"This was a higher-yielding year for our corn, in spite of the weather. BRH does a lot of research and has a large number of products to choose from. We've been pleased with or BRH seed."

Terry and Kim Mosel

BRH Dealers & Organic Farmers
Page, NE

"The germination, pollination and yields of my BRH seed have been as good or better as anything else we have planted. It's important to us to use organic seed to keep the integrity of our organic system."

Tim Byom

BRH Dealer
Ettrick, WI

E-Newsletter

If it would be more convenient for you to receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at: info@blueriverorgseed.com
Thank you.

New BR Guardian 3 Seed Coating Available for 2010 Season

Stand establishment is one of the most important steps in raising an organic crop. If soil and weather conditions are favorable at planting time, stand establishment is much easier. But weather conditions are often unpredictable at corn planting time. Using seed coated with BR Guardian 3 lessens some of the risks associated with unfavorable weather at planting time.

First, it protects the seed against attack from soil pathogens during times of wet and cold weather.

Second, seed coated with BR Guardian 3 has a higher % of emergence, and greater uniformity of emergence. More plants growing, improved uniformity and vigorous early growth results in better yields.

For the past 3 years, Blue River Hybrids has offered Nil Film Coat as an optional seed coating. Evidence continues to show that Nil Film Coat is an asset to germination and early growth. However, our studies show that seed coated with BR Guardian 3 has better germination than Nil Film Coat.

Early Payment Discounts 2010

Date Post-marked by	Cash Discount %
JAN 1 to JAN 31, 2010	6%
FEB 1 to FEB 28, 2010	5%
MAR 1 to MAR 31, 2010	4%
APR 1 to APR 30, 2010	3%
MAY 1 to MAY 31, 2010	1%



A Message from Maury Johnson
Owner, Blue River Hybrids

Harvest time:

It's where the rubber meets the road for our products on your farm. In this issue of News for the Organic Sower, we're highlighting our product performance. And we're quite pleased with the results. In spite of the challenges with weather this season, our products have proven their performance with strong yields.

In 2009, Blue River Hybrids entered several hybrids in the Minnesota state yield trials. Nearly all of the competitive hybrids were GMO or "Traited" hybrids. In spite of this, hybrids from Blue River Hybrids were very competitive, and 48B30 and 44R57 placed in the top 10 in their respective groups. Hybrids from Blue River are not only competitive with other non-GMO hybrids, they are competitive with GMO hybrids sold by major companies.

We thank you for your business and are grateful for the opportunity to provide organic seed for your farm.

Plant Organic. Farm Better.

Maury Johnson

2009 Harvest Results



BRH corn showed very competitive results, with many consistently above the plot average, particularly 23M91 and 25A16 (80-90 day), 44R57 and 48B30 (90-102 day), 53R57 and 57H36 (102-110 day) and 66H54 and 70R50 (110-114 day).

Minnesota State Central Locations (2)

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
44R57	99	193.0	98.9%	31.8	NA	NA
41R00	99	183.0	95.5%	26.3	NA	NA
Plots Avg		185.0		27.7	NA	NA

- * Average based on 34 hybrids tested
- * 2 testing locations in Central Minnesota
- * All Hybrids were 97 to 99 RM

Minnesota State Central Locations (2)

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
48B30	102	192.0	104.3%	31.2	NA	NA
Plots Avg		184.0		29.0	NA	NA

- * Average based on 34 hybrids tested
- * 2 testing locations in Central Minnesota
- * All Hybrids were later than 99 RM

80 to 90 Day Hybrids

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
08K18	80	149.5	92.2%	24.8	7.5	6.0
Ex 11N91	80	158.5	95.5%	21.2	2.9	1.3
19K19	84	153.9	95.2%	22.3	3.7	1.0
23M91	85	174.8	107.6%	24.8	4.2	2.9
25M90	86	172.3	103.3%	24.8	1.8	6.1
25A16	87	181.0	110.9%	27.1	0.9	3.9
28B19	89	172.9	106.3%	28.0	0.6	0.8
30B19	90	170.5	104.6%	29.5	1.5	3.3
30A12	90	145.6	90.1%	22.0	NA	NA
33N73	92	155.2	95.4%	28.9	2.1	1.5
Pio 39D81	84	145.6	90.1%	23.4	2.2	0.8

