January 23, 2004

Dear Seedsmen:

Your company is invited to participate in the 2004 Ohio Corn Performance Test. The program provides farmers, seed corn companies, and university personnel with information on the relative performance of corn hybrids grown under Ohio conditions.

In response to a number of requests received from seed companies and corn growers, we will continue to evaluate hybrids by maturity in 2004. Entries will be divided into early and late maturity groups based on company provided relative maturity information. We hope that this will make Ohio Corn Performance Test information more useful to farmers and seed companies alike. For details on the protocol we will be using to conduct the corn hybrid trials, please see the PLANS AND GUIDELINES attached.

In addition to testing conventional corn hybrids, we would welcome an opportunity to evaluate new seed technologies (including specialty corns with value-added output and/or input traits) which you may be marketing or planning to market in Ohio. We recognize that evaluation of certain specialty corns, especially those with grain compositional changes, may require modification of testing procedures such as isolation to prevent pollen contamination. To this end, we would pleased to work with you to ensure that such products are tested properly.

Corn test results will be published as an insert in Ohio’s Country Journal. (Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science - Series 215). Individual location results for 2004 will be presented in this report in addition to two and three year averages. Results of past years can be viewed on our web site: www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~perf/.

Please list your entries on the attached entry form and return with fee payment to Richard Minyo by March 1, 2004 to ensure acceptance of your entries. Send seed no later than March 15, 2004. Please do not delay shipment of all the seed due to a delay of one or two hybrids.

We look forward to your participation in the Ohio Corn Performance Test in 2004. Please let us know if you have questions or need additional information concerning entry in the corn testing program. I can be reached at 614-292-2373 (FAX: 614-292-7162; email: thomison.1@osu.edu). Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Peter R. Thomison  
Associate Professor  
Corn Cropping Systems

Enclosures
OBJECTIVE:
To provide an unbiased source of information on corn hybrids currently available to Ohio farmers. We welcome all seed companies marketing seed corn in Ohio to participate in these trials.

TEST SITE LOCATIONS:
The 2004 Ohio Corn Performance Test will be conducted in three regional tests containing three sites each and two individual sites. See attached Ohio map for the projected location of each test. Regions were determined by general soil types and climatic differences. Each region may have high or moderate fertility and various tillage practices. The two individual sites have unique environments. The Coshocton location is in an area of high gray leaf spot incidence. The Piketon location is representative of river bottom fields in southern Ohio.

METHOD OF SELECTING ENTRIES:
Producers of seed corn available to Ohio farmers may submit an unlimited number of entries in the Ohio Corn Performance Test. To increase the usefulness of this information we encourage the entry of hybrids for more than one year. A hybrid will be entered in all three locations in a region. A fee of $250.00 per hybrid entry per region (three sites) will be charged for the regional tests. A fee of $100.00 per hybrid entry will be charged for each individual test site.

Experimental hybrids may be entered. Companies entering experimental hybrids will be notified of the hybrid performance before publication and given the option to include the data in publication. This decision must be made immediately to meet printing deadlines. Company representatives are responsible for the appropriate timely notification to the project manager of the commercial sales numbers assigned to experimental hybrids.

Please return the entry form, fee, and seed (five pounds per entry per region - two pounds per entry for the individual sites) as soon as possible to the address shown on the entry form. Deadline for entries is March 1, 2004 to ensure acceptance of entries. Seed should be sent no later than March 15, 2004.

PLOT DESIGN:
Hybrids will be planted in three or four replications per location using a randomized complete block design. Hybrids will be split into early and late maturity groups based on company provided relative maturity information. Each replication will consist of a four-row plot with the center two rows harvested. Plot rows will be 25 feet in length by 30 inches wide. Plots will not be thinned. A recommended seed drop is requested from the company for each hybrid entered. If not indicated on the entry form, the seed drop will be approximately 28,000 plants per acre. We urge careful consideration of the desired seed drop.

PRODUCTION PRACTICES:
Planting will be accomplished with a four-row air type planter. Plots at the high fertility sites will be fertilized to obtain optimum yield potential. Herbicides will be applied at all sites to control weed species present. A two row research combine will be utilized for harvest.

