

Testing N efficient, high methionine corn hybrids with organic farmers¹.

Photo Collages, Tables, Diagrams for SARE project LNC-389.

Photo Collage 1.

Root hair primordia and bacterial discharge through root hairs for breeding line P40

P40 seedling root hairs Primordial root hair filled with endophytic bacteria forming endospores P40 root hair discharging bacteria.

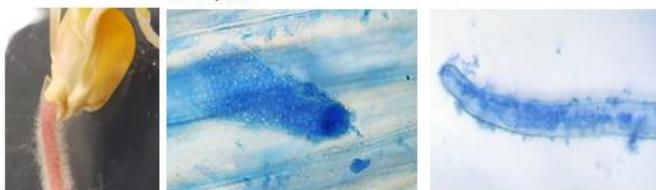


Photo collage 2. Bacterial aggregates in the roots of the C4-6 inbred (left) and spore forming bacteria in C2B2.

¹This research was made possible by the cooperation and assistance of numerous people, institutions, and farms. We acknowledge their part in this work and in formulating data with great thanks. First, the work would not have been possible without the help of many organic and biodynamic farmers who participated in the thinking behind the project and the work with it on their farms. The Corn and Soil Health project, centered at the University of Illinois, with OREI funds, accomplished basic soil analyses, worked up data on soils and farms, and helped in formulating experimental designs for the farm trials. This included graduate students E. Gulkirpik, M. Toc, C. Mujjabi, M. Nunez, data coordinator Emily Marriot, and Professors: C. Ugarte, M. Wander, M. Bohn, and J. Andrade. USDA-ARS, Morris, Minnesota (A.A. Jaradat, Chris Wente, and Jane Johnson), did tissue analysis of corn for minerals and helped prepare samples for isotope analysis. Foundation Organic Seed (S. Mohr) contributed seed and advice to the project. Rutgers University (J. White., A. Lotfi, K. Kingsley, and others) contributed rhizophagy research on maize seedlings, advice on interpreting our results, and continuous inspiration based on their research findings. University of Wisconsin Extension (Mike Travis) and Pepin County Conservation (Chase Cummings) helped organize farmers and events and meetings around the issue of N₂ fixing corn and helped carry out on farm research in the NW part of Wisconsin. Wood Ends Soil Testing Lab and Cornell University assisted with extra soil quality tests. At the Mandaamin Institute, J. Karnes, V. Thomas, A. Lanser, J. Mayfield and others contributed to getting the field research done. Any errors in interpretation of results are due to the author and not to any of the people mentioned above. Finally we would like to acknowledge funding from USDA-NIFA-OREI, SARE and the Ceres Trust, without which this work could not have been accomplished.

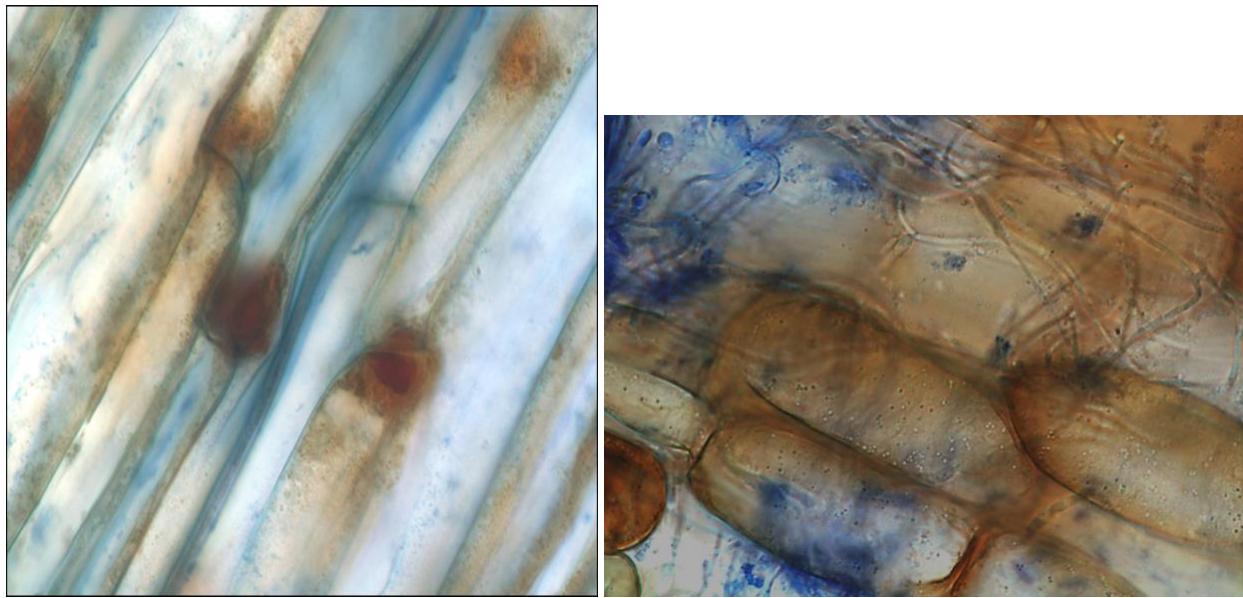


Photo collage 3. Roots of LH206 on left and of Novartis 942 on right.

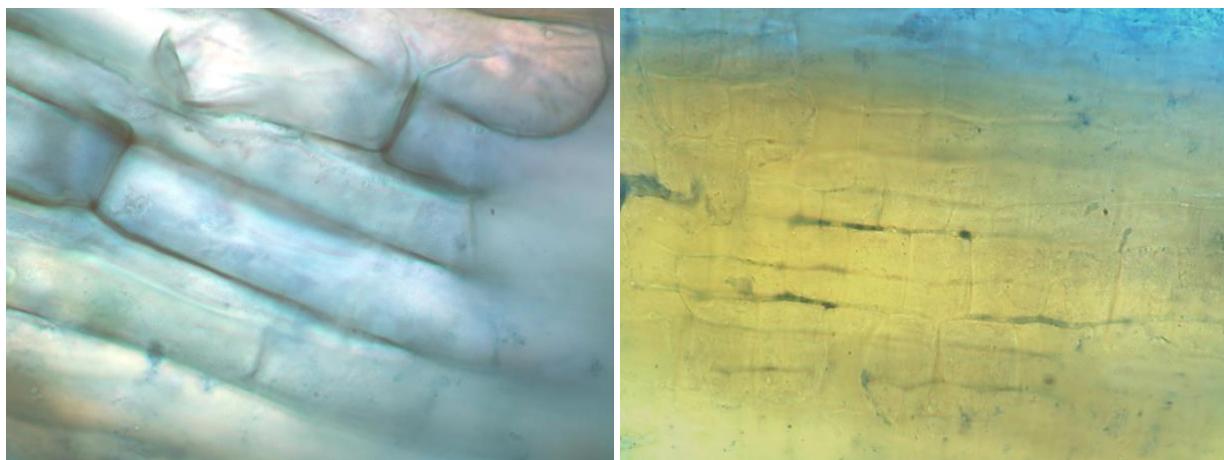
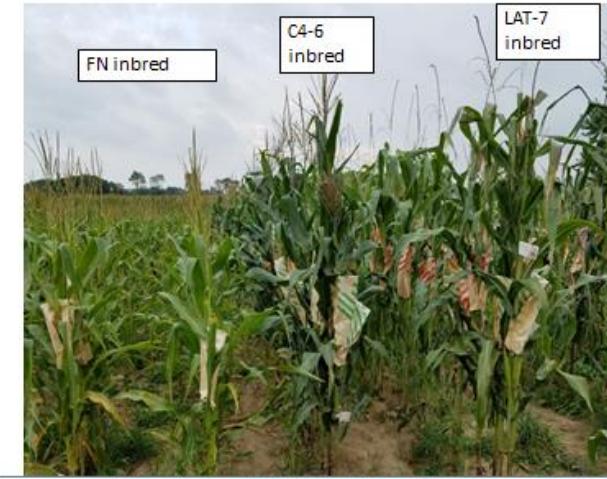


Photo collage 4 shows hairy stalks of C4-6 on left and foliage color of C4-6 when grown beside a normal inbred on left (FN) and LAT-7, an inbred derived from root weeping landrace Mixeno.



Phenotype of N efficient/N₂ fixing inbreds. Results in 2019 with corn inbreds following after a winter rye disk down crop. FN is a typical inbred. The pedigree of LAT-7 is 1/4th Mixeno.

Photo collage 5 shows rooting systems of multiple commercial or Mandaamin inbreds grown on N limited sites in 2017 without fertilization.

Photo collage 5 shows rooting systems of multiple commercial or Mandaamin inbreds grown on N limited sites in 2017 without fertilization.



Conventional inbreds LH206, LH123, S7, S5 grown on JR or Creek field (S5) in 2017 without fertilizer. LH206 and 123 were bred by Monsanto; S7 and S5 are commercial inbreds from a seed licensing company.

NokomisGold Seed Company inbreds C4-6, LAT-7, NG2-3-2, and C2-B bred at the Mandaamin Institute and grown on JR or Creek field (C2-B) in 2017 without fertilizer.