- * Average based on 25 hybrids tested
- * 11 total testing locations (IA, MN, SD, WI, and Canada)

90 to 102 Day Hybrids

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
25A16	87	196.5	106.5%	21.8	0.9	7.3
28B19	89	184.5	100.1%	23.2	1.1	3.6
30B19	90	184.2	99.9%	22.8	1.0	4.8
33N73	92	158.2	85.5%	23.8	0.9	4.7
35A19	94	180.0	97.4%	22.7	1.8	6.5
36R19	94	184.3	99.8%	23.4	1.8	4.0
36K71	95	168.6	91.3%	23.4	1.8	0.5
41R00	99	177.1	95.8%	23.1	1.5	0.7
42A32	96	178.7	96.9%	22.4	2.2	3.1
44R57	99	193.0	104.5%	25.9	1.6	8.6
48B30	102	197.0	106.6%	26.1	1.3	2.5
Pio 38B85	95	177.3	97.5%	23.4	1.0	6.0

- * Average based on 30 hybrids tested
- * 18 total testing locations (IA, MI, MN, NE, SD, WI)

99 to 107 Day Hybrids

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
44R57	99	197.1	101.1%	22.2	2.0	4.0
48B30	102	192.4	98.7%	22.5	2.6	1.8
53R57	105	208.7	107.0%	23.2	2.1	2.4
56M30	106	208.4	106.8%	24.6	0.9	6.4
57H36	107	202.9	104.0%	25.3	1.2	2.6
Ex 57B10cnv	107	207.1	106.2%	24.0	0.8	2.5
Pio 36W66	104	198.2	102.0%	22.7	0.5	1.5

- * Average based on 40 hybrids tested
- * 20 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, NE, WI, NE)

106 to 114 Day Hybrids

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
56M30	106	201.4	99.4%	22.6	1.3	3.3
57H36	107	197.1	96.9%	23.5	1.6	2.1
58B07	108	193.4	95.7%	23.5	1.8	2.6
61F39cnv	109	203.3	100.4%	23.1	1.5	1.2
62B57cnv	110	199.8	98.5%	24.7	0.7	2.2
63H07	110	198.5	97.9%	23.2	1.4	2.8
64A50cnv	111	199.6	98.4%	26.1	0.9	2.5
64F08cnv	111	169.6	83.7%	24.3	1.3	6.4
66H54	112	212.1	104.5%	24.4	1.6	1.5
70R50	114	198.3	97.8%	25.3	1.5	1.3
Pio 34A15	108	201.1	99.2%	23.4	0.5	2.7

- * Average based on 40 hybrids tested
- * 23 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, NE)

110 to 114 Day Hybrids

Variety	R.M	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
58B07	108	202.3	99.4%	20.57	2.2	0.5
66H54	112	209.3	102.6%	20.85	3.5	0.7
70R50	114	217	106.1%	22.36	2.1	0.3
*71K36	114	219.8	97.3%	21.87	5.6	0.5
71A09cnv	114	214.3	104.9%	23.81	5.4	1.0
Pio 33N09	114	212.1	102.8%	22.83	3.7	2.8

- * Average based on 40 hybrids tested
- * Test did not include 71K36, data taken from only NE and TX
- * 23 total testing locations (IL, IN, IA, NE, TX)

80 to 90 Day - 2 New York Locations

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
08K18	133.3	72.9%	23.5	26.7	0.0
Ex 11N91cnv	176.8	96.5%	21.5	12.5	0.0
19K19	150.5	82.3%	22.5	20.5	0.0
23M91	193.1	105.5%	22.7	9.9	0.0
25M90	188.9	103.0%	22.8	23.3	0.0
25A16	223.6	122.3%	23.9	5.7	1.2

