JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE
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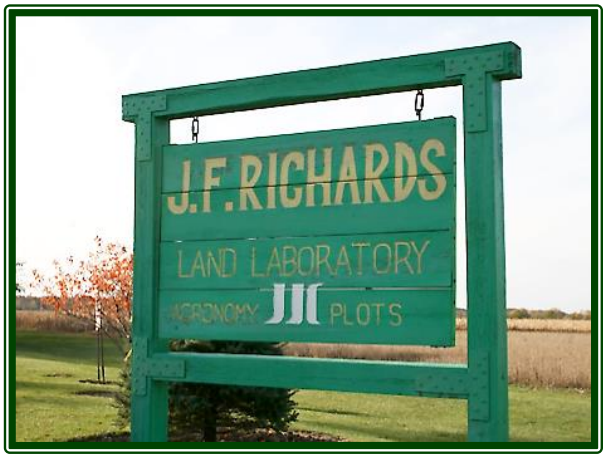
J.F. Richards Land Laboratory

Demonstration & Research Guide

2014



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many people have contributed numerous resources to the J.F. Richards Land Lab Demonstration and Research Farm during the 2014 growing season. A few of those resources included equipment, seed, expertise and chemicals to help the farm throughout the year. These people are listed on page 4. On behalf of Joliet Junior College, I would like to thank these people and their companies for supporting the Joliet Junior College Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences Department through their generous donations.

I would like to give extra thanks to Dr. Judy Mitchell, vice president of administrative services, Janice Reedus, director business and auxiliary services, Dr. Peter Linden, dean of career and technical education, and of course the entire Agriculture Department staff for all of their input and continued support of the research conducted at Joliet Junior College for the benefit of the students.

INTRODUCTION

J.F. Richards Land Lab

The Joliet Junior College Demonstration and Research Farm began its operations in 1983 thanks to a generous land donation by the Richards Family. The Richards family previously owned the land that is now Joliet Junior College's Main Campus. The main objective of the farm is to provide an instructional setting for students to use during their research and classes; to demonstrate crop response to various farming practices giving students a first-hand observation of crop growth and development; and to provide unbiased, sound agronomic research information to crop producers and contributors.

Both faculty and students use the land lab for educational purposes. Students experience all aspects of production farming and apply it to their classroom settings. The students also work with their instructors to assist in management decisions of the farm. All agriculture classes use different aspects of the farm to enhance their studies in the classroom. Students enrolled in Joliet Junior College's soil and fertility class will study soil types and fertility levels. Crops classes look at cropping systems, yield calculations and plant growth development. Crop Protection classes look at disease, insect and weed pressure. Marketing students will use crop yields and prices to market grain. Mechanics students will learn the proper operation and adjustment of machinery to maximize equipment use and efficiency.

The Demonstration and Research Farm consists of 98 acres on the Main Campus and 14 acres at the Weitendorf Agricultural Education Center (WAEC) with 77 acres of corn and 33 acres of soybeans in 2014. Despite continued pressure from the massive deer population, we had corn yields that averaged 201 bushels/acre and soybeans 60 bushels/acre across the entire farm. The small oat demonstration averaged just over 100 bushels/acre.

CONTRIBUTORS 2014

Alyssa Abbott, Wayne Walz	Dupont/Pioneer, Corn, Soybeans, Wheat
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AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

A complete list of faculty and staff in the Agriculture and Horticulture Sciences Department at Joliet Junior College

Brad Angus	Animal Science/Business, Department Chair
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2014 WEATHER AT JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE

The growing season started off very wet in the Joliet area. Because of the soil type we have at the J.F. Richards Land Lab, we applied all of the chemicals and some of the nitrogen on April 18, and started planting corn on April 23.

A lot of the no-till ground was very wet and cold with all the trash from the year before. We had a lot of trouble planting and getting the trench to close after the planter. Luckily, we had plenty of moisture to close that up and get good stands of both corn and soybeans on the farm.