Photo collage 6. Roots extracted in September from Mandaamin nursery show root health of putative N2 fixing inbred C4-6 (left) and conventional inbred LH206 (right). The two hybrids possess the same relative maturity.



Table 1 describes sites used for varietal trials in 2019.

Farm	Year	Crop rotation (past 4-5 years)	Soil fertility in corn phase	Soil fertility time	Soil texture	manure rate
Clark	2018	alfalfa-corn	+/- cow manure			10 tons/acre
Stoltzfus	2018	Wheat-Hay (alfalfa+clover+timothy)-Corn	CC	Preplant	Silty clay loam	0
Adsit	2019	Alfalfa (3 years)-Wheat-Corn	Chicken manure	Preplant	Clay loam	3 tons/acre
Doudlah	2019	Soybean-Corn-Kidney bean	CC	Preplant	Silty clay loam	0
Zinniker1	2019	Hay (grass+alfalfa for 5 years)-Corn	Compost	Preplant	Silty clay loam	15 tons/acre
Anibas	2019	Alfalfa (3 years)-Corn	Cattle manure	Preplant	Silty clay loam	6000 gal/acre
Beiler1	2019	Oat-Corn-Pumpkin-Corn	Chicken manure	Preplant	Silty clay	10 tons/acre
Stoltzfus1	2019	Hay-Hay (alfalfa+clover+timothy)-Corn	Cow manure slurry + box stall manure	Preplant	Silty clay	4800 gal/acre + 660 bu/acre
Stoltzfus2	2019	Hay-Hay (alfalfa+clover+timothy)-Corn	Cow manure slurry	Preplant	Silty clay	7000 gal/acre
Weiss/Bauer	2019	inoculation trial continuous corn	N starter +/- slurry	Preplant	sandy loam	75 lbs N starter, +/--unspecified slurry
C.C. means cover crop.						

Photo 1. C2B2.C46 growing on the Zinniker Farm in 2017.



Table 2 describes sites used for varietal trials in 2020 and provides notes on weeds and animal damage.

Farmer	Plot dimensions			Preceding crop				Tillage				biology			notes
	no rows	row width inches	row length (feet)	2019	2018	2017	2016	planting date	primary tillage	secondary tillage	weed control	weeds	weed control	manure	
Moses Beiler	2	30	100	alfalfa& grass	alfalfa& grass	alfalfa& grass	corn	ca. May 15	spring plow	disk 3x	drag 1x; cultivate 2x	foxtail, quackgrass	fairly good	with and without ca 10t/a BYM	Good stands and yields.
Daniel Esch	2	34	60	strawberries	strawberries	strawberries	pasture	end May	spring plow	harrow cultimulch 3x	cultivate 3x	fairly clean	good	12-15 t/acre composted dairy pack	Good stands and yields.
James Lengacher	2	30	30	legume grass hayfield	legume grass hayfield	legume grass hayfield	soybeans	June 8th	deep rip 8 inch time	disk 2x; field cultivator	cultivate 2x	practically no weeds	excellent	2019 hay got 4-5 t/a manure/compost	Population density not determined.
Dale Clark	3	30	42	fallow & weeds	fallow & weeds	fallow & weeds	fallow & weeds	22-May	offset heavy disk	not necessary	rotary hoe 1x cultivate 1x	mostly foxtail	good	unmanured	spatial variation, erratic stands, poor growth in very low fertility spots; variable moisture; erratic yields, not usable.
Jim Egger	2	36	50	soybeans	grass	grass	grass	June 5th	plowed	rotary tiller 3x	cultivator + hand weed	good	unmanured		Plano silt loam B soil. Deer severely damaged plots so a yield determination was not feasible.
Gold/Mandaamin /MFAI	2	30	40	alfalfa& grass	alfalfa& grass	alfalfa& grass	alfalfa& grass	June 16th	offset disk 3x		rotary hoe 1x cultivate 2x	Canada thistle patch	poor	not manured	Severe Canada thistle infestation held in check by cultivation.
Gary Bauer/Don Weiss	3	30	90	corn	corn	corn	corn	6-May	vertical till		herbicide	some velvetleaf	good	not manured	

Table 3. The yields of corn on 14 sites comparing yields of FOS8500 and 17.461.

year	farm	system	manuring	hybrid	Grain yield bu/acre	%
2019	Doudlah	arable	none	FOS8500	59	100
2019	Bauer/Weiss	cattle	none	FOS8500	177	100
2020	Bauer/Weiss	cattle	none	FOS8500	145	100
2020	Lengacher	arable	none	FOS8500	113	100
2020	Beiler	arable	none	FOS8500	94	100
2019	Doudlah	arable	none	17.461	98	166
2019	Bauer/Weiss	cattle	none	17.461	180	102
2020	Bauer/Weiss	cattle	none	17.461	131	90
2020	Lengacher	arable	none	17.461	124	110
2020	Beiler	arable	none	17.461	128	136
2019	Zinniker	cattle	manured	FOS8500	200	100
2019	Anibas	cattle	manured	FOS8500	150	100
2019	Anon1	cattle	manured	FOS8500	253	100
2019	Anon2	cattle	manured	FOS8500	228	100
2019	Beiler	arable	manured	FOS8500	173	100
2019	Adsit	arable	manured	FOS8500	81	100
2020	Beiler	arable	manured	FOS8500	117	100
2020	Esch	arable	manured	FOS8500	228	100
2020	MFAI	cattle	manured	FOS8500	50	100
2019	Zinniker	cattle	manured	17.461	207	104
2019	Anibas	cattle	manured	17.461	132	88
2019	Anon1	cattle	manured	17.461	227	90
2019	Anon2	cattle	manured	17.461	164	72
2019	Beiler	arable	manured	17.461	122	71
2019	Adsit	arable	manured	17.461	79	98
2020	Beiler	arable	manured	17.461	94	80
2020	Esch	arable	manured	17.461	207	91
2020	MFAI	cattle	manured	17.461	53	106

Table 4. Analysis of variance for yield trials on 14 sites comparing 17.461 and FOS8500.

Source	DF	bushels/acre			yield as % of FOS8500		
		SS	F Ratio	Prob > F	SS	F Ratio	Prob > F
system	1	11110	3.1427	0.0915	459	3.2371	0.0871
hybrid	1	179	0.0506	0.8243	39	0.2728	0.6072
manuring	1	2906	0.822	0.3754	1255	8.859	0.0075
manuring*hybrid	1	1719	0.4864	0.4936	1255	8.859	0.0075
system*hybrid	1	326	0.0922	0.7645	459	3.2371	0.0871
system*manuring	1	1119	0.3167	0.5799	910	6.4231	0.0197
manuring*hybrid*system	1	565	0.1597	0.6936	910	6.4231	0.0197

Diagram 1. Yields of 17.461 and FOS8500 across 14 sites over two years.

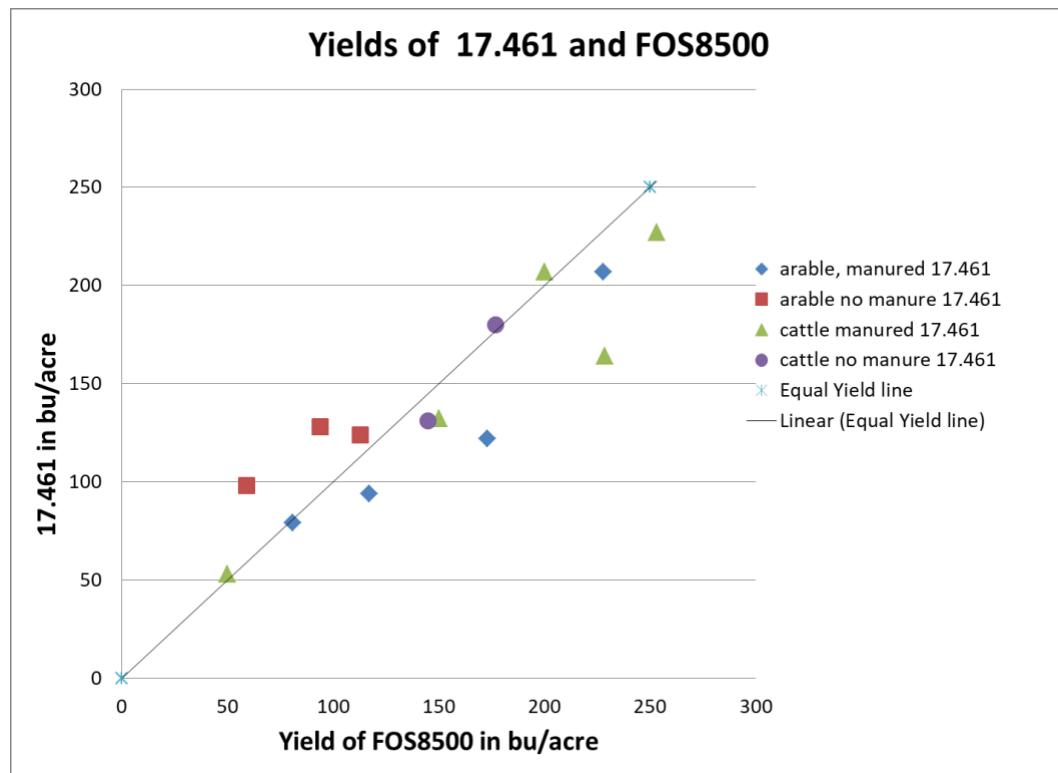


Table 5. Yields of 17.461 and FOS8500 from 14 sites.