- * Average based on 13 hybrids tested

90 to 107 Day - 2 New York Locations

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
28B19	206.5	104.4%	26.1	5.7	0
30A12	200.6	101.0%	25.2	2.4	0
30B19	190.5	96.2%	26	1.2	0
33N73	165.3	83.5%	27.4	0.8	1.2
35A19	187.9	94.7%	26.5	7.1	8.1
42A32	202.3	101.9%	25.9	4	0.8
41R00	214.2	107.9%	25.8	5.5	0.5
44R57	189.2	95.6%	29.2	5.5	0.5
48B30	221.9	112.1%	29.1	1.2	0
53R57	225.4	113.9%	30.5	2.8	0
56M30	213.3	107.8%	32.8	3.1	7.8
57H36	221.2	111.8%	32.8	2.2	0.8

* Average based on 44 hybrids tested

108 to 114 Day - 1 Pennsylvania Location

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Moist	%SL	%RL
58B07	224.1	108.7%	23.1	4.7	0
62B57cnv	203	98.5%	24.9	1.6	0
64A50cnv	200.1	97.1%	26.2	0	0
61F39cnv	233.7	113.4%	24.4	6.3	0
66H54	200.7	97.4%	23.4	29.7	0
67M07	223.6	108.5%	24.1	1.6	0
70R50	238	115.5%	27.7	4.7	0
71A09cnv	234.4	113.7%	29.7	29.9	0

* Average based on 34 hybrids tested

2009 Soybean Trial Results

Blue River soybean varieties showed excellent performance results, with many above the trial average.

Late Group 0 Soybeans

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Lodging	IDC	Protein	Oil
O6F8	53.2	109.0%	2.7	2.7	NA	NA
Pio 91M10	51.2	104.9%	1.3	2.7	NA	NA
O9F8	46.0	94.3%	2.7	2.8	NA	NA
10F8	45.2	92.6%	1.7	2.8	NA	NA
Pio 90M60	43.0	88.1%	1.3	2.0	NA	NA

* Average based on 9 varieties tested at 2 Locations in MN and ND.

* Ratings Scale based on 1 = Excellent, 5= Poor

* Results based on independent trials

Group I Soybeans

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Lodging	IDC	Protein	Oil
19A9	56.8	108.8%	1.4	2.7	34.8	17.5
NK S21+N6	56.5	108.2%	1.2	3.5	33.1	18.8
Pio 91Y80	53.4	102.3%	1.2	2.5	33.5	18.8
2A12	52.9	101.3%	1.3	2.7	35.4	17.5
16A7	52.2	100.0%	1.5	2.0	33.9	18.0
15K9	48.8	93.5%	1.4	3.7	36.7	17.5
15F8	47.8	91.6%	1.2	3.7	36.4	15.8
1F44	47.3	90.6%	2.1	3.0	37.5	17.5

* Average based on 17 varieties tested

* Test location was Blue Earth, MN

* Ratings Scale based on 1 = Excellent, 5= Poor

* Results based on independent trials

Early Group II Soybeans

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Lodging	IDC	Protein	Oil
Pio 92Y51	56.7	108.0%	1.3	3.3	NA	NA
2A12	55.7	106.1%	1.7	2.7	NA	NA
24A7C	54.7	104.2%	1.5	2.7	NA	NA
19A9	53.3	101.5%	1.4	2.7	NA	NA
16A7	51.9	98.9%	1.5	2.0	NA	NA
25A0	51.1	97.3%	1.3	3.7	NA	NA
21C0	50.3	95.8%	1.6	3	NA	NA
IA 2053	46.8	89.1%	2.6	2.2	NA	NA

* Average based on 21 varieties tested

* 3 locations in Iowa

* Ratings Scale based on 1 = Excellent, 5= Poor

* Results based on independent trials

Late Group II Soybeans

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Lodging	IDC	Protein	Oil
30A7	59.8	104.0%	1.5	3.8	35.2	18.6
Pio 92Y80	59.7	103.8%	1.5	4.5	35.3	19.0
27A9	59.6	103.7%	1.7	2.7	34.8	18.5
29AR9	58.1	101.0%	1.6	2.5	34.5	18.5
28A0	58.0	100.9%	1.4	2.3	34.2	19.3
2A71	56.9	99.0%	1.5	3.0	35.7	17.8
24F8	52.5	91.3%	1.7	3.8	35.7	18.5