There was a total of four days that exceeded 90 degrees this year. A total of 33 inches of rain occurred during the growing season with a total of over 47 inches for the year. Needless to say, very little if any stress was observed in 2014 except by the operator. As seen by the moisture at harvest, there was not an excess of growing degree days this year.

Monthly Moisture Recorded for 2014

January	2.3	July	4.4
February	2.1	August	10.1
March	2.5	September	4.8
April	4.1	October	3.7
May	4.3	November	1.5
June	6.0	December	2.0
Normal Year	**36”**	**Total 2014**	**47.8”**

CONTINUOUS CORN PRODUCTION AND LEAF APPLICATION

The continuous corn plot took on a new twist this year at JJC with the fall application of leaves in different tonnages. Also, the total amount of nitrogen applied to the land to demonstrate the carbon effect on the corn plant. The plot received 30-75-75 fertilizer in the fall of 2013. Different tonnages of leaves were applied and chisel-plowed. The plot was spring field cultivated, 100# of nitrogen with harness and cultivated a second time. One area received 75# and another 100# of nitrogen as side-dressed on June 16. The plot was weed free at harvest. As can be seen from the results, high volumes of non-composted leaves despite working them into the soil can have a negative effect on the corn plant, specifically the carbon/nitrogen ratio in the soil. Will try this experiment again in 2015 with the following actions; a more composted leaf, a little less volume, no-till and a little more nitrogen placed in the soil instead of on top of the soil. Will use starter on the planter, higher side-dress rates and five and 10 leaf tonnages.

Results

10 tons	175# nitrogen	22%	199.08
20 tons	175# nitrogen	21%	169.71
20 tons	200# nitrogen	22%	196.17
30 tons	175# nitrogen	20%	127.90
30 tons	200# nitrogen	20%	131.60

CORN HYBRIDS VARIETY PLOTS-2014

We had 61 entries and checks in the Joliet Junior College demonstration plot in 2014. The corn was planted at the rate of 35,000 seeds per acre with a Kinze 3000 No-Till planter into Soybean stubble on May 8 and 9. The total nitrogen applied at pre-plant was 100#, 75# pounds/acre was applied in early June. The high was 280 bu.ac and the low was 171 bu./ac. The check used was Golden Harvest.

Variety: G12J11 3011A

VARIETY	MOISTURE	YIELD	VARIETY	MOISTURE	YIELD
CHECK	24	197.10	Golden Har. G13U53	26	203.82
Pioneer 0987 AMX	23	209.10	Dairyland DS9210	25	201.89
Pioneer P1142 AMX	24	227.36	Dairyland DS9212	24	225.97
Pioneer P1257	23	264.26	Dairyland DS9311	26	207.87
Pioneer P1352 AMXT	25	254.20	Dairyland DS9713	26	219.72
Dekalb 60-67 RIB	24	280.21	Becks 5828 AMX	22	232.79
Dekalb 64-87 RIB	25	259.17	Becks 5509	24	225.54
Renk RK791 SSTX	21	267.10	Becks 6175	21	215.53
Renk RK860 VT3P	23	252.61	Phoenix 5552	24	214.62
Renk RK922 SSTX	28	247.60	Check	26	232.59
Renk RK935 SSTX	27	266.07	Pfister 3366RA	26	217.82
Check	25	234.31	Pfister 2270RAB	27	212.19
Great Lakes 6087RIB	21	226.79	Pfister 2574 RA	24	208.69
Great Lakes 5688RIB	20	210.33	Pfister 2672 RA	26	193.58
Great Lakes 5918RIB	21	205.69	Pfister 2524 RA	26	189.29
LG 5579 RIB	23	209.11	Sun Prairie 2738RIB	27	199.06
LG 5591 RIB	24	226.33	Sun Prairie 2640RIB	24	193.88
LG 5612 STX	23	221.84	Sun Prairie 2488GSS	24	205.86
LG 5612 STX	24	181.55	Check	27	190.11
Golden Har. G03W95	20	208.38	Burrus 6F74 AMX	26	171.93
Golden Har. G10D98	24	179.51	Burrus 4J49 AMX	26	171.99
Golden Har. G11U58	25	173.35	Agri-Gold A6499RIB	26	194.67
Check	26	204.86	Agri-Gold A6442RIB	26	183.12