Level	no sites	% of FOS check	bu/acre		
system effect					
arable	14	106	a	120	a
cattle	14	97	a	162	a
hybrid effect					
17.461	14	102	a	139	a
FOS8500	14	100	a	144	a
manure effect					
none	10	108	a	130	a
manured	18	94	b	152	a
system x hybrid interaction					
arable, 17.461	7	111	a	121	a
arable,FOS8500	7	100	b	119	a
cattle,17.461	7	94	b	156	a
cattle,FOS8500	7	100	b	169	a
manure x hybrid interaction					
none,17.461	5	117	a	136	a
none,FOS8500	5	100	b	125	a
manured,17.461	9	88	b	141	a
manured,FOS8500	9	100	b	163	a
manure x hybrid x system interaction					
none,17.461,arable	3	137	a	117	a
none,FOS8500,arable	3	100	b	89	a
none,17.461,cattle	2	96	b	156	a
none,FOS8500,cattle	2	100	b	161	a
manured,17.461,arable	4	85	b	126	a
manured,FOS8500,arable	4	100	b	150	a
manured,17.461,cattle	5	92	b	157	a
manured,FOS8500,cattle	5	100	b	176	a

Table 6. Analysis of variance for five different experiments comparing FOS8500, NG10, and C46 based hybrids.

Source	DF	SS	F Ratio	Prob > F
hybrid	2	2816	1.1162	0.3492
system	1	5610	4.4481	0.0492
manuring	1	363	0.2877	0.5982
system*manuring	1	114	0.0903	0.7673
hybrid*system	2	2553	1.0121	0.3832
hybrid*manuring	2	1022	0.4053	0.6727
hybrid*system*manuring	2	3	0.0012	0.9988

Diagram 2. Interaction between manuring and hybrids on five sites.

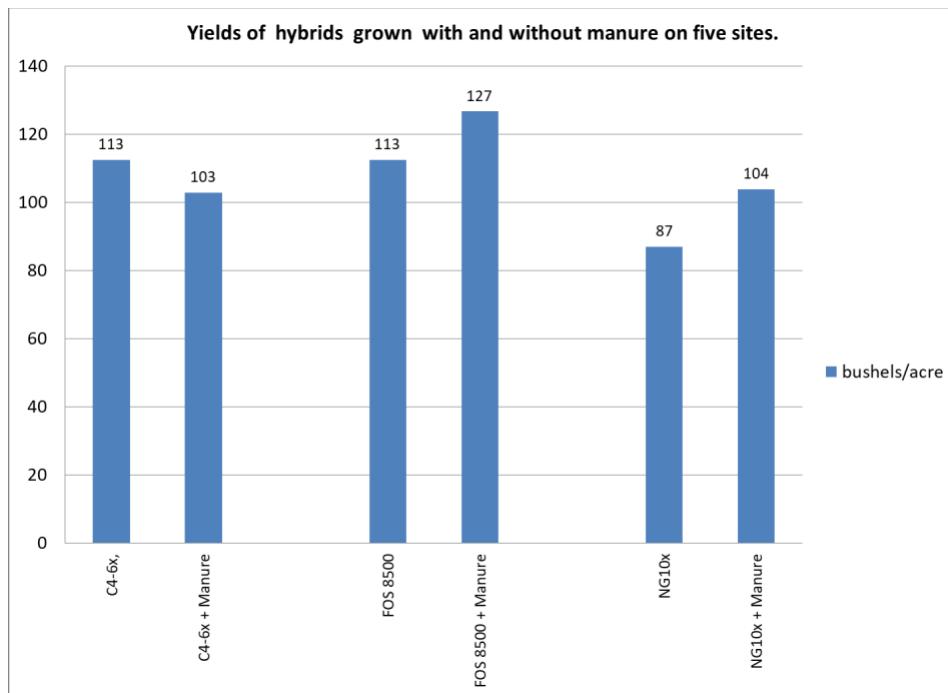


Table 7. Strip trial on the Beiler farm, 2020, showing response to manure for different hybrids. -M and +M indicate not manured and manured plots.

Soil	Arable Cropping poultry manure						dairy/beef-based farming with arable cropping								ave. Cash	ave. cow
	Adsit		Beiler		Doudlah		Anon1		Anon2		Zinniker		Anibas			
Parameter	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.	ave.	s.e.		
NH4+ (mg/kg)	3.0	0.2	2.8	0.1	1.8	0.4	3.1	0.2	4.0	0.3	5.5	1.8	4.1	1.2	2.5	4.2
NO3- (mg/kg)	22.3	0.8	20.9	0.4	22.1	1.4	20.2	0.4	20.8	0.6	21.2	1.2	24.5	1.7	21.8	21.7
Inorganic N (mg/kg)	25.2	0.8	23.7	0.5	23.9	1.4	23.3	0.5	24.8	0.8	26.7	2.6	28.5	2.4	24.3	25.8
PMN (mg/kg)	13.6	2.8	35.8	3.9	27.0	2.1	52.6	2.2	54.7	2.7	55.4	2.6	49.8	1.8	25.5	53.1
pH	6.2	0.1	7.2	0.0	6.9	0.1	6.7	0.1	6.6	0.1	6.7	0.1	7.2	0.0	6.8	6.8
Bray I P (ppm)	12	1	71	5	102	9	36	11	16	3	13	3	34	3	61.9	24.5
K* (mg/kg)	163	6	265	26	251	9	187	19	178	15	131	17	104	4	226	150
Ca* (mg/kg)	2755	59	3213	51	1568	49	3138	87	2976	103	1816	73	1835	33	2512	2441
Mg* (mg/kg)	792	26	1126	13	337	13	864	32	872	41	519	26	424	10	752	670
TON (g/kg soil)	1.2	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.9	0.1	2.0	0.1	2.0	0.1	1.4	0.1	1.4	0.0	1.2	1.7
TOC (g/kg soil)	10.4	0.4	12.4	0.5	8.8	0.7	21.1	0.6	21.5	0.7	14.0	0.9	14.4	0.5	10.5	17.7
C/N ratio	8.6	0.2	9.2	0.1	9.7	0.3	10.7	0.1	11.0	0.1	10.1	0.2	10.2	0.1	9.2	10.5
POM-C (g/kg soil)	1.3	0.1	2.3	0.2	1.5	0.1	2.9	0.3	3.1	0.3	2.8	0.2	3.3	0.2	1.7	3.0

TON means potentially mineralizable N. TOC and TON mean total organic carbon and N.
POM-C means particulate organic matter carbon.

Table 10. Comparison of arable organic and cattle organic systems in 2019 varietal trials.

Parameter	scale	Arable Organic	Cattle Organic	p level	Arable/ cattle as %
NH ₄ ⁺	mg/kg	2.5	4.4	0.05	57
NO ₃ ⁻	mg/kg	21.8	22.1	0.84	99
total inorganic N	mg/kg	24.3	26.4	0.20	92
pH		6.8	6.9	0.83	99
Bray I P	ppm	61.9	24.1	0.24	257
K ⁺	mg/kg	226.5	139.2	0.09	163
Ca ²⁺	mg/kg	2511.8	2235.8	0.69	112
Mg ²⁺	mg/kg	751.7	603.4	0.61	125
total organic N	g/kg	1.2	1.6	0.13	73
total organic C	g/kg	10.5	16.6	0.08	64
C/N		9.2	10.4	0.04	89
particulate organic matter-C	g/kg	1.7	3.1	0.01	54
potentially mineralizable N	mg/kg	25.5	53.0	0.01	48

Table 11. Relationship between farming systems and September soil test values in 2019.

Parameter	scale	Arable Organic	Cattle Organic	Cattle Conv. Monoc.	differences p level	Arable/cattle as %
Protein	mg/kg	5.0c	7.3b	10.4a	0.0001	68
Protein Score	mg/kg	32.0c	58.8b	87.1a	0.0001	54
CO ₂ corr. BD	mg/kg	72.2b	89.3a	65.5b	0.0053	81
SLAN	ppm	82.0b	129.0a	119.7a	0.0001	64
Aggregate Stability	%	24.1b	29.0a	6.4c	0.0001	83
NO ₃ ⁻ N	ppm	14.5c	30.6a	21.7b	0.0001	48
Bulk density	g/cm ³	1.11b	1.00c	1.19a	0.0001	110

Table 12. Relationships between spring and fall soil tests in 2019.

