

# **Maximize Profits from Nitrogen... ..and Protect the Environment, too!!**

## **This is an economic summary of 85 Northeast Nebraska On-Farm Corn Nitrogen Test Plots: 1986 - 2000\***

by UNL Cooperative Extension \*\*

Profit or loss is based on nitrogen at **\$0.25** / lb., and corn at **\$2.00** / bu.  
(Change nitrogen and corn prices in the line above to see profit at other prices)

Plot Design	Soil	Number of sites	Nitrogen Rate			Profit or Loss	
			-50	Recom.	+50	Relative to Rec. rate	-50
			Yield				
<b>Non-manured Corn<sup>a</sup>:</b>			-----bu/ac-----			-----\$/ac-----	
Three N Rates:	Silty	18 <sup>b</sup>	136	143	142	-\$1.50	-\$14.50
Two N Rates:	Silty	13	-----	134	139	-----	-\$2.50
Three N Rates:	Sandy	35	156	162	165	\$0.50	-\$6.50
<b>Corn with a manure history:</b>							
<b>Corn after corn:</b>							
Three N Rates:	Silty	4 <sup>c</sup>	120	128	126	-\$4.75	-\$15.25
Two N Rates:	Silty	7	-----	122	122	-----	-\$12.50
<b>Corn after soybean:</b>							
Two N Rates:	Silty	8	-----	152	154	-----	-\$8.50
<b>Weighted Yield Averages:</b>							
Three N Rates:	-----	57	147	153	155	\$0.50	-\$8.50
Two N Rates:	-----	28	-----	136	139	-----	-\$6.50

\* Each site had 3 or more randomized replications of each treatment

\*\* Plot costs were supported in part by the Lower Elkhorn NRD, the Upper Elkhorn NRD, and other agencies

**Conclusion: The most profitable corn nitrogen rate is usually that calculated from the UNL corn nitrogen equation, and sometimes less!!**

<sup>a</sup> Soybean was the previous crop in 1/3 of the plots. Half of the silty sites were irrigated, but all of the sandy sites were irrigated.

<sup>b</sup> 3 of the 18 plot treatments used -40, Recom., +40 lb N/ac.

<sup>c</sup> 2 of the 4 plot treatments used -40, Recom., +40 lb N/ac, and two were irrigated.

Data is provided by Charles Shapiro, Bill Kranz, and Jim Peterson.

**For more information** contact your County Extension Educator, or

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