Continued on next page

Corn varieties continued

VARIETY	MOISTURE	YIELD		
Agri-Gold A6472RIB	22	197.68		
Wyffels 6628RIB	23	204.82	CHECK AVERAGE	210.42BPA
Check	24	208.33	PLOT AVERAGE	215.48BPA
Wyffels 5138RIB	24	238.12		
Wyffels 6487RIB	20	242.87		
Wyffels 7718RIB	23	229.64		
Wyffels 78888RIB	22	218.68		
Channel 209-53STX	20	229.81		
Check	23	222.16		
Channel 210-95RIB	20	243.46		
Channel 209-46RIB	21	249.28		
Channel 211-35RIB	23	198.66		
Channel 211-24RIB	22	251.84		

The entire plot was weed free this year. The plot showed no effects from disease or wind damage with all plants standing perfect throughout the entire field. All figures came from a four row sample that averaged between 400 and 600 feet long with each of the four rows measured within 1 foot of actual length. All the land received an application of 30-75-75 in the Fall of 2013 along with 10 tons of leaves. Plans for 2015 include the use of some starter fertilizer at planting and higher side-dress rates, and we will try to plant in excess of 90 varieties and checks. I had to turn many away this year due to lack of space.

CORN ROOTWORM

Corn rootworms are one of the biggest pests to corn producers in the Midwest today and in the foreseeable future. The following results were seen.

Treatments and Trials

Previous Crop:	Corn
Hybrid:	Burris 6F71 {control} Burris 6F74 {crw}
Tillage:	No-till, chopped stalks
Insecticide:	Varies
Herbicide:	Harness/Roundup
Planted:	5/22/14
Harvest:	10/27/14
Nitrogen:	100# pre-plant with Harness/ Roundup, 75# Side-Dressed on 6/16/14

Results

Treatment:	Yield Bu./Ac.
Burris 6F71 No Insect.	162.32
Burris 6F71 Fortress Ins.	155.20
Burris 6F71 Force Ins.	158.46
Burris 6F74 No Insect.	137.61
Burris 6F74 Fortress Ins.	142.83
Burris 6F74 Force Ins.	150.27
Burris 6F74 No Insect.	152.64

Summary

There was very little damage observed with the crop this year despite being corn on corn. Deer ate all the headlands on the west end of the plot. We took the middle 16 rows of each 32 row trial for the results. The harvest was completed on 10/27/14. Too much water was the biggest problem with loss of nitrogen. We will try again next year.

VARIOUS TILLAGE AND VARIOUS PLANTING DATES: CORN

There are a lot of different types of tillage operations that can be performed on Midwest soils. That combined with various planting dates are tried in this demonstration plot every year.

Treatments

Previous Crop: Soybeans

Hybrid: Renk RK752 SSTX

3 tillage and 3 planting dates

Planted 4/23, 5/11, 5/28

Harvest Date: 10/18/14, 10/24/14, 10/28/14

Rotary hoed plot two times to help with emergence.

Results

Date	Yield Bu./Ac.		
Planting	No-till	Chisel	Disked
Early	257.85	275.70	273.74
Normal	235.06	253.39	251.08
Late	237.42	252.19	240.25

Summary

This year, the early corn did out yield the later planted corn and the ground that was worked substantially out yielded the areas that received no tillage. There was also a few weeds in the no-till areas as well. 16 rows were harvested out of a total of 24 rows in each test to get the results for each practice and planting date. This plot will be in soybeans in 2015.

