

Field work: yield prediction test

How can a farmer predict his yield?

Yields can be estimated starting at R2 (blister), but the accuracy will vary depending on actual kernel weight. Yield is overestimated in fields with poor grain-fill conditions and underestimated in fields with above average grain-fill conditions.

Instructions

1. Estimate the number of harvestable ears per 1/1000 acre.
2. Count the number of rows of kernels per ear on every fifth ear in the measured section and calculate the average. Average: _____



Row spacing	Row length
15"	34.1'
20"	26.2'
30"	17.5'

3. On these ears, count the number of kernels per row and calculate the average. Average: _____



4. Estimated yield (bushels / acre) =
(number of harvestable ears × number of rows per ear × number of kernels per row) ÷ 90.
5. For more accurate estimations, repeat this process several times in a field.

Reflection

What are some factors that can affect the yield estimation performed above?