The corn and soybean variety testing programs administered by Iowa State University and the Iowa Crop Improvement Association have now been merged into a single program.

**Background**

Seed companies from Iowa and surrounding states are eligible to submit corn and soybean entries into our tests. Those who do so pay a nominal fee for our testing expenses. Public breeding programs from land grant institutions are eligible to submit entries at a reduced charge. Entries may be submitted for public or private testing. Data from public entries are published and made freely available in print and online, while data from private entries are returned to the applicant only.

Our data are used by growers as a source of information when choosing which varieties to plant in the upcoming season. Seed companies use our data as a source of information for advertising and marketing decisions.

**Web site**

Our new web site is undergoing continual information updates and content upgrades to provide users access to our data and related links. The site is accessible from the Iowa Crop Improvement Association homepage and the Iowa State University Agronomy Extension home page. Visit the site at [http://www.croptesting.iastate.edu](http://www.croptesting.iastate.edu).

**Summary**

There are many changes being made to the ISU/ICIA Crop Performance Tests—Corn and Soybeans. If you are in the seed business you need to visit our web site to see for yourself what we’re up to. If you grow corn or soybeans, you could be losing potential profit if you’re not examining the broad range of germplasm available to you. If you sell seed in Iowa you should seriously consider the exposure our testing program can provide. On the corn side alone, over the past 10 years we have had an average of 62 participating companies entering 531 different hybrids. Since hybrids can be entered in multiple districts, we’ve tested on average over 1,100 corn entries each year.

We provide direct, unbiased comparisons among a large number of corn hybrids and soybean varieties, in a number of different environments. Data will be posted online within 48 hours of harvest, giving you an early look at test results. There is no other way to get this type of high quality plot management, statistical integrity, and timely access to information backed by an 80-year history of testing, and the credibility of the Iowa Crop Improvement Association, Iowa State University Extension and Iowa State University.

**Changes for 2006**

**Soybeans**
- Split-maturity tests in each district
- Limited entries per test
- Testing options for SCN levels
- SCN repro index (growth chamber)
- Yield and yield % of mean
- 4 replications per location
- 4 locations per district
- 30-inch rows
- 20-foot, 4-row plots
- Single-location data
- District means
- 2-year means
- Lodging score
- Maturity dates
- Protein and oil content (NIR)
- Iron chlorosis screening

**Corn**
- New district lines
- Limited entries per test
- Split-maturity tests
- Entries in common between tests
- 4 replications per location
- 4 locations per district
- 20-foot, 4-row plots
- Single-location data
- District means
- 2-year means
- Multi-district means
- Yield and yield % of mean
- Moisture and moisture % of mean
- GMO trait / seed treatment info
- Lodging data
- Stand counts
- Show plots

**For additional information:**

Jim Rouse, Ph.D.
Program Coordinator
Iowa State University
2104G Agronomy Hall, Ames, IA 50011
(515) 294-5604 • croptesting@iastate.edu