Hybrid Combination 2019 strip trials.										
Farm		FOS8500	15.C4-6	17.461	17.2B24	C2B2-1.4-6	C2B24-7.C46	C46.9.2)-11	NG10-2-3-2.Md1	average yield
bushels/acre										
Ave with manure		185	146	154	156	144	149	116	137	149
Ave. without manure		118	172	139	145	138	118	143	109	135
Ave cash		104	104	100	112	101	106	106	89	103
Ave cow		203	175	176	174	164	160	130	155	168

Table 16. Grain yield and mineral uptake as affected by hybrid and farming systems in 2019.

Farming System	Hybrid	Grain DM	Grain N	Stalk N	Root N	Total N	Micronutrient uptake	Macronutrient uptake
values as % of FOS8500								
arable crop organic	17.461	95	94	166	42	107	97	109
arable crop organic	17.2B24	97	97	187	67	115	115	108
arable crop organic	C2B2-1.C46	101	101	174	83	116	123	107
arable crop organic	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
cattle based organic	17.461	91	105	143	110	112	134	123
cattle based organic	17.2B24	85	86	150	98	98	136	114
cattle based organic	C2B2-1.C46	77	80	103	94	85	112	96
cattle based organic	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
cattle mono corn conv	17.461	83	98	126	97	106	115	126
cattle mono corn conv	17.2B24	87	92	122	241	114	110	125
cattle mono corn conv	C2B2-1.C46	90	106	82	203	107	107	110
cattle mono corn conv	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
average across systems	17.461	90	99	145	83	108	115	119
average across systems	17.2B24	89	92	153	135	109	120	116
average across systems	C2B2-1.C46	89	96	120	127	103	114	105
average across systems	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 17. Grain, stalk (stover) and root yields, harvest index (HI), total N, and the percentage of total N in grain for hybrid variety trials in 2019.

Relationship between the $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ isotope ratio in the grain and the total uptake of different minerals/acre.

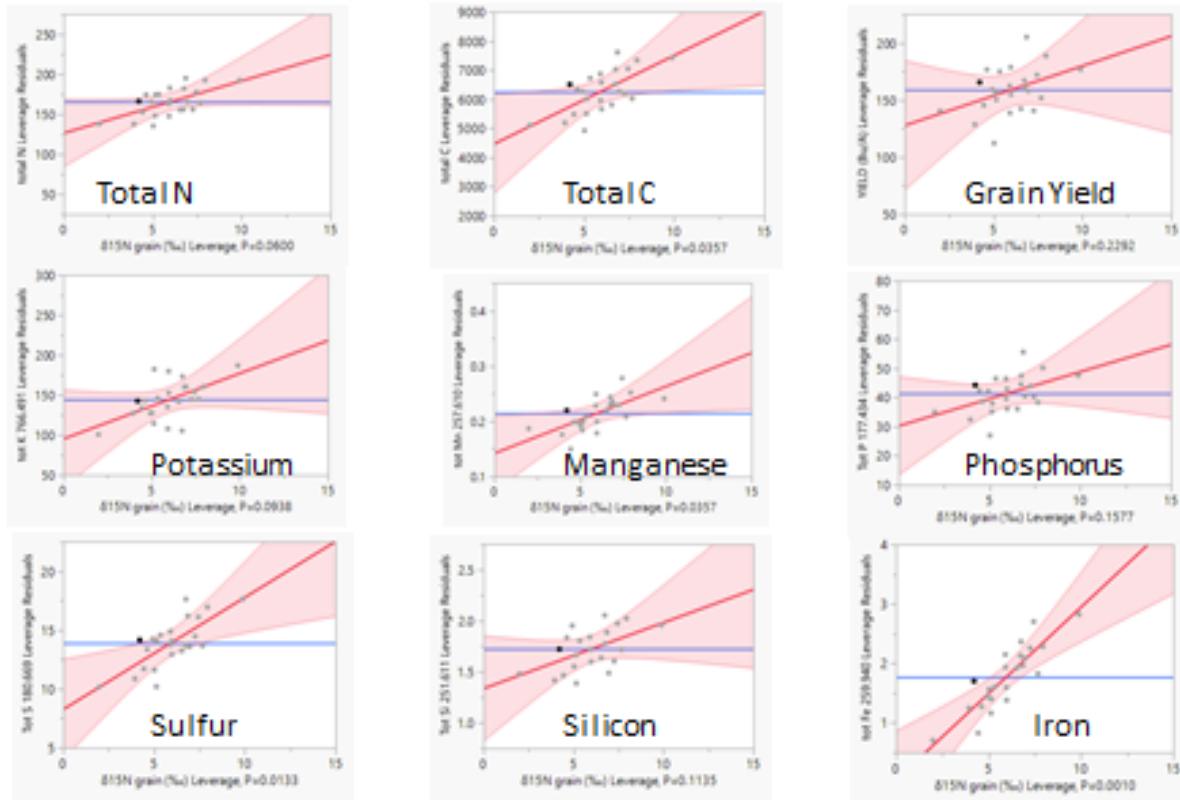


Table 19. Relationship between soil tests and crop performance for variety trials in 2019.

	grain yld	stlk yld	root yld	N yld	C yld	%N	delta15N	
	level of p							
protein	0.06	1.00	0.05	0.10	0.01	0.69	0.46	
protein score	0.01	0.27	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.21	
CO2 corr to BD	0.86	0.54	0.57	0.30	0.46	0.93	0.40	
SLAN ppm	0.23	0.87	0.93	0.29	0.47	0.66	0.86	
Aggregate Stability	0.77	0.07	0.16	0.06	0.02	0.52	0.01	
Nitrate N	0.47	0.00	0.86	0.83	0.35	0.94	0.52	
BD g/cc	0.01	0.01	0.90	0.05	0.00	0.64	0.07	
	grain yld	stlk yld	root yld	N yld	C yld	%N	delta15N	Average
	% of total SS							
protein	19	0	50	12	18	5	4	16
protein score	33	6	20	46	35	66	12	31
CO2 corr to BD	0	2	4	5	1	0	6	3
SLAN ppm	7	0	0	5	1	7	0	3
Aggregate Stability	0	16	25	16	17	14	49	20
Nitrate N	3	45	0	0	2	0	3	8
BD g/cc	37	32	0	16	25	7	25	20
R2 Model	0.75	0.72	0.57	0.90	0.83	0.73	0.40	
p level model	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0027	

Diagram 4. The $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values for hybrids and their plant parts.

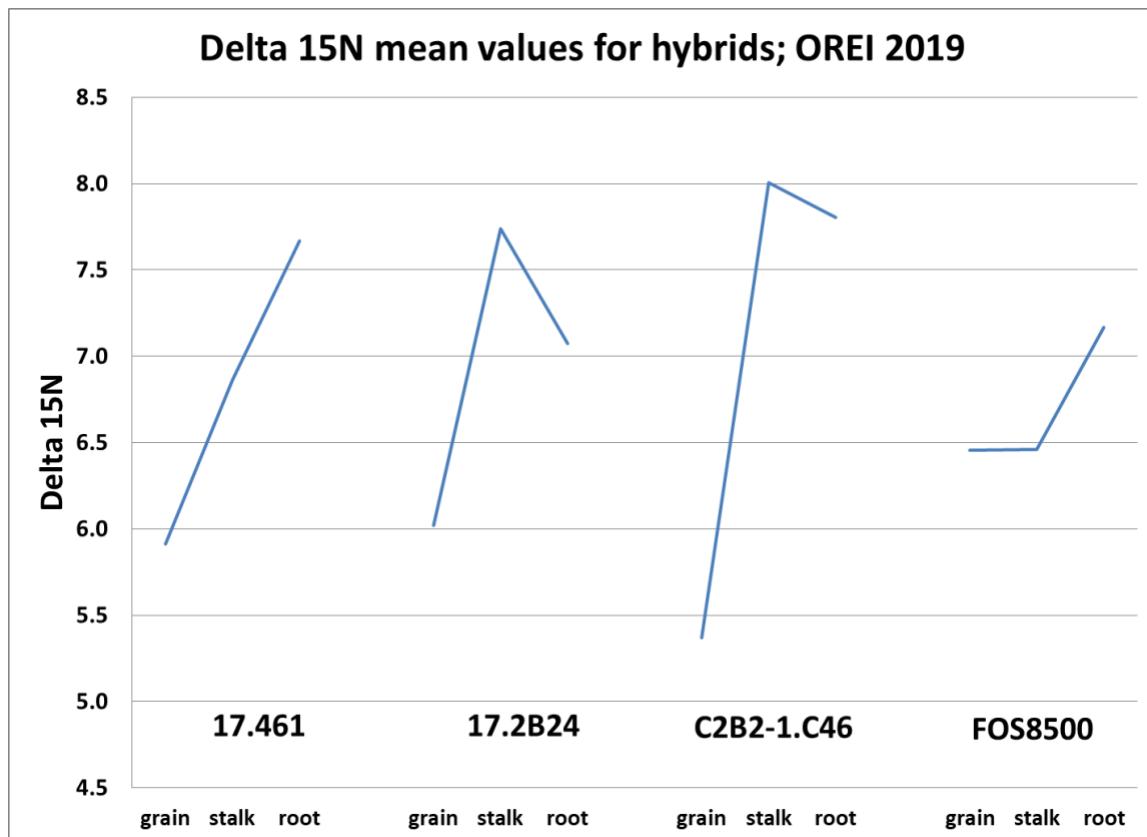


Table 20. Data for %N and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ levels of hybrids grown in 2019.