* Average based on 11 varieties tested

* 3 locations in Iowa

* Ratings Scale based on 1 = Excellent, 5= Poor

* Results based on independent trials

Group III Soybeans

Variety	Yield	Ave %*	Lodging	IDC	Protein	Oil
36A0	62.6	109.1%	1.5	3.7	32.4	19.6
34A7	60.1	104.7%	1.4	2.5	32.9	19.5
Pio 92Y80	60.0	104.5%	1.3	4.5	35.3	19.3
37A0	58.9	102.6%	1.6	3.2	32.7	19.3
38C9	58.8	102.5%	1.5	3.1	32.7	19.4
32F0	56.8	99.0%	1.5	3.8	35.7	18.2
39F0	54.9	95.6%	1.5	3.3	36.8	18.3
Pio 9305	51.7	90.1%	1.2	3.2	32.5	20.1

* Average based on 18 varieties tested

* 3 Locations in NE and IA

* Ratings Scale based on 1 = Excellent, 5= Poor

* Results based on independent trials

Southern Wisconsin State Conventional Trials

Variety	Yield	Lodging	Protein	Oil
2A71	55	2.9	35.6	17.7
2A12	53	2.3	36.1	17.8
Viking 1692	51	1.9	34.6	18.1
Mean	50	2.1	35.4	18.2

* Average based on 29 varieties tested

* 2 Locations in southern Wisconsin

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Upcoming Events

We invite you to stop by our booth at the following conferences and tradeshows! We enjoy meeting organic farmers across the United States and learning how we can help you "Farm Better".

Minnesota Organic Conference

St. Cloud, MN • January 15-16, 2010

NY Organic Farming & Gardening Conference (NOFA-NY)

Saratoga Springs, NY • January 22-24, 2010

11th Annual Northern Michigan Small Farm Conference

Grayling, MI • January 30, 2010

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA)

State College, PA • February 4, 2010

Nebraska Sustainable Ag Society (NSAS) Annual Conference

Lincoln, NE • February 5-6, 2010

Northern Sustainable Ag Society Conference

Watertown, SD • February 10-11, 2010

Wisconsin Grazing Conference

Wisconsin Rapids WI • February 19-20, 2010

Wisconsin Organic Conference (MOSES)

La Crosse, WI • February 25-27, 2010

2010 Michigan Organic Conference (MOFFA)

East Lansing, MI • March 5-6, 2010

BRH Customer Profile

Steve and Cathy Kimball, along with their children, began transitioning Kimvale Farms, a century farm in Falconer, New York, to organic production in 2004.

They have 375 cows (195 milking, 155 young stock and 25 dry), along with 600 acres of cropland and pasture, on which they grow alfalfa, corn, soybeans, wheat, peas, oats, rye, and spelt. Their first shipment of organic certified milk in June of 2006 and their entire herd was certified organic in May 2007.

"By using none of the conventional yield enhancement products, I am keeping almost all of my dollars in my own local economy. I hire more local people to do various tillage and cultural practices with my crops and to build and maintain fences and water systems for my cows," says Steve when asked about the reason for his switch to organic production.

Steve reported earlier in the season, that the Blue River Hybrid corn, BR 36R19, that was planted in early May was two feet taller and tasseled a week earlier than a neighbor's conventional field of Round-Up Ready corn that was planted right next to it in late April. "It was easily the best corn in our area. I had many compliments on it," comments Steve. Steve also planted BRH soybeans, sorghum-sudangrass and alfalfa.

"I truly believe the opportunities in organic production have not only allowed me to keep farming, but also expand my knowledge into crop production that is sustainable by using local feed sources," adds Steve.

