

Agronomy Advice

<http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu>

August 2005
Field Crops 28.424-40

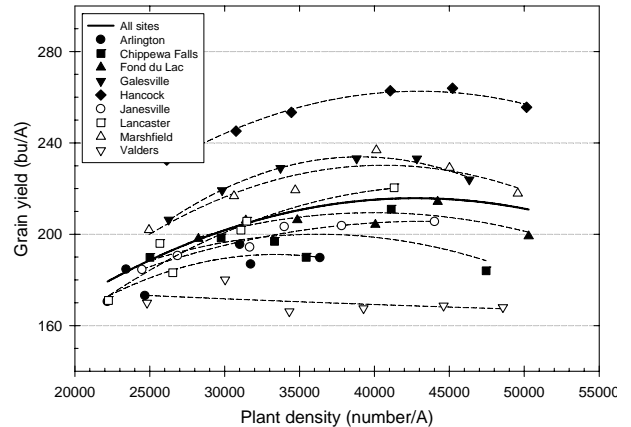
Plant Densities for Corn Grain and Silage: An Update

Joe Lauer, *Corn Agronomist*

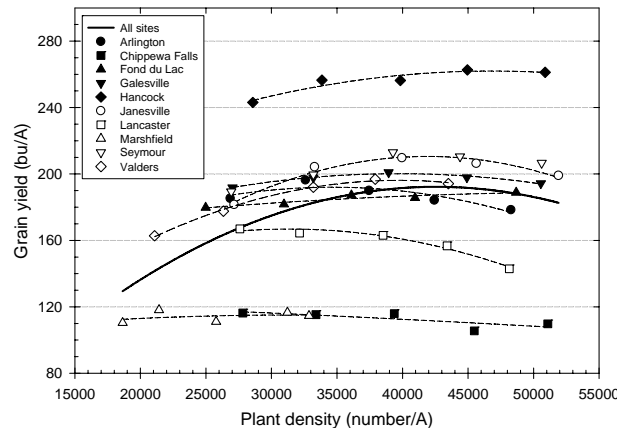
Summary

- Current plant density recommendations for corn **grain** production are 26,000 to 30,000 harvested plants/A.
- Current recommendations for corn **silage** are 2,000 to 3,000 plants/A greater than the density planted for grain.
- Compared to 30-inch rows, plant density of corn grown in row widths 36- to 38-inches should be decreased 2,000 plants/A. Plant density of corn grown in row widths 15- to 20-inches should be increased 2,000 plants/A.
- Optimum plant density of current hybrids appears to be greater than current recommendations.
- Response to plant density is likely field and hybrid specific.
- Suggest and encourage trying slightly higher plant densities on your farm in the range of 30,000 to 34,000 plants/A.

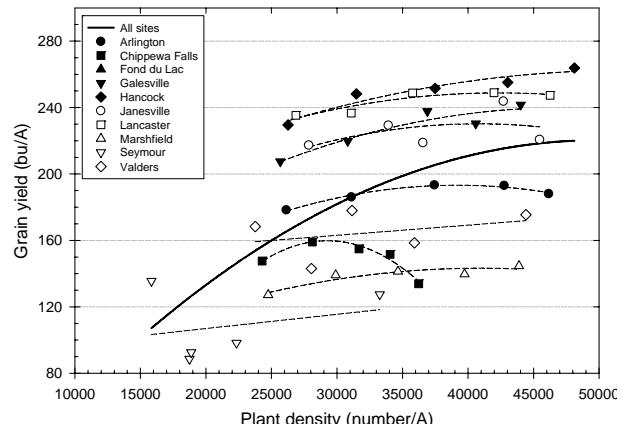
Corn response to plant density during 2002 in Wisconsin