hybrid	Part	%N			delta 15N		
		mean	stdev	cv	mean	stdev	cv
17.461	grain	1.44	0.29	0.20	5.94	1.99	0.33
17.461	stalk	0.91	0.21	0.23	6.75	2.58	0.38
17.461	root	0.71	0.22	0.31	8.00	2.16	0.27
17.2B24	grain	1.32	0.25	0.19	6.08	4.01	0.66
17.2B24	stalk	0.99	0.23	0.23	7.79	2.36	0.30
17.2B24	root	0.76	0.31	0.41	7.08	3.28	0.46
C2B2-1.C46	grain	1.36	0.30	0.22	5.28	2.88	0.54
C2B2-1.C46	stalk	0.83	0.09	0.11	7.89	3.74	0.47
C2B2-1.C46	root	0.72	0.35	0.49	7.32	4.89	0.67
FOS8500	grain	1.27	0.18	0.14	6.27	2.66	0.42
FOS8500	stalk	0.83	0.27	0.33	5.41	0.98	0.18
FOS8500	root	0.74	0.23	0.32	6.38	1.58	0.25

Diagram 5. The $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values for hybrids and their plant parts grown in different farming systems.

Diagram delta 15N all types and parts, OREI 2019.

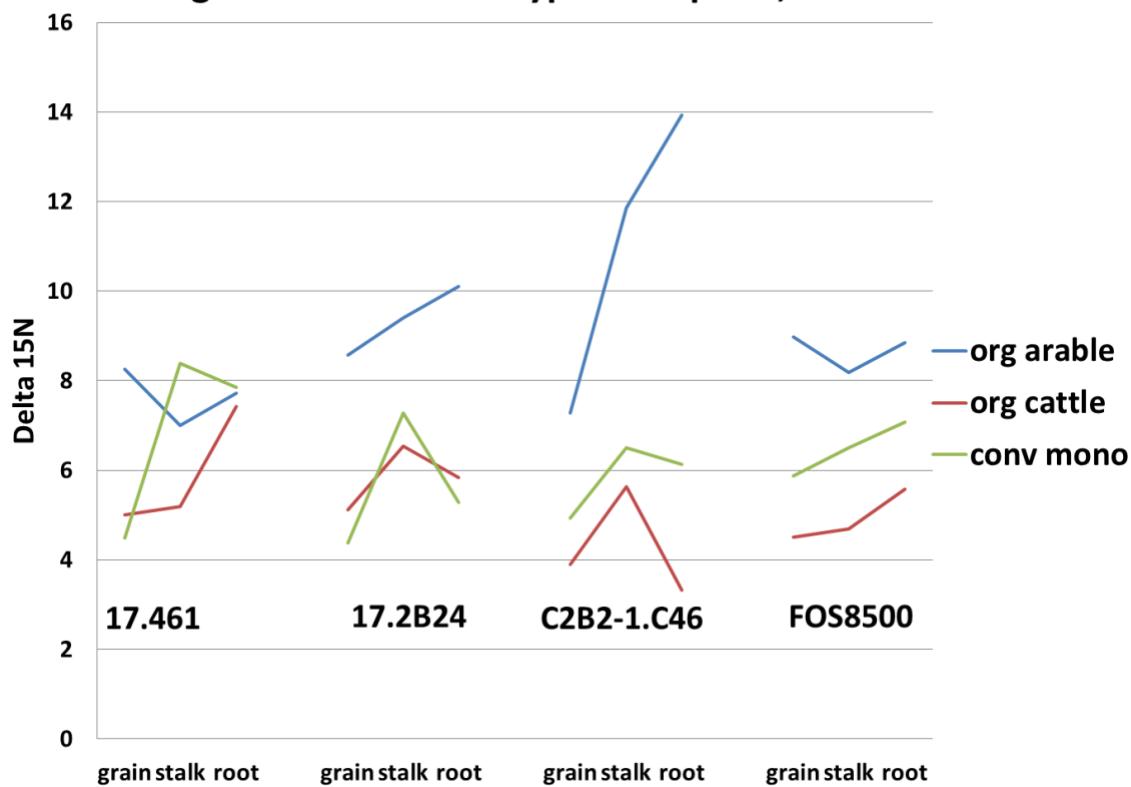


Table 21. Estimates of nitrogen derived from air (NDFA) and microbial biomass in 2019.

Hybrid	arable organic	cattle based organic	conv cattle mono	average
best estimate %NDFA				
17.2B24	15	22	40	26
17.461	8	33	47	29
C2B2C46	48	31	24	34
FOS8500	-1	19	17	12
average	17	26	32	
Hybrid	arable organic	cattle based organic	conv cattle mono	average
N from microbial biomass, available OM				
17.2B24	-15	-39	-12	-22
17.461	13	-33	-29	-16
C2B2C46	-58	-20	0	-26
FOS8500	0	0	0	0
ave Mand	-20	-31	-14	

Diagram 6. Relationship between %N and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in grain for different farming systems.

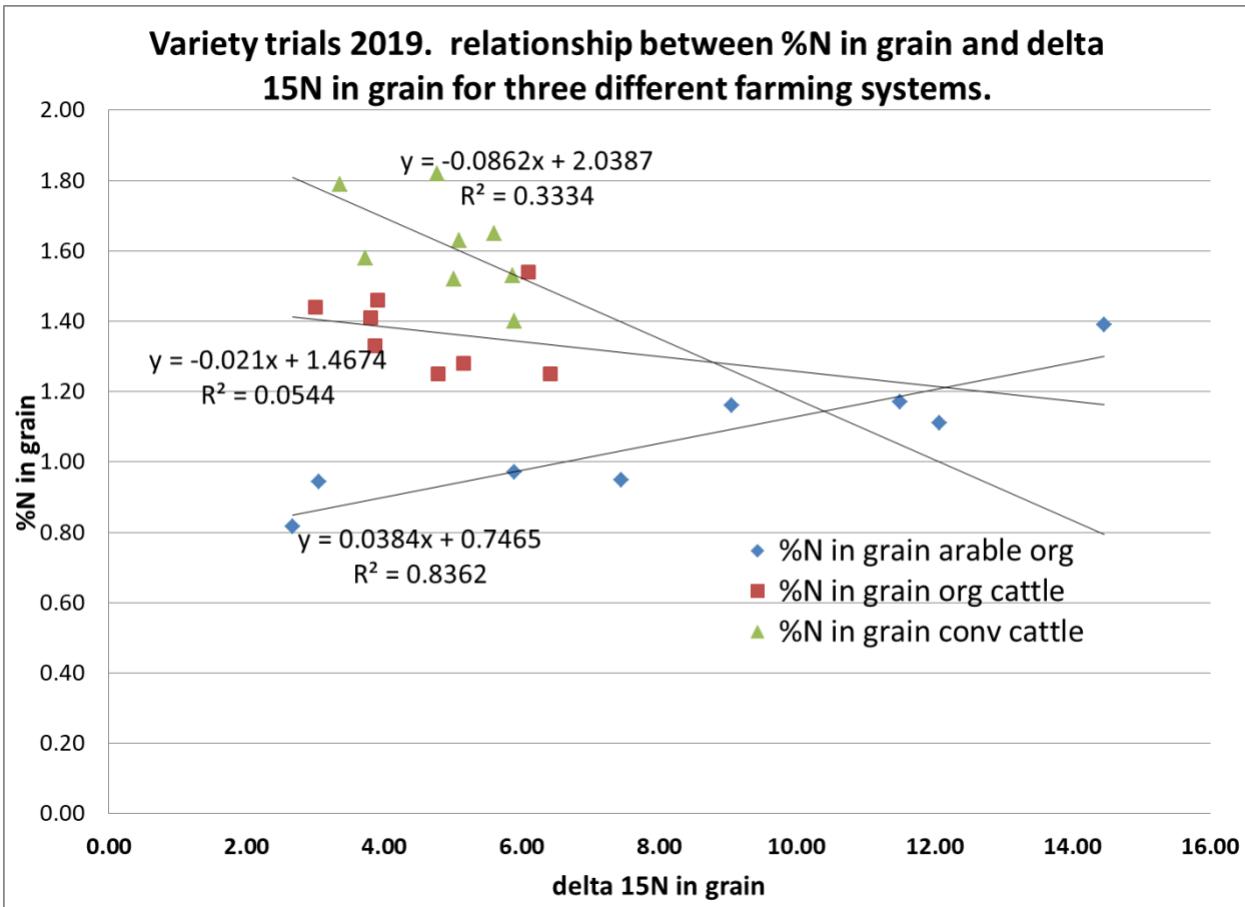


Table 22. Analysis of variance for different macronutrients in plant tissues in 2019 hybrid trials.