SOYBEAN VARIETIES

Variety plots are always a highlight of any demonstration farm. This year there was a total of 30 soybean varieties, all planted in 30 inch rows, and as no-till into corn stalks. All were harvested on October 26 at 12% moisture. All soybeans were harvested by a John Deere 6600 combine and a 13 foot grain platform. The plot was weed free but had a lot of SDS through-out.

Results

Variety	Yield
Burrus 28V2	63.82
Burrus 25G3	56.99
Pioneer P25T51R	59.04
Pioneer P28T33R	64.49
Renk RS283NR2	61.04
Renk RS314NR2	62.13
Pfister 28R21	60.62
Pfister 29R25	64.43
LG C3070R2	55.72
LG C2744R2	62.31
Asgrow AG2632	65.77
Asgrow AG2933	55.11
Becks 294NR	49.91
Becks 312R4	49.60
Sun Prairie 28R22	58.08
Sun Prairie 29R23	65.52
Dairyland DSR3216	54.02
Dairyland DSR3313	43.15
Dairyland DSR2909	44.48
Dairyland DSR3040	44.42

Results

Variety	Yield
Great Lakes 2789R2	57.17
Great Lakes 2949R2	55.78
Channel 3207R2	47.85
Channel 2706R2	46.40
NK 527-J7	51.00
NK 529-G4	44.95
Biogene BG7241	58.05
Biogene BG7300	50.65

Mark Seed-Extensive Deer Damage

SOIL FERTILITY – CORN

Properly applying very expensive fertilizer based on soil samples is the best way to ensure proper nutrients for your crop. How much to put on is always the big question. This plot has been going for over 10 years.

Results

Fertility	Yield/Acre
Normal	202.50
No Phosphorus	184.01
No Potassium	193.92
No P or K	216.55
Normal	228.44
Acidic	241.42
Basic	245.46
No Phosphorus	224.98
No P or K	211.59
Normal	226.79
No Potassium	213.74
Acidic	233.23
Basic	201.90
Normal {Deer Damage}	206.21

Previous Crop: Soybeans
Corn Planted: Dairyland 9711
Tillage: None
100# nitrogen pre-plan, 75# side-dressed on June 15.
Planted on: May 6, 2014
Harvested on: October 22, 2014

CONTINUOUS SOYBEANS: CYST-NEMATODE STUDY

Mark Seed Company

Nematodes seem to be everywhere. This study is to determine if new varieties and new practices can reduce yield loss from the big problem of nematodes and growing continuous soybeans on the same ground year after year.

Planting date: 5/21/14
Harvest date: 10/26/14
Previous crop: Soybeans
Fungicide: Headline 7/5/14
Insecticide: Garlic
Herbicide: Roundup 2X, AMS, Sugar
Planting type: No-Till, 30" Rows
First site of Glyphosate resistant weeds, in particular, Waterhemp and Marestail.

Results

Mark Seed Variety CTB {Resistant}

66.70 Bushels/Acre

Pioneer Variety 92Y80 {Resistant}

63.10 Bushels/Acre

Susceptible Mark Seed {Susceptible}

53.60 Bushels/Acre

Mark Seed Variety CTA {Resistant}

62.00 Bushels/Acre

Soil samples indicated very high populations of nematodes present in this field. The University of Illinois suggested that soybeans not be planted in these areas for at least two years and then a rotation with corn. Will switch "A" variety with "B" variety next year to continue the study.

2014 WEITENDORF CORN VARIETY PLOT

This year Channel Bio LLC used the entire 14 acre farm for Corn Variety trials. The plot was planted on May 25 after the farm was field cultivated. The farm received one inch of rain shortly after planting and over 30 inches during the crop year. The plot was sprayed with roundup and 2,4-D on May 8 and Roundup a second time on June 25. There was an application of 175# of nitrogen with Harness/Roundup on June 1. Not a single weed was observed at harvest. There was a small plot of soybeans planted on the headlands that yielded well over 70 bu./ac. The following results were observed on 10/30/14.