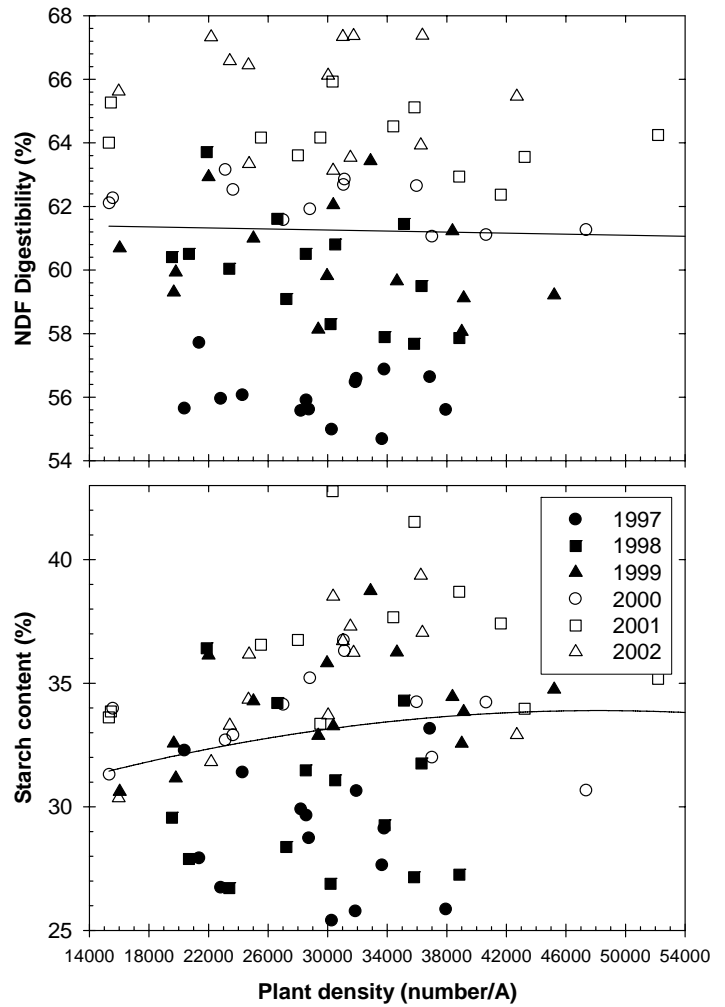
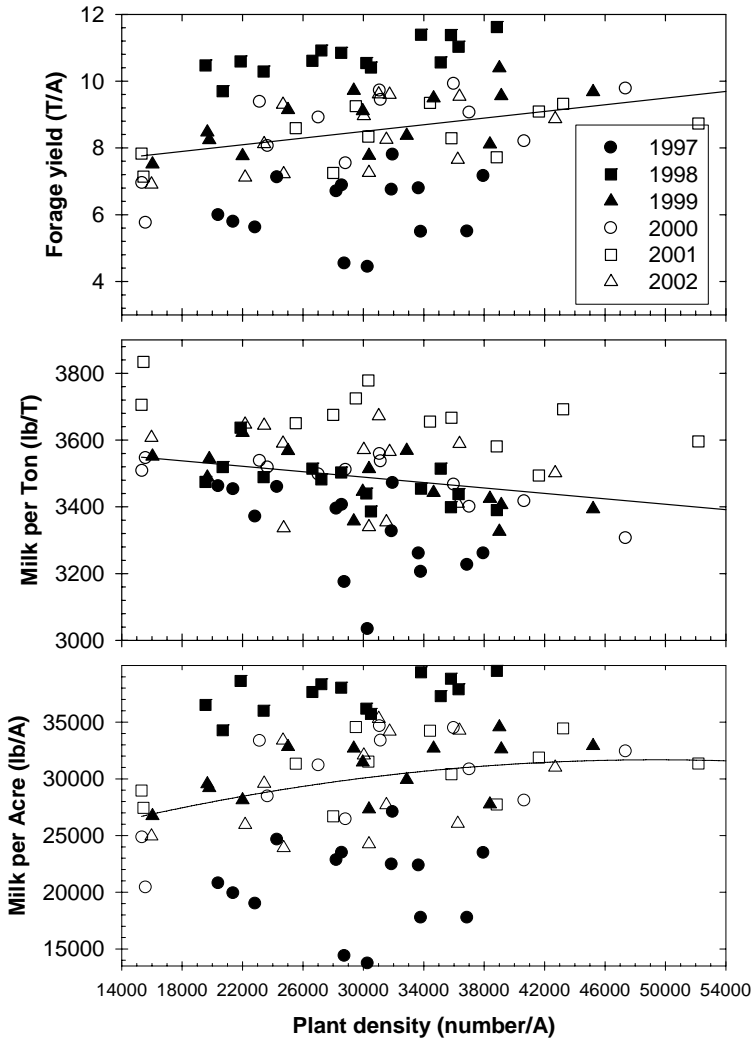


Corn response to plant density during 2003 in Wisconsin



Corn response to plant density during 2004 in Wisconsin





**Corn forage yield and quality response to plant density at Arlington.
Each point is the treatment mean of 3 to 4 replications.**