Significance of analysis of variance factor for the concentration of different macronutrients						
	Df	%N	Ca	K	Mg	P
Source of variation						
system	2	<.0001	0.03	<.0001	0.00	<.0001
plant part	2	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
Pedigree	3	0.44	0.04	0.34	0.69	0.47
system x plant part	4	0.10	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
System x Pedigree	6	0.91	0.87	0.97	0.96	0.98
plant part x pedigree	6	0.64	0.01	0.31	0.88	0.05
system x plant part x pedigree	12	0.76	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.25
% variation associated with pedigree		5	5	6	6	13
						28

Table 27. Total uptake of micromineras in hybrid corn grown in different farming systems in 2019.

		Al237	Cu	Fe	Mn	Si	Sr	Ti	Zn
arable crop organic	hybrid								
					lbs/acre				
arable crop organic	17.461	0.228	0.015	0.346	0.057	0.417	0.010	0.003	0.088
arable crop organic	17.2B24	0.293	0.012	0.544	0.053	0.548	0.011	0.007	0.074
arable crop organic	C2B2-1.C46	0.373	0.010	0.767	0.064	0.421	0.009	0.008	0.075
arable crop organic	FOS8500	0.223	0.013	0.467	0.060	0.445	0.009	0.004	0.099
cattle-based organic	17.461	0.454	0.032	0.775	0.085	0.732	0.011	0.007	0.124
cattle-based organic	17.2B24	0.521	0.024	0.700	0.115	0.665	0.013	0.009	0.097
cattle-based organic	C2B2-1.C46	0.452	0.023	0.595	0.073	0.547	0.009	0.007	0.105
cattle-based organic	FOS8500	0.326	0.021	0.525	0.079	0.512	0.007	0.007	0.101
cattle mono corn conv	17.461	0.445	0.032	0.543	0.072	0.762	0.018	0.006	0.190
cattle mono corn conv	17.2B24	0.414	0.026	0.609	0.073	0.715	0.019	0.006	0.113
cattle mono corn conv	C2B2-1.C46	0.518	0.029	0.641	0.059	0.577	0.014	0.007	0.127
cattle mono corn conv	FOS8500	0.401	0.046	0.555	0.067	0.541	0.012	0.004	0.161
average	17.461	0.38	0.03	0.55	0.07	0.64	0.01	0.01	0.13
average	17.2B24	0.41	0.02	0.62	0.08	0.64	0.01	0.01	0.09
average	C2B2-1.C46	0.45	0.02	0.67	0.07	0.52	0.01	0.01	0.10
average	FOS8500	0.32	0.03	0.52	0.07	0.50	0.01	0.01	0.12

Table 28. Total uptake of microelements relative to commercial check when grown in different systems in 2019.

		Al237	Cu	Fe	Mn	Si	Sr	Ti	Zn	average
system	hybrid									
lbs/acre of micronutrients as % of FOS8500										
arable crop organic	17.461	102	120	74	95	94	121	78	89	97
arable crop organic	17.2B24	131	90	116	88	123	132	163	74	115
arable crop organic	C2B2-1.C46	167	81	164	108	95	102	188	76	123
arable crop organic	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
cattle-based organic	17.461	139	151	148	109	143	153	109	123	134
cattle-based organic	17.2B24	160	116	133	146	130	176	127	96	136
cattle-based organic	C2B2-1.C46	139	112	113	93	107	121	110	104	112
cattle-based organic	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
cattle mono corn conv	17.461	111	71	98	107	141	148	126	118	115
cattle mono corn conv	17.2B24	103	57	110	110	132	159	139	70	110
cattle mono corn conv	C2B2-1.C46	129	64	115	88	107	120	153	78	107
cattle mono corn conv	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
average	17.461	118	114	106	104	126	141	104	110	115
average	17.2B24	131	88	120	115	128	156	143	80	120
average	C2B2-1.C46	145	86	131	96	103	114	150	86	114
average	FOS8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
average Mandaamin		131	96	119	105	119	137	132	92	116

Table 29. Analysis of variance for total mineral uptake in the varietal trials of 2019 that evaluated the pedigree x mineral interaction.

Source	DF	Sum of Sq	F Ratio	Prob > F
system	2	1734	0.76	0.47
hybrid	3	30034	8.73	<.0001
system*hybrid	6	7375	1.07	0.38
mineral	14	34055	2.12	0.01
system*mineral	28	29297	0.91	0.60
hybrid*mineral	42	41798	0.87	0.70
system*hybrid*mineral	84	26225	0.27	1.00

Table 30. LS mean values for the relative uptake of nutrients by hybrids based on FOS8500 as a standard for the varietal trials in 2019.

Element	hybrid				Ave. Mandaamin
	FOS8500	17.461	17.2B24	C2B2-1.C46	
uptake/acre in % relative to FOS8500					
Al	100	136	125	145	135
C	100	106	108	101	105
Ca	100	162	163	116	147
Cu	100	129	93	92	104
Fe	100	118	117	128	121
K	100	119	112	106	112
Mg	100	130	123	111	121
Mn	100	106	114	98	106
N	100	114	111	105	110
P	100	122	107	105	111
S	100	114	111	109	111
Si	100	125	128	102	118
Sr	100	145	155	117	139
Ti	100	106	135	149	130
Zn	100	130	94	100	108
Average	100	124	120	112	

Table 31. Yield and grain quality of nine hybrids grown on five sites in the varietal trials of 2020.

Table 34. Agronomic characteristics and linear equations for hybrid trials in 2020.

Hybrid	Agronomic characteristics.				Regression coefficients x=δ15N, y= %N in grain.						
	no of plants/acre	δ15Nin grain	%N in grain	N uptake in grain lbs/a	intercept	std error	Prob> t	δ15N	std error	Prob> t	R ²
FOS8500	24,692 abc	3.11	1.15	73	0.0043	0.0014	0.0507	0.0022	0.0004	0.0131	0.9
17.2B24	24,427 bc	3.18	1.16	50	0.0089	0.0011	0.0043	0.0010	0.0003	0.0522	0.77
17.461	23,630 bc	3.76	1.35	82	0.0104	0.0030	0.0401	0.0003	0.0008	0.6819	0.06
UR56.461	25,091 abc	3.51	1.17	54	0.0036	0.0016	0.1007	0.0019	0.0004	0.0218	0.87
15.461	22,966 c	3.07	1.21	41	0.0070	0.0017	0.0279	0.0011	0.0005	0.1306	0.59
9215.461	30,268 a	3.36	1.31	72	0.0071	0.0018	0.027	0.0013	0.0005	0.0706	0.72
924.461	25,489 abc	3.52	1.25	55	0.0045	0.0009	0.0131	0.0021	0.0002	0.0027	0.97
924.NG10	29,073 ab	3.33	1.33	62	0.0078	0.0035	0.115	0.0013	0.0010	0.3127	0.33
K5N.NG10	20,577 c	3.40	1.40	60	0.0056	0.0028	0.1408	0.0022	0.0008	0.0741	0.71

Diagram 7. Relationships between δ¹⁵N and %N for hybrids.

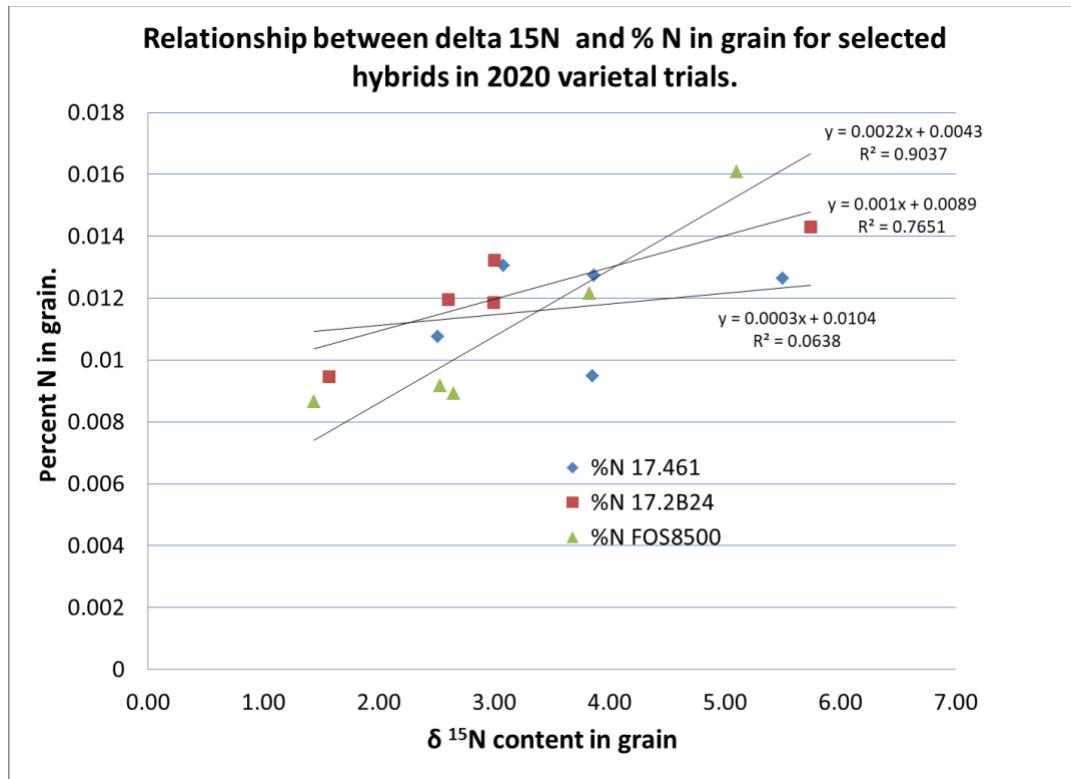


Table 35. Analysis of variance for stover parameters of the 2020 varietal trials, showing p values for significance and the % of the total SS associated with the different sources of variation.

