Management Considerations for Corn Silage Production

Syngenta is committed to sharing agronomic knowledge with livestock-producing customers to help them grow more corn silage and benefit their livestock operation. To help growers choose the best silage hybrids to meet the nutritional needs of dairy and beef operations, our agronomic research team provides silage hybrid ratings. These ratings are supported by analysis of approximately 790 Syngenta and third-party trial locations across nine years of research and by our knowledge and understanding of each hybrid's silage characteristics.

Hybrid Ratings Explanation

Silage samples collected at harvest undergo NIR (near-infrared spectroscopy) analysis by independent labs to derive the silage quality and digestibility data results. This data is then reviewed, along with our agronomic field knowledge of each hybrid, to assign each a silage quality rating within four categories: **Best**=best silage quality or yield content, relative to other hybrids; **Good**=good silage quality or yield content, relative to other hybrids; **Fair**=fair silage quality or yield content, relative to other hybrids; and **Poor**=poor silage quality or yield content, relative to other hybrids.

Silage Hybrid Management Considerations

- Select hybrids well-adapted for the geographic region using local performance data whenever possible.
- Understand that hybrid characteristics such as stay-green and increased starch digestibility are important for silage production.
- Select hybrids best fitting specific needs for yield and quality. When comparing hybrid ratings, it is recommended to compare ratings within a maturity group.
- Plant early to optimize crop utilization of water, nutrients and sunlight.
- Plant at populations equal to or up to 10% greater than corn for grain.
- Acknowledge soil nutrient removal for potassium and phosphorus will be higher for silage than grain production, due to the increased removal of crop residue.
- Target a whole-plant moisture content of 60-70% at harvest, depending on ensiling method, with higher moistures best suited for storage in a bunker or pile.

NK® Corn Silage Hybrid Ratings

NK Hybrid Series	Relative Maturity (RM)	Yield (tons/Acre)	Protein	NDF	NDFD	Starch	Fat	TDN	Feed Effect On				
									NEL	Milk/Ton	Milk/Acre	Beef/Ton	Beef/Acre
NK7837	78	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	-	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair
NK8005	80	Fair	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK8204	82	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK8519	85	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK8618	86	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
NK8760	87	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK8881	88	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	-	Good	-	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK8920	89	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK9023	90	Good	Best	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	Good
NK9175	91	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK9227	92	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK9231	92	Best	Good	Best	Good	Best	Good	Best	Best	Best	Good	Best	Good
NK9347	93	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK9468	94	Fair	Best	Best	Good	Best	Best	Best	Best	Good	Fair	Best	Fair
NK9535	95	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK9653	96	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK9738	97	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK9930	99	Good	Best	Fair	Good	Fair	Best	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair
NK9991	99	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK0007	100	Fair	Good	Best	Good	Best	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best
NK0243	102	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best	Best	Best	Good	Best	Good
NK0314	103	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK0440	104	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK0472	104	Good	Best	Poor	Good	Fair	Best	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair
NK0624	106	Fair	Good	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK0696	106	Best	Best	Best	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK0748	107	Best	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best	Best
NK0760	107	Best	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK0821	108	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK0877	108	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good
NK0886	108	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
NK0962	109	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1026	110	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good
NK1082	110	Good	Fair	Best	Good	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1188	111	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good
NK1205	112	Best	Good	Poor	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1239	112	Best	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good
NK1321	113	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1349	113	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1354	113	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK1364	113	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Good	Best	Fair
NK1452	114	Good	Fair	Best	Good	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
NK1460	114	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1523	115	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Best	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good
NK1573	115	Best	Good	Best	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1661	116	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1677	116	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK1694	116	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best	Good	Good
NK1701	117	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
NK1748	117	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK1755	117	Good	Best	Fair	Best	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	Best	Best	Best
NK1808	118	Good	Best	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK1822	118	Fair	Good	Best	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1838	118	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1860	118	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best
NK1822	118	Fair	Good	Best	Best	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
NK1860	118	Best	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Best	Good	Best

Corn Silage Hybrid Ratings Chart Key: Best · Good · Fair · Poor · Insufficient Data

NOTE: These ratings should not be used to estimate actual production per animal, but instead they should be used to determine relative overall silage quality and yield potential.

Yield Calculated on a per acre basis and adjusted to standard moisture.

Crude Protein (CP) Indicates the percent content of this important feed component relative to other hybrids.

Neutral Detergent Fiber Digestibility 48 Hour Estimates the ruminant digestibility of the NDF fraction.

Fat Indicates the percent content of this important feed component relative to other hybrids.

Starch Indicates the percent content of this important feed component.

Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN) Describes the energy content of feeds as the sum of the digestibility of different nutrients.

Net Energy Lactation (NEL) Feed effect on net energy for lactating cows based on acid detergent fiber (ADF).

Milk/Ton An estimate of forage quality driven by starch content, starch digestibility and NDF; **Milk/A** Combines the estimate of forage quality (Milk/Ton) and yield (Tons/A) into a single term.**

Beef/Ton A proprietary estimate of forage quality driven by TDN; **Beef/A** Combines the estimate of forage quality (Beef/Ton) and yield(Tons/A) into a single term.

** *Milk: Combining Yield and Quality into a Single Term, https://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/files/2016/11/Milk-2016-Combining-Yield-and-Quality-into-a-Single-Term-2.pdf*

For more information about NK Corn hybrids, contact your NK retailer or visit **www.nkseeds.com**