



TIPS FOR PRODUCING HIGH-YIELDING CORN CROPS

Hybrid selection is a critical factor in producing a successful corn crop:

- Grain – high yield, quick fall drydown
- Silage – heat units to silk and maturity, high dry matter yield and percent starch content
- Grazing – excellent ear development along with good root and stalk strength scores for improved standability for fall/winter grazing

Field Preparation:

- Strip till or conventional till encouraged to increase soil temperatures
ideal soil temp = 10°C

Fertility:

- 120 bu/ac grain (15 ton/ac silage) requires:
 - 120 N – 55 P – 120 K – 22 S
- Per Ton of wet silage: 8 lbs N, 3.5 lbs P, 8 lbs K
- N and K₂O need a 2" x 2" separation from seed and fertilizer band

Planting:

- Target 30,000-34,000 seeds/ac
- Uniform depth of 1.5-2 inches; good seed to soil contact = even stand

Weed Control:

- Yield is lost if weeds are not controlled early in corn
 - Critical weed free period = VE-V4 (emergence to 6 leaf stage*)
- Use Sortan™ IS herbicide for early season weed control incl. vol canola (not including Clearfield® canola), for optimum performance tank-mix Sortan IS + Glyphosate

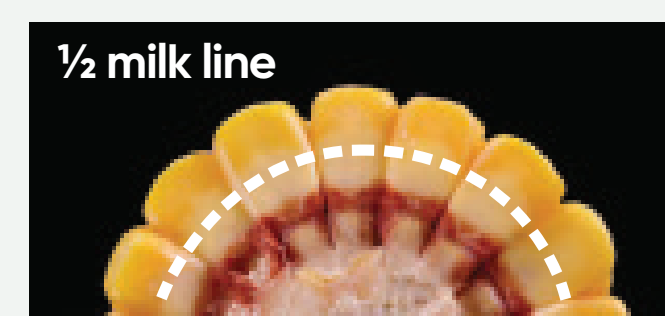
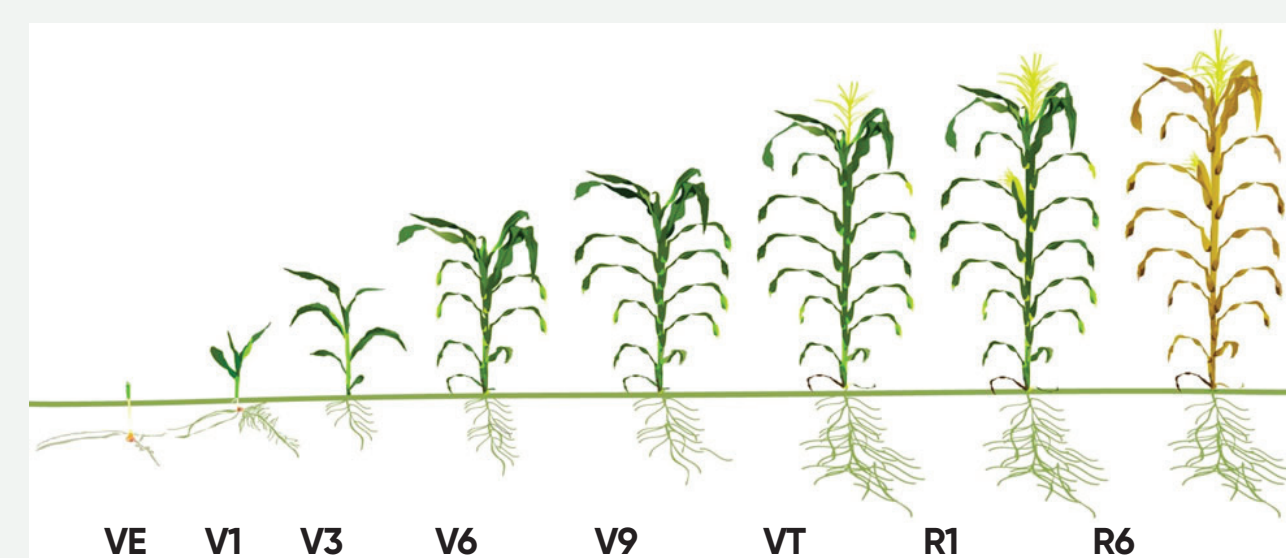
Harvest:

- Grain – start harvest at 22-25%, dry down to 15% moisture
- Silage – target late September at 50% milk line (65% whole plant moisture)
- Grazing – target 50% milk line at first killing frost
 - Monitor your grazing paddock on corn to limit risk of over feeding corn. If corn is at black layer at first killing frost may need to add supplemental roughage to minimize risk of acidosis.

*Corn leaf stages can vary depending on both growing conditions and corn product

Corn Growth Stages

Vegetative Stages	Reproductive Stages
VE = emergence	R1 = silking
V1 = first leaf collar	R2 = blister
V2 = second leaf collar	R3 = milk
V3 = third leaf collar	R4 = dough
V(n) = nth leaf collar	R5 = dent5
VT = tasseling	R6 = maturity



Milk line

A "milk" line forms, creating a separation between hard starch and soft starch. It forms at the crown of the kernel and progresses toward the base, or kernel tip, which usually takes around three to four weeks. The total time for this movement is related to temperature, moisture availability, and hybrid genetics. The milk line generally is referred to as 1/4 milk line, 1/2 milk line, or 3/4 milk line as it moves toward the cob.