		Parameter analyzed				
		DF	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	Stover yield	Stover N	%N
Source variation		Prob > F				
Pedigree	8	0.6759	0.0547	0.104	0.026	
$\delta^{15}\text{NAir} (\%)$	1		<.0001	<.0001	0.015	
plants/a	1	0.0332	0.8064	0.2501	0.145	
% of tot SS from Pedigree		54	28	30	21	
% of tot SS from $\delta^{15}\text{N}$			0.1	3	53	

Table 36. Effects of hybrids on stover yield and N content; varietal trials 2020.

hybrid	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	Stover yield	Stover N	N
	(%)	lbs/acre		%
FOS8500	1.66 a	7993 bc	59 abc	0.677 b
17.2B24	1.71 a	8029 abc	49 bc	0.601 b
17.461	2.53 a	10863 a	81 ab	0.677 b
UR65.641	1.81 a	8131 abc	58 abc	0.699 b
15.461	1.86 a	7994 bc	56 bc	0.675 b
9215.461	1.28 a	5758 c	32 c	0.596 b
924.461	2.40 a	7374 bc	59 abc	0.705 b
924.NG10	1.61 a	5282 c	30 c	0.646 b
K5N.NG10	2.86 a	9378 ab	93 a	0.979 a
data as % of FOS8500 control				
FOS8500	100	100	100	100
17.2B24	103	100	83	89
17.461	153	136	137	100
UR65.641	109	102	98	103
15.461	112	100	95	100
9215.461	77	72	54	88
924.461	144	92	101	104
924.NG10	97	66	51	96
K5N.NG10	172	117	158	145

Table 37. Results of an analysis of variance of grain composition analyzing pedigree, plants/acre, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, and plant density for varietal trials in 2020.

Source	DF	SS	F Ratio	Prob > F
Pedigree	8	159194	5.4968	<.0001
plant pop	1	14299	3.9498	0.0474
$\delta^{15}\text{NAir} (\text{\%})$	1	23844	6.5865	0.0106
mineral	13	190914	4.0567	<.0001
Pedigree*mineral	104	359411	0.9546	0.6062
%ss for pedigree		21		
%ss for delta 15N		3		
% ss for mineral		26		
% ss for pedigree x mineral		48		

Table 41 shows relative values for nutrient composition of grain based on an analysis of variance with pedigree, mineral, pedigree x mineral as main factors and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, and plant population density as covariates.

Mineral	Hybrid									ave Mand
	FOS8500	17.2B24	17.461	UR65.461	15.461	9215.461	924.461	924.NG10	K5N.NG10	
%C	99	100	105	102	101	94	101	95	107	101
%N	99	105	125	105	109	110	110	114	131	113
Ba	99	59	282	103	66	88	97	117	103	114
Ca	99	125	355	139	124	172	190	119	137	170
Cu	99	83	223	110	154	125	118	114	131	132
Fe	99	85	99	82	90	82	96	86	96	90
K	99	100	101	93	99	93	97	88	98	96
Mg	99	102	119	101	102	101	111	102	118	107
Mn	99	114	147	123	116	110	129	120	140	125
P 177	99	106	119	108	111	117	114	106	119	112
P 213	99	105	118	107	110	116	114	105	118	112
S 180	99	107	128	114	116	115	114	111	120	116
S 181	99	103	123	109	112	113	114	108	116	112
Zn	99	128	164	108	163	137	162	130	142	142
std error	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	
average	99	102	158	107	113	112	119	108	120	117
average min -C	99	102	162	108	113	114	120	109	121	119
ave.-C, P213, S181	99	101	169	108	114	114	122	110	121	120

Table 42. Analysis of variance table for stover composition results from 2020 variety trials.

Source	DF	%N	%C	Ca	Cu	Fe	K	Mg	Mn	P177	S180	Zn
		Prob > F										
Pedigree	8	0.1447	0.2744	0.3481	0.7573	0.6639	0.7175	0.0556	0.7191	0.3411	0.9059	0.8267
$\delta^{15}\text{NAir} (\text{\%})$	1	0.0147	0.088	0.8617	0.0246	0.5996	0.0072	<.0001	0.1036	0.0257	0.3492	0.0639
plants/a	1	0.0264	0.0237	0.0041	0.0055	0.7542	0.0005	0.0967	0.0582	0.4851	0.9111	0.7334
% of tot SS from Pedigree		53	55	49	26	94	19	36	44	61	78	53
% of tot SS from $\delta^{15}\text{N}$			26	16	0.2	28.7	4.5	28.9	58.1	23.4	35.4	21.4
rel with $\delta^{15}\text{N}$		positive	positive		positive		positive	negative	negative	negative	negative	negative

Table 43. LS mean values for stover composition results from 2020 variety trials.

Hybrid	%N	%C	Ca	Cu	Fe	K	Mg	Mn	P177	S180	Zn
concentration of minerals in µg/g											
FOS 8500	0.677	45.04	2176	4.88	259	11509	1871	42.5	2928	635	53.9
17.2B24	0.601	45.03	2721	3.72	229	11685	1954	41.3	2764	637	49.2
17.461	0.677	44.47	2551	4.80	228	13715	2099	37.1	3594	729	57.8
UR65.461	0.699	44.65	2599	4.59	248	11351	2346	44.6	3848	807	64.5
15.461	0.675	45.15	2349	4.87	163	11749	1880	39.8	3217	659	46.8
9215.461	0.596	45.20	2127	3.57	204	10128	2352	29.2	3103	752	48.5
924.461	0.705	44.70	2752	3.52	213	10333	2402	37.6	3310	757	49.0
924.NG10	0.646	44.66	2365	3.81	172	10797	2281	39.8	3709	821	59.2
K5N.NG10	0.979	44.69	2315	5.03	195	13771	2031	46.1	3703	845	52.4

Table 44. LS mean values for stover composition results from 2020 variety trials relative to the check.

Hybrid	%N	%C	Ca	Cu	Fe	K	Mg	Mn	P177	S180	Zn	ave min.
values in % of relevant FOS8500 check value.												
FOS 8500	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
17.2B24	89	100	125	76	89	102	104	97	94	100	91	97
17.461	100	99	117	98	88	119	112	87	123	115	107	107
UR56.461	103	99	119	94	96	99	125	105	131	127	120	112
15.461	100	100	108	100	63	102	100	93	110	104	87	97
9215.461	88	100	98	73	79	88	126	69	106	118	90	93
924.461	104	99	126	72	82	90	128	88	113	119	91	101
924.NG10	96	99	109	78	67	94	122	94	127	129	110	102
K5N.NG10	145	99	106	103	75	120	109	108	126	133	97	112
average Mand.	103	100	114	87	80	102	116	93	116	118	99	103

Table 45. Analysis of variance considering minerals as a factor. Hybrid trials 2020.

Source	DF	SS	F Ratio	Prob > F
Pedigree	8	16279.08	2.7484	0.0056
mineral	13	46246.32	4.8048	<.0001
Pedigree*mineral	104	43896.73	0.5701	0.9997
δ15NAir (%)	1	6911.476	9.335	0.0024
plants/a	1	3836.774	5.1822	0.0232

Table 46 shows least square values for the concentration of minerals in stover and grain relative to FOS8500 and the actual stover and grain yields.

Hybrid	Stover conc.		Grain conc.		Stover yield		Grain yield	
	% relative to FOS8500				lbs dm/acre			
FOS 8500	101	c	99	b	7,908	bcd	6,173	a
17.2B24	103	bc	102	b	7,987	bc	4,558	ab
17.461	107	bc	158	a	11,077	a	6,033	a
UR56.461	118	a	107	b	8,218	bc	4,400	ab
15.461	103	bc	113	b	7,941	bcd	4,241	ab
9215.461	102	bc	112	b	5,613	cd	3,759	b
924.461	103	bc	119	b	7,410	bcd	3,928	b
924.NG10	109	abc	108	b	5,144	d	3,464	b
K5N.NG10	111	ab	120	b	9,505	ab	5,293	ab

Table 47. Total mineral uptake by stover for different hybrids as a % of the FOS8500 check. 2020 variety trials.

