



## Nebraska On-Farm Research Network

# Sugar vs. Fungicide vs. Check on Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, Wheat

Protocol developed by: Jennifer Rees, UNL Extension Educator

**Objective:** To evaluate the effect of foliar sugar application on yield and economics.

**Procedure:** The following describe the treatments for soybean and corn. Note: Make sure to drive through untreated check rows spraying water to simulate driving and water effect.

### Sugar vs Fungicide on Soybeans:

Treatment A: Check – Drive through rows at R3 spraying water only.

Treatment B: Fungicide – Apply according to label rate of fungicide at R3.

Treatment C: Sugar – Apply 3 lbs/ac of granular sugar or 1 qt/ac of PlenTSweet or 13 oz/ac of liquid brown sugar or product of choice at labeled rate in 10 gallons of water.

Data to be collected: yield, moisture, disease pressure, % lodging in each plot, harvest stand counts.

### Sugar on Corn and Sorghum:

Treatment A: Check – Drive through rows at V7-8 spraying water only.

Treatment B: Fungicide – Apply according to label rate of fungicide at V7-8.

Treatment C: Sugar – Apply 3 lbs/ac of granular sugar or 1 qt/ac of PlenTSweet or 13 oz/ac of liquid brown sugar or product of choice at labeled rate in 10 gallons of water at V7-8.

\*\*\*Note: if a fungicide is needed for late-season disease pressure, spray the whole field sometime after R2.

Data to be collected: yield, moisture, harvest stand counts, any additional observations, % stalk rot, disease pressure.

**Sugar on Wheat:** we don't have a best suggested time. Can try at tillering stage when apply post-herbicide and/or fertilizer or at flag leaf.

### **Treatment Map:**

We need at harvest a minimum of 4 replications. This study will ideally be evaluated over multiple years.

Replication 1	A: Check	Yield:
	B: Fungicide	Yield:
	C: Sugar	Yield:
Replication 2	B: Fungicide	Yield:
	A: Check	Yield:
	C: Sugar	Yield:
Replication 3	B: Fungicide	Yield:
	C: Sugar	Yield:
	A: Check	Yield:
Replication 4	C: Sugar	Yield:
	B: Fungicide	Yield:
	A: Check	Yield:

*Grower Requirements:*

1. Flag or mark GPS location of each treatment.
2. Provide all necessary inputs for crop production.
3. Complete background agronomic form about site and practices.
4. Collect yield data and grain moisture with weight wagon or yield monitor. If using yield monitor, please designate a separate “load” for each treatment and set up separate “products” names for each treatment harvested. Yield monitor must be **well calibrated**. Contact UNL Extension if assistance with this process is needed.
5. Collect stand counts at harvest.
6. Submit harvest data to UNL Extension within 30 days of harvest or by Dec. 15.
7. Allow UNL Extension to use submitted and collected data for research, educational, and informational purposes.

*Nebraska On-Farm Research Network will:*

1. Provide technical assistance in setting up replicated and randomized experimental design.
2. Provide assistance upon request with treatment implementation, flagging, stand counts, stalk rot tests, and recording yield.
3. Analyze raw data using statistical analysis and provide this information to the grower.

***For more information about this study, contact Jenny Rees at 402-362-5508 or [jenny.rees@unl.edu](mailto:jenny.rees@unl.edu).***

**Disclaimer:** The Nebraska On-Farm Research Network does not endorse the use of products tested in on-farm replicated strip trials. While treatments are replicated within trials and may be replicated across multiple sites under various conditions, your individual results may vary.

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