



Agronomic & Test Information:
Etter, Moore Co., TX Confectionary Hybrid Sunflower Trial, 2011

TEST:	2011 Irrigated Confectionary Sunflower Hybrid Trial
LOCATION:	Texas AgriLife Research North Plains Research Field, Etter, Texas (Moore County, 9 miles north of Dumas)
TEST COORDINATORS:	Dr. Calvin Trostle, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agronomist, and Mr. Sean Wallace, Extension assistant, Lubbock; Mr. Dennis Pietsch, Texas AgriLife Research Crop Testing Program, College Station
SOIL TYPE:	Sherm clay loam
ROW WIDTH:	30"
PREVIOUS CROP:	Grain sorghum
LAND PREPARATION:	Field cultivator, rolling cultivator (for listing)
DATE PLANTED:	June 23, 2011
SEEDING RATE:	Overplanted at ~26,000 seeds/A then thinned in mid July (4-6" tall) to about 1.1 plants per foot; all doubles were thinned to singles.
PLANTED AREA:	4 rows x 25'
FERTILIZER:	100 N—30 P ₂ O ₅ —0 K ₂ O, applied pre-plant
HERBICIDE:	Treflan (pre-plant), Spartan Charge (pre-emerge)
INSECTICIDE:	Two sprays with Warrior at the full rate (Aug. 19 & 25) by airplane (carrier volume 3.5 gal/A).
RAINFALL:	June = 0.0"; July = 0.5"; August = 1.2"; September = 1.0"; Total = 2.7"
IRRIGATION:	One pre-plant irrigation (7") plus four furrow irrigations averaging ~5" each; 27" total.

DATE HARVESTED: October 21, 2011 (by hand, then threshed with stationary thresher in November)

SIZE HARVESTED PLOT: Two 40" rows X 22' (65 square ft.)

TEST DESIGN: Randomized block (by rep)

NUMBER ENTRIES: 12

NUMBER REPLICATIONS: 4

TEST MEAN: 2,398 lbs./A yield (corrected to 10% moisture) with average 86.4% seed >20/64". Average crop value = \$775/A.

TEST YIELD C.V.: 16.0%

COMMENTS: The trial was fenced after planting to protect from jack and cottontail rabbits. Sunflower head moth control was good with little to no *Rhizopus* development. Additional hand hoeing was needed to control pigweed.

This was a record drought in 2011 for West Texas. Total 2011 rainfall at the Etter Station was 6.2", the driest ever recorded (average is 18"). The test was irrigated heavily, including a 7" preplant irrigation. Statistical analysis separated out major differences among hybrids in yield (range 1,660 to 2,986 lbs./A) and in seed size for >20/64" (75 to 95%).

With an increasing number of Clearfield herbicide tolerant hybrids comparisons can be made between Clearfield and conventional. In this test, Clearfield averaged 200 lbs./A less than conventional (not significantly different overall, producers may review good performers within each type) with similar seed sizing.

An adjacent oilseed sunflower hybrid trial (26 hybrids) yielded 2,230 lbs./A (average 41.3% oil content) with an average crop value of \$640/A.

For further information about this report or for 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>

For further information about 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

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