MEASUREMENTS AND RECORDS:
Notes and measurements will be taken on the following: yield, test weight, grain moisture, percent emergence, stalk lodging and final stand. Other data of value to farmers and/or seedsmen will be collected including grain quality and insect/ disease ratings when such pest injury becomes severe at a site.

PUBLICATION:
Final results will be published and available for public distribution as soon as the results are compiled. Results are published in booklet format by Ohio's Country Journal as "Ohio Corn, Soybean and Alfalfa Performance Trials." One, two and three year averages will be summarized for each region based on data from 2004, 2003 and 2002. Individual location results for 2004 and multi year averages for each site will also be included. Complete tables with single and multi year averages are available at our web site: www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~perf/. The testing program is subject to all university policies for establishing and conducting a fee testing program.

CORRESPONDENCE:
All correspondence pertaining to the Ohio Corn Performance Test should be sent to:
Richard J. Minyo, Manager OCPT
Department of Horticulture and Crop Science
Ohio State University/OARDC
1680 Madison Ave.
Wooster, OH 44691
Telephone: 330-202-3596
Fax: 330-263-3887
E-mail: minyo.1@osu.edu
**OHIO CORN PERFORMANCE TEST**
**2004**

**ENTRY FORM**
Send to: Richard Minyo, Manager OCPT  
Department of Horticulture and Crop Science  
OSU/OARDC  
1680 Madison Ave.  
Wooster, OH 44691  
Fax: 330-263-3887

ENTER BELOW THE DESIRED SEED DROP RATE FOR EACH HYBRID ENTERED IN THE SELECTED TEST LOCATIONS  
NOTE: EACH HYBRID ENTERED IN A REGIONAL TEST MUST BE INCLUDED AT ALL THREE LOCATIONS IN THAT REGION

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<td>ECON FERT</td>
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**LEGEND**
- **HIGH FERT** - High fertility  
- **ECON FERT** - Economic (moderate) fertility  
- **CONV TILL** - Conventional tillage  
- **RED TILL** - Reduced tillage or stale seedbed  
- **NO TILL** - No tillage
Please fill in completely for all hybrids entered.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HYBRID NUMBER</th>
<th>VALUE ADDED TRAITS*</th>
<th>FUNGICIDE SEED TREATMENT</th>
<th>INSECTICIDE SEED TREATMENT/RATE**</th>
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* VALUE ADDED TRAIT - Bt Corn Bore (BtCB), Bt Root Worm (BtRW), Clearfield (CL), Roundup Ready (RR), Nutritionally Enhanced, etc.
** INSECTICIDE SEED TREATMENT - Gaucho, Prescribe, Cruiser, Poncho, etc.
I have studied the plans and guidelines for the 2004 Ohio Corn Performance Test and agree to comply with same. I have been authorized by company officials as their representative to enter this test.

CORRESPONDENCE:  

SIGNATURE ____________________________  

COMPANY ____________________________  

NAME (print) ____________________________  

ADDRESS ____________________________  

TITLE ____________________________  

ADDRESS ____________________________  

COMPANY ____________________________  

SALES TELEPHONE NO. ____________________________  

ADDRESS ____________________________  

WEB SITE ____________________________  

TELEPHONE NO. ____________________________  

FAX NO. ____________________________  

E-MAIL ____________________________  

The ENTRY FEE is $250.00 per hybrid per REGION. (Three sites)  
The ENTRY FEE is $100.00 per hybrid per site for Coshocton and Pike. Please make check payable to: OSU/OARDC, CORN PERFORMANCE TEST  

COMMENTS:  
Please send entry form, fee, and seed as soon as possible.  
Deadline for entry form is March 1, 2004 to ensure acceptance of entries.  
Send 5 pounds of seed of each hybrid PER REGION and 2 pounds per hybrid PER SITE for Coshocton and Pike. (i.e.-if a hybrid is entered in the northwest region and Coshocton, send 7 pounds)