

Agronomic & Test Information:
Ellis County (Bardwell), TX Confectionary Hybrid Sunflower Trial, 2011

TEST:	2011 Rainfed Confectionary Sunflower Hybrid Trial
LOCATION:	Near Bardwell, Ellis Co., Texas
COOPERATORS:	Bob & Steven Beakley
TEST COORDINATORS:	Mr. Dennis Pietsch, Texas AgriLife Research Crop Testing Program, College Station; Mr. Glen Moore, Ellis-Navarro Co. Extension IPM agent; Dr. Calvin Trostle, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agronomist, Lubbock
SOIL TYPE:	Houston black clay
ROW WIDTH:	30"
PREVIOUS CROP:	Wheat
LAND PREPARATION:	Limited tillage (disk and field cultivator)
DATE PLANTED:	March 11, 2011
SEEDING RATE:	Overplanted at ~25,000 seeds/A then thinned to about 1 plant per foot (17,000 plants/A); all doubles were thinned to singles
PLANTED AREA:	4 rows x 30'
FERTILIZER:	7 gallons/A of 6-24-6 with a pint of zinc in furrow at planting, then sidedressed with 225 lbs./A of 32-0-0 after emergence (total N-P-K per acre, 77-19-5)
HERBICIDE:	1.2 pints/A Dual Magnum
INSECTICIDE:	Cobalt, 24 oz./A, first spray at ~10% bloom, second spray ~6 days later.
RAINFALL:	January = 3.5"; February = 2.5"; March = 0.2"; April = 2.9"; May = 2.7"; June = 2.2"; July = 0.0"; Total = 14.0" (subsoil moisture adequate at planting)
IRRIGATION:	None

DATE HARVESTED: July 18, 2011 (by hand, then threshed next day with stationary thresher)

SIZE HARVESTED PLOT: Two 30" rows X 17' 4"

TEST DESIGN: Randomized block (by rep)

NUMBER ENTRIES: 10

NUMBER REPLICATIONS: 4

TEST MEAN: 1,703 lbs./A yield (corrected to 10% moisture) with 37.4% large seed (see note below, and an average crop value of \$473/acre.

TEST YIELD C.V.: 10.1%

COMMENTS: Overall the in-season production conditions were dry to droughty with substantial heat, however, sunflower actually yielded comparable to the previous year's confection yield which was 1,543 lbs./A (March-July rainfall 12.0"). In this test 6" of rainfall in January & February would have stored significant soil moisture for the cropping season.

Sunflower head moth control was very good with little to no webbing on the heads at season's end. The test was sprayed two times with Cobalt as part of the standard spraying of the surrounding field.

Samples in this test ranged from 16 to 72% large seed ($\geq 20/64$ "). Test plot samples will be re-screened to ensure first measures were accurate.

An adjacent oilseed sunflower hybrid trial (11 hybrids) yielded 1,725 lbs./A with average crop value \$492/A before oil premium was calculated.

For further information about this report or for the Texas AgriLife Research Crop Testing Program, contact Mr. Dennis Pietsch, Crop Testing director, Texas AgriLife Research, College Station, TX, (979) 845-8505, dpietsch@ag.tamu.edu

For further information about sunflower production in Texas, contact Dr. Calvin Trostle, extension agronomist, Lubbock, (806) 746-6101, ctrostle@ag.tamu.edu or visit <http://lubbock.tamu.edu/sunflower>

Please visit the Texas AgriLife Crop Testing Program webpage at <http://varietytesting.tamu.edu>