Mineral	Hybrid										ave Mand
	FOS8500	17.2B24	17.461	UR65.461	15.461	9215.5	924.461	924.NG10	K5N.NG10		
% relative to FOS8500 based on LS means											
%C	101	102	99	100	103	98	97	96	102	99	
%N	101	96	109	113	106	116	106	116	149	114	
Ba	101	112	91	102	91	101	90	98	92	97	
Ca	101	126	115	121	106	128	109	117	98	115	
Cu	101	79	104	104	100	84	98	97	96	95	
Fe	101	116	99	125	92	93	105	88	95	102	
K	101	103	125	104	96	100	105	110	109	106	
Mg	101	109	103	126	108	115	114	114	108	112	
Mn	101	98	82	103	93	82	78	100	96	91	
P 177	101	97	115	130	115	104	97	119	125	113	
P 213	101	97	116	132	114	104	98	118	125	113	
S 180	101	106	113	134	113	120	122	124	130	120	
S 181	101	108	118	138	115	119	122	127	136	123	
Zn	101	94	106	119	90	83	88	101	95	97	
std error	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12		
average	101	103	107	118	103	103	102	109	111	107	
average min -C	101	103	107	119	103	104	102	110	112	108	
ave.-C, P213, S181	101	103	106	116	101	102	101	108	108	106	

Table 48. Analysis of variance for total mineral uptake in lbs/acre. Varietal trials, 2020.

Source	Nparm	DF	SS	F Ratio	Prob > F
Pedigree	8	8	115386	15.6	<.0001
mineral	13	13	20145	1.7	0.0617
Pedigree x mineral	104	104	26329	0.3	1.0000
plants/a	1	1	40691	44.1	<.0001
δ15N stalk	1	1	23579	25.6	<.0001
δ15N grain	1	1	10556	11.4	0.0008
%ss pedigree			49		
% ss ped x min			11		
%ss δ15N			9		

Table 49. Relative uptake of minerals for different hybrids using mineral as a factor In analysis.

Hybrid	%	
FOS 8500	103	c
17.2B24	101	cd
17.461	132	a
UR65.461	119	b
15.461	89	e
9215.461	101	cd
924.461	87	e
924.NG10	94	cde
K5N.NG10	91	de

Table 50. LS mean values for the hybrid x mineral interaction for uptake of minerals in grain and stover and grain + stover for varieties grown in 2020.

	Ba	Ca	Cu	Fe	K	Mg	Mn	P 177	P 213	S 180	S 182	Zn	N	C
Hybrid	uptake by grain in lbs/acre													
FOS 8500	0.0037	0.167	0.00629	0.182	25.6	6.7	0.026	18.3	18.5	5.75	6.20	0.122	72.9	2685
17.2B24	0.00075	0.145	0.00363	0.086	17.8	4.82	0.020	13.5	13.5	4.43	4.46	0.087	50.1	1940
17.461	0.01348	0.845	0.01611	0.151	24.2	7.56	0.038	20.1	20.1	7.04	7.21	0.158	81.7	2645
UR65.461	0.00166	0.172	0.00548	0.090	17.6	5.12	0.023	14.7	14.7	5.03	5.02	0.084	54.1	2041
15.461	0.00072	0.120	0.00532	0.077	14.4	3.84	0.016	11.3	11.3	3.82	3.88	0.087	41.5	1566
9215.461	0.00196	0.278	0.00773	0.141	22.7	6.38	0.027	19.9	19.9	6.10	6.45	0.131	72.1	2422
924.461	0.00219	0.253	0.00588	0.110	17.0	4.99	0.023	14.1	14.2	4.50	4.83	0.099	54.5	1884
924.NG10	0.00128	0.163	0.00554	0.102	18.7	5.46	0.024	15.5	15.6	5.17	5.33	0.095	62.5	2112
K5N.NG10	0.00107	0.146	0.00508	0.091	15.8	5.04	0.022	13.9	14.0	4.48	4.62	0.095	59.5	1815
average Mand.	0.00289	0.265	0.00685	0.106	18.5	5.40	0.024	15.4	15.4	5.07	5.22	0.105	59.5	2053

Table 52. Probabilities and percent allocation of sums of squares for analysis of variance of harvest indices with pedigree as a main factor and covariates.

Anova Factor	Ba	Ca	Cu	Fe	K	Mg	Mn	P 177	P 213	S 180	Zn	%N	%C	Average
Prob > F														
Pedigree	0.374	0.6678	0.7268	0.6629	0.7006	0.3621	0.8259	0.4198	0.3884	0.4208	0.3337	0.808	0.808	0.5768
δ15N grain	0.5358	0.4387	0.0174	0.0258	0.0274	<.0001	0.0049	0.0003	0.0003	<.0001	0.0125	0.0004	0.0004	0.0967
δ15N stalk	0.8673	0.5324	0.1289	0.1687	0.0368	0.0689	0.0652	0.0876	0.0856	0.0214	0.9051	0.0097	0.0097	0.2298
plants/a	0.1155	0.2157	0.2384	0.9156	0.0852	0.8699	0.4304	0.9854	0.9984	0.2931	0.5352	0.7804	0.7804	0.5572
SS% Pedigree	75	69	34	44	29	26	24	30	31	22	56	16	16	36
SS% δ15N	3	12	57	56	54	74	72	70	69	75	41	84	84	58
SS% Plants/a	22	19	9	0	17	0	4	0	0	3	2	0	0	6
rel with δ15N grain			positive											
rel. with δ15N stalk					negative									

Table 53. Results of manure and inoculation trials on three farms in 2018.

Grain yield for farms and hybrids on 3 farms in 2018.

Farm	Hybrid	group	bu/acre
S	FOS8507	a	174.4
S	C461.C2B4	b	124.3
B	FOS8507	b	135.7
B	C461.C2B4	c	95.1
C	FOS8507	d	59.6
C	C461.C2B4	d	57.6

Table 54. P level of significance or the effect of factors hybrid, parts (grain, stalk, roots) and the hybrid x part interaction for farm A in 2019.

Nutrient	hybrid	part	part x hybrid
%N	0.9154	<.0001	0.0005
%C	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
Ca	0.2898	<.0001	0.6168
Al 237.312	0.0871	<.0001	0.0995
Al 394.401	0.0902	<.0001	0.0876
Copper	0.219	0.0019	0.0655
Iron	0.6126	<.0001	0.7943
Potassium	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
Magnesium	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
Manganese	0.8388	<.0001	0.8011
P177.434	0.27	<.0001	0.0027
P213.62	0.309	<.0001	0.0026
S 180.669	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
S 181.972	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
Silicon	0.0667	0.0668	0.0319
Zinc	0.0339	0.0097	0.0369

Table 55. The relationship between hybrid and plant part on Anibas farm in 2019. Significant differences between hybrids for the same plant part are shown in bold print.

	%N	Ca	K	Mg	P 177	P 213	S 180	S 181
Corn,17.461	1.33 a	79 c	3769 e	1077 de	3170 a	3175 a	1047 b	1087 b
Corn,FOS 8500	1.11 b	72 c	3840 e	1003 e	2810 b	2816 b	891 c	890 c
Stalk,17.461	0.92 c	3446 a	14806 c	1941 b	1460 d	1446 d	700 e	762 d
Stalk,FOS 8500	1.03 bc	3390 a	17638 b	2140 a	1947 c	1936 c	874 cd	937 bc
Root,17.461	0.62 d	1553 b	10326 d	1157 d	325 e	326 e	726 de	797 cd
Root,FOS 8500	0.75 d	1407 b	26487 a	1701 c	502 e	469 e	1497 a	1607 a
	%C	Fe	Al 237	Al 394	Mn	Cu	Zn	Si
Corn,17.461	44.4 c	124 b	26 c	25 c	8.71 c	0.50 b	14.6 b	65 b
Corn,FOS 8500	43.9 d	154 b	26 c	26 c	7.82 c	0.56 b	11.0 b	61 b
Stalk,17.461	44.2 cd	343 a	144 bc	141 bc	46.64 a	10.67 ab	29.5 b	313 a
Stalk,FOS 8500	44.1 cd	341 a	132 bc	131 bc	48.30 a	12.37 ab	28.3 ab	101 b
Root,17.461	47.2 a	435 a	326 a	332 a	25.58 b	15.81 a	63.1 a	147 b
Root,FOS 8500	44.9 b	440 a	229 ab	235 ab	25.76 b	6.70 ab	23.4 b	169 b

Table 56. fertilization x hybrid x inoculate interaction grain yield in bu/a for the Weiss/Bauer farm in 2019.

Hybrid	Fertilization	Inoculate	LS Mean	
FOS8500	manure + N	none	194.9	a
FOS8500	manure + N	yes	163.4	bc
FOS8500	N	none	153.5	bcd
FOS8500	N	yes	176.5	b
17. 461	manure + N	none	138.0	cde
17. 461	manure + N	yes	134.7	de
17. 461	N	none	124.7	e
17. 461	N	yes	113.8	e