Mark Seed 13107	24%	128.48	Channel 202-64	20%	193.63
Pioneer P0496	20%	170.21	Channel 209-46	22%	160.45
Mark Seed 13110	23%	151.54	Channel 209-53	24%	165.84
Pioneer P0945	24%	173.19	Channel 210-95	23%	151.89
Mark Seed 12110	23%	170.77	Channel 211-24	23%	199.68
Channel 211-35	24%	194.68	Mark Seed 13103	21%	158.60

I want to thank Channel and Justin Laramie for their continued support of Joliet Junior College and the Weitendorf Agriculture Education Center. I look forward to working with them again in 2015. I want to thank Elburn Coop for applying fertilizer to this farm when I was down with my medical condition.

VARIOUS TRIALS AT JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE IN 2014

300 bushel/acre corn attempt: Dupont/Pioneer Trial.

Size 2.5 ac., planted May 6, 2014, harvested Oct. 25, 2014

Planted into soybean stubble and 10 tons of leaves/acre.

Variety; P1419, 36,000 SPA, three replications of 16 rows each.

Results: 277BPA, 281BPA, 269BPA,

Average: 275.6 BPA

Corn after tillage radish and only 150# nitrogen trial.

Size 2.0 acres, planted April 26, 2014, harvested Oct. 17, 2014

Variety: Agri-Gold A6533 VT 3P RIB 35,000SPA

80# nitrogen pre-plant, 70# nitrogen side-dressed

Trial: To see how much, if any, nitrogen is absorbed or produced by the tillage radish. Radish was planted no-till into wheat stubble on August 15, had an excellent stand with many roots getting to be larger than a cup in diameter and 10-15 inches long. No sign of any radish at planting. Final yield in three different spots= 181.6, 177.5, 178.5,

Average: 178.6

The field did not show a lot of nitrogen stress throughout the year, but clearly could have used a little more nitrogen. Will try this again in 2015 with another plot that has radish and oats.

VARIOUS TRIALS AT JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE IN 2014 (CONTINUED)

16 X 16 Corn/Soybean Trial

A five acre field was used for comparing yield differences with corn and soybeans planted next to each other. In addition an application of 20 and 30 tons of leaves were also studied along with the use of nitrogen fertilizer in soybean production. A 30-75-75 application of dry fertilizer was applied in 2013, 80# of nitrogen was applied pre-plant in the spring of 2014. A Kinze four planter was equipped with four units for corn planting and four units for soybean planting. After 16 rows of corn was planted, the four corn boxes were taken off and replaced with four soybean units. This occurred 12 times planting the five acre field. Corn was planted at 35,000 SPA, the soybeans were planted at 125,000 SPA. Planted on May 16th, received about 1.5 inches of rain in less than twenty minutes at the end of the day. Rotary hoed the field three times, cultivated the corn and the custom operator who side-dressed the rest of the corn crop on the farm failed do this field. For the record, the corn results were not recorded since the crop was not very good, less than 125BPA. The following results are for the position the soybeans were in relation to the corn crop, the amount of leaves applied and the use of nitrogen on the land.

Results:

Soybeans next to corn, 20 tons of leaves, 80# nitrogen= 82.2BPA, 84.8BPA

Soybeans middle rows, 20 tons leaves, 80# nitrogen=78.2BPA, 81.7BPA

Soybeans middle rows, 20 tons leaves, no nitrogen=78.6BPA

Soybeans next to corn, 30 tons leaves, 80# nitrogen=83.6BPA, 82.6BPA, 83.3BPA

Soybeans middle rows, 30 tons leaves, 80# nitrogen=80.1BPA, 80.1BPA, 79.0BPA

Soybeans middle rows, 30 tons leaves, no nitrogen=78.7BPA

A lot to digest here, but it does not look from these results that a nitrogen application would pay for itself since the cost is about $45/ac. The leaves could be a benefit since a lot of the farm was in the 60 bushel range or less.

