

Analysis of 2012 Nebraska County-level Yields of Irrigated and Dryland Corn and Soybean *(Figures 1-4)*

Patricio Grassini¹, James Specht¹, Haishun
Yang¹, Keith Glewen², and Jenny Rees²

¹ UNL Department of Agronomy and Horticulture

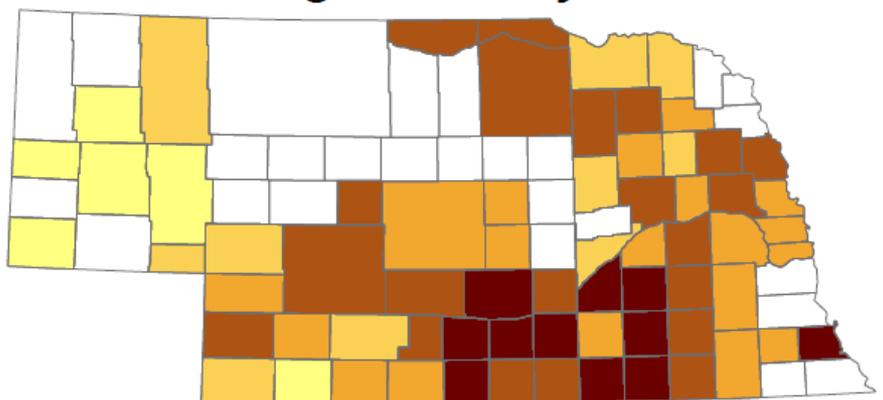
² UNL Extension Educator

Figure 1. Irrigated vs. dryland corn yield by county in Nebraska in 2012

Irrigated average = 190 bu ac⁻¹
(+10 bu ac⁻¹ than 2011 yield of 180 bu/ac)
(+5 bu ac⁻¹ than past 7-y average yield of 185 bu/ac)

Dryland average = 59 bu ac⁻¹
(-74 bu ac⁻¹ than 2011 yield of 132 bu/ac)
(-68 bu ac⁻¹ than past 7-y average yield of 126 bu/ac)

2012 irrigated corn yield



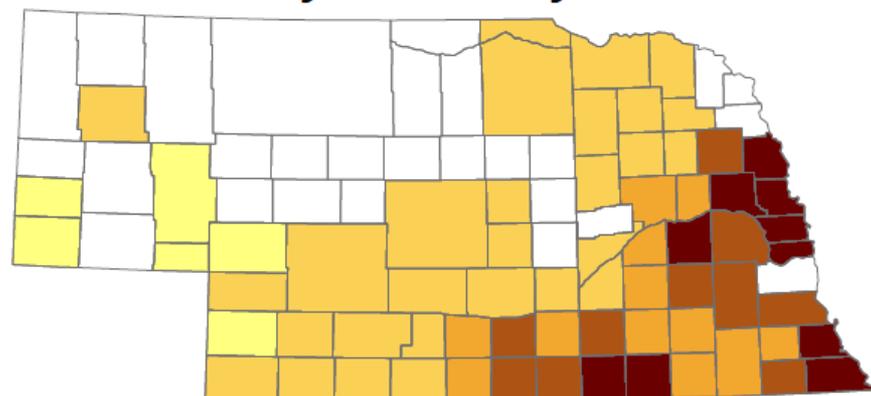
Irrigated yields (bu/ac)

0 30 60 120 Miles



- 145 - 160
- 160 - 175
- 175 - 190
- 190 - 205
- 205 - 220

2012 dryland corn yield



Dryland yields (bu/ac)

0 30 60 120 Miles



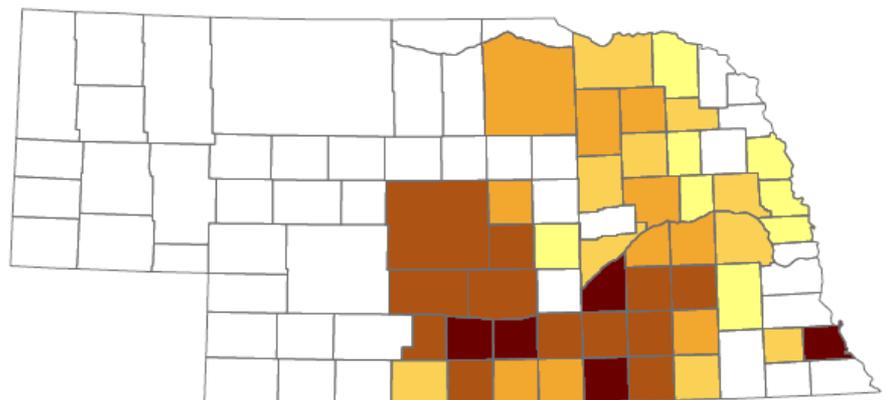
- 0 - 20
- 20 - 40
- 40 - 60
- 60 - 80
- 80 - 100

Figure 2. Irrigated vs. dryland soybean yield by county in Nebraska in 2012

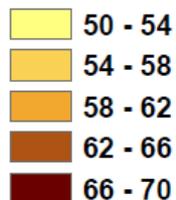
Irrigated average = 60.7 bu ac⁻¹
(-0.4 bu ac⁻¹ than 2011 yield of 61.1 bu/ac)
(+2 bu ac⁻¹ than past 7-y average yield of 59 bu/ac)

Dryland state average = 25 bu ac⁻¹
(-23 bu ac⁻¹ than 2011 yield of 48 bu/ac)
(-20 bu ac⁻¹ than past 7-y average yield of 45 bu/ac)

2012 irrigated soybean yield



