

2011

McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm Summary

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Recommended Citation

Piekema, Nicholas and Maher, Kevin, "McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm Summary" (2011). *Iowa State Research Farm Progress Reports*. 216.

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McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm Summary

Abstract

Includes Farm and Weather Summary and Research Farm Projects.

Keywords

RFRA10118

Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture

McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm Summary

RFR-A10118

Operations Manager.....Nicholas Piekema
Livestock Manager..... Kevin Maher

Animal Caretaker Sam Ruble

Field Lab Technician Steve Goben

Research Farms Coordinator..... Mark Honeyman
Farms Manager Dennis Shannon
32 Curtiss Hall
Iowa State University

McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm
45249 170th Avenue
Chariton, IA 50049
(641) 766-6465 (phone and FAX)

Location: From the intersection of highways 65 and 34
go 4 miles south, 2½ miles east, and ¼ mile north.

Farm and Weather Summary

Nick Piekema, ag specialist
Kevin Maher, ag specialist

Farm Comments

Developments. The McNay Research Farm continues to transition with changes due to the retirement of two employees. The research and demonstrations for the beef cattle have been expanding. The custom farming of the crop ground and hay continues on a smooth basis despite the rain and cool weather. The staff at the farm have accepted the changes at the farm extremely well.

Field Days and Tours. Twelve events were held with a total of 988 people attending field days and visiting the farm.

New Projects. Soybean yield plots, K. Scholbrock; and Soybean insecticide plots, E. Hodgson.

Livestock. In 2010, there were 253 calves born from the spring cows and 114 calves from the fall cows of the purebred Angus herd at the farm.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting started April 16 and was completed on April 22. However, 70 percent of the corn had to be replanted on May 27 and 28 due to wet-cool weather. Harvest began October 5 and was completed on October 29, with an average yield of 48 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting started May 27 and was completed on June 30. Harvest began October 11 and was completed on October 22, with an average yield of 42 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments

Winter. Winter was cold with a deep snow cover. This made cattle chores more difficult due to large amounts of snow.

Spring. Spring started out well until April 23 when it turned wet and cool. This slowed the crop development and created excess mud for calving.

Summer. A cool, wet summer slowed crop development even more and made getting hay put up properly more difficult.

Fall. Harvest was early due to the corn and soybean development. The crops came out of the fields with low moisture and low yields, which made harvest move at a rapid rate, allowing time to get fall tillage done.

Acknowledgements

The McNay Research Farm thanks the Lucas County Cattlemen, Fort Dodge Animal Health, and Dow Ag Chemical for their support.

Table 1. McNay Research and Demonstration Farm, Chariton, IA, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2010.

Month	<u>Rainfall (in.)</u>		<u>Temperature (°F)</u>		Days 90°F or above
	2010	Deviation from normal	2010	Deviation from normal	
March	3.51	1.22	38	0	0
April	5.40	2.04	54	3	0
May	6.78	2.24	58	-3	0
June	10.38	5.45	72	2	1
July	7.72	3.31	77	2	1
August	4.90	.74	77	4	5
September	5.54	1.40	66	2	0
October	<u>1.06</u>	<u>-1.65</u>	57	4	<u>0</u>
Totals	45.29	14.75			7

Research Farm Projects

<u>Research Project/Demonstration</u>	<u>Project Leader</u>
Acid rain	USGS
Beef cattle breeding project	J. Reecy/D. Garrick/J. Tait
Cattle behavior study	J. Russell
DDG feeding for heifer development	D. Loy/D. Morrival/D. Strohhahn
DDG grazing trial/storage	D. Loy/D. Morrival/D. Strohhahn
Genetic link to respiratory disease	J. Reecy
Genetic resistance to pinkeye	J. Reecy
Hay feeder trail	J. Sellers
Long-term N fertilizer	J. Sawyer
Long-term tillage study	M. Al-Kaisi
Pinkeye strains	A. O'Conner/T. Engelken
Pinkeye vaccine trial	A. O'Conner/T. Engelken
Potassium study	A. Mallarino
Riparian grazing study	J. Russell
Soybean aphid trap	M. O'Neal
Soybean insects	E. Hodgson
Soybean yield test	K. Scholbrock
Streambank erosion	J. Russell
Vaccine immunity study	J. Reecy/J. Tait