VARIOUS TRIALS AT JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE IN 2014 (CONTINUED)

Oat crop 2014

Planted on April 1 by broadcast method into second crop soybeans that were not harvested in 2013. Total acreage was about .9 of an acre. 1.5 bushels of seed was spread along with 100# of 46-0-0 and field cultivated. An application of 30-75-75 was done in the fall of 2013. Harvest was completed on July 15, 2014 with the total volume of 101 bushels. Planted a mixture of tillage radish and oats on Aug. 24 with a Kinze 15" planter.

Good looking stand and should be good to experiment with another low nitrogen test in corn for 2015.

Northrup King and Cloriva Complete Treated Soybeans Plot;

Two soybean varieties were supplied by NK, each variety had a treatment of Cloriva and none. All were no-till planted on May 17 with a 30" Kinze planter at 150,000 seeds/acre into corn stubble. 30-75-75 fertilizer was applied in the fall of 2013. There was enough seed supplied to plant a total of 28 rows and 25 rows were harvested on Oct 28 along with one check variety. No deer damage or disease at all in this area all year.

Results: DSR 2995=76.41BPA, NK S25 no treatment=76.47BPA

NK S25 treated=87.22BPA, NK S30 no treatment=87.67BPA,

NK S30 treated=97.47BPA.

ALFALFA PLOT PROVIDED BY DAIRYLAND SEED

There has been Alfalfa research conducted at JJC for a long time. This plot had been in Alfalfa since 2009. It was sprayed with a very heavy rate of 2,4-D on September 10, 2012, then chisel plowed very deep two times on September 25, 2012. The ground was tilled and planted on April 1, 2013 with six different Alfalfa varieties, duplicated two times and rolled two times. The stand was very good. Due to very wet weather, only two harvests occurred this year. The first harvest was on June 18, 2014, and the second occurred on July 28, 2014. A 30" X 35' strip was cut, harvested and weighed for each and results are Dry Tons/Acre.

	6/18/14	7/28/14	Total
Dairyland HybriForce 2400	1.63	1.09	2.71
WL WL367HQ RR	1.54	1.12	2.66
Dairyland HybriForce 3400	1.75	1.15	2.90
Pioneer 54Q32	1.79	1.12	2.91
Dekalb DKA41-18RR	1.60	1.13	2.73
Dairyland HybriForce 3400	1.70	1.16	2.87
Croplan LegenDairy XHD	1.70	1.15	2.85
Dairyland HybriForce 2400	1.78	1.19	2.97
WL WL367HQ RR	1.69	1.12	2.81
Dairyland HybriForce 3400	1.79	1.23	3.02
Pioneer 54Q32	1.69	1.14	2.83
Dekalb DKA41-18 RR	1.59	1.15	2.74
Dairyland HybriForce 3400	1.70	1.17	2.87
Croplan LegenDairy XHD	1.65	1.13	2.78
Dairyland HybiForce 2400	1.57	1.18	2.76

SUMMARY: CROP YEAR 2014

J.F. Richards Land Lab

First, I want to say that it has been my privilege and honor to serve as the Farm Manager for another rewarding year at Joliet Junior College. The Land Lab has been set up in order to give the agriculture student at JJC all the hands on experience they want and this year there has been a tremendous volume of students doing just that. My thanks to the ag staff, especially Jeff Landers, Tammy Miller and Dr. Fredric Miller in helping with this accomplishment.

One of the most interesting highlights of the year besides all of the different experiments in progress has been the weekly corn planting that started on July 2 and continued for eight straight Wednesdays. The 80-foot plots gave all the students a chance to see corn plants at all the different stages that normally happen during the growing season when the college is closed. This small demonstration really paid dividends in identifying corn stages, insect and disease variations within those stages and nutrient problems with corn from boot high to tassel by the time students returned to classes in late August. I will try this with both corn and soybeans next year.

The corn crop yielded from 281 bu./ac. to a low of zero. Most of the outside four rows on all the experimental plots were eaten off by the increased deer population and made next to nothing. Despite all the damage, the farm still produced about 200 bu./ac. this year. The crop did not show one day of stress during the entire year with over 30 inches of rain during the growing season and over 48 inches of total moisture for the entire year. We only had a total of 4 days above 90 degrees in addition to the plentiful moisture. Without a doubt, the farm suffered some nitrogen loss because of the abundant rain.

The soybean crop went from an unbelievable 97 bu./ac. to a low of zero. When harvesting that big number, I thought the monitor went crazy because it bumped over 100 bushels many times while combining that area. The actual soybean variety plot went from 65 bu./ac. down to about 25 bu./ac. depending on the amount eaten by deer. I also had a small plot that never got above two inches tall during the growing season and planted wheat on it for the 2015 harvest.

Up until this year, I could say that we had no resistant weeds at the JJC Farm. I can no longer say that. The first glyphosate resistant waterhemp and marestail showed up in the continuous soybean plot where we are conducting research for nematodes with Mark Seed. It looks like a huge flock of geese landed on the freshly harvested soybean field, ate all the missed soybean seed, deposited their weed seed and the resistant weeds appeared this spring. With the combination of two cultivations and a lot of hand hoeing, the five-acre field ended up with only a few escapes that did not really cause any serious problems. I will have to adjust the herbicide program next year to combat this new problem.

I do have to mention that I suffered a stroke on May 29. I lost all movement on my left side and could not talk or swallow. It was quite scary to say the least. Fortunately, everything that I lost came back in 5 days and with exhausting rehabilitation, I was only away from the farm for a total of 23 days. I had everything planted before that, but needed the farm sprayed and 75# of nitrogen side-dressed on

the corn. I hired Elburn Coop to spray the farm on June 20, and had Robert Schwartz from Yorkville, a former JJC student, apply the nitrogen. Despite the very good job by both, it is very hard to farm by phone. I want to thank them both for helping me out when I was down.

I want to thank Russ Higgins of the University of Illinois, Doug Maxwell of the University of Illinois, Tryston Beyer of University of Illinois and Fred Beane of Mark Seed who made the annual Fall Field Day so successful this year by giving their individual talks. We had a lot of good comments about all the speakers. Also, I want to thank the JJC Culinary Department for preparing a wonderful meal after the tour ended. No one went away hungry. I want to thank Friestad Farms as well for supplying two very large hayracks to assist in farm transportation to the demo sites. I want to thank Andy Sr. and Jr. Rousonelous for driving the tractor on our field day and John Cronin for assisting with traffic. We had over 130 students, staff, and area farmers attend this year on a very beautiful day; a day that Professor Bill Johnson said would be a good day some three months earlier. He may want to go into weather forecasting as his next career.

As 2014 comes to a close, we look forward to the 2015 crop year. Things can sure change in a hurry. Two years ago we were looking at 6 and 7 dollar corn, 15 dollar soybeans, and now we are trying to manage and farm with 3 dollar corn and 10 dollar soybeans with most inputs having a blind eye to the bottom line. The extra yield this year makes the hurt a little less painful, but a lot of things in the business of farming will certainly have to adjust for the present situation without a doubt. I will, God willing, try and meet the expectations of the college, the students and the farming community as a whole in providing unbiased results with the many different experiments going on at Joliet Junior College for the crop year 2015. I have so many wanting to contribute that I wish I had another 100 acres to use.

I want to thank all the students that I have had the pleasure to meet, work and interact with, as well as the entire ag staff for all of their input throughout the year and all the contributors that have been so kind and generous to make 2014 a success.

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