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Dear Cooperator,

Western New York Crop Management Association will be conducting our annual hybrid research trial in Western NY. We would like involvement from leading seed companies that our customers currently buy from. The protocol listed below was put together in a fashion that would ensure reliable, valuable and useful information to our clients and our cooperating seed companies.

HYBRIDS:

1. Three maturity day ranges; 88-95, 96-105, 106-112. The report will be presented in three maturity groups.

LOCATIONS:

- Four locations will be used in the trial.
- Clifton Springs (long season range only)
 - Curriers (short season and mid season)
 - Belfast (all three ranges)
 - Perry (all three ranges)

COOPERATORS:

1. Farms will plant when soil conditions are proper for good emergence.
2. Two fields will be used per farm, one lighter soil and one heavier soil. Soils will be consistent within the field.

PLANTING:

1. Three rows minimum per hybrid, per field will be planted starting with the short maturity zone on the left and working toward the later zone. After the first set is planted we will plant the second short maturity zone in close proximity to the ending point of the late maturity zone.
2. Planting no faster than 5 mph to ensure proper seed drop.
3. Medium round seeds are preferred. Planter box treatment will be used in planting.
4. Depth will be 1 ½ -2". The farmers' current fertilization and herbicide programs will be used on each farm.

HARVESTING:

1. Each maturity zone will be hand harvested when their average is approximately 30% dry matter on a whole plant basis.
2. Two 17 1/2' sections will be hand harvested per hybrid, per section (12 reps total), and then weighed on a 4 cell scale and averaged for yield.
3. Each hybrid will have 8 plants (4 from each 17 1/2' section) chopped with a chipper/shredder and a sample of this will then be vacuum sealed packed to allow fermentation (12 samples per hybrid).
4. No preservatives or inoculates will be used.

EVALUATION:

1. We will allow at least 28 days of fermentation before analyzing.
2. All samples per location (2 locations in each plot) will be run through the same InVitro bath together.
3. An independent lab using InVitro fermentation for analysis will evaluate all canisters.
 - a. Lignin, D-NDF, IVTD, DM & NDF will be evaluated.
4. Using milk 2000, milk/acre and milk/ton will also be reported.

REPORTING:

1. All information will be compiled as quickly as possible and a copy of the data will be available for each cooperating company as well as each cooperating farm.
2. Information will be available only after all samples are completed and will be available to all cooperators at the same time.

For each hybrid (6 plots with 2 reps per plot giving 12 separate yield and quality data points) the cost would be \$810.00. Also one unit (80000 kernels) per variety will be required.

Sign up period ends March 20. Please consider this proposal and call us if you have any questions or to confirm your cooperation in these trials.

Sincerely Yours,

David DeGolyer
Western New York Crop Management (585) 237-5831

| Hybrid | Day Length | \$810/ Hybrid | |
|--------|------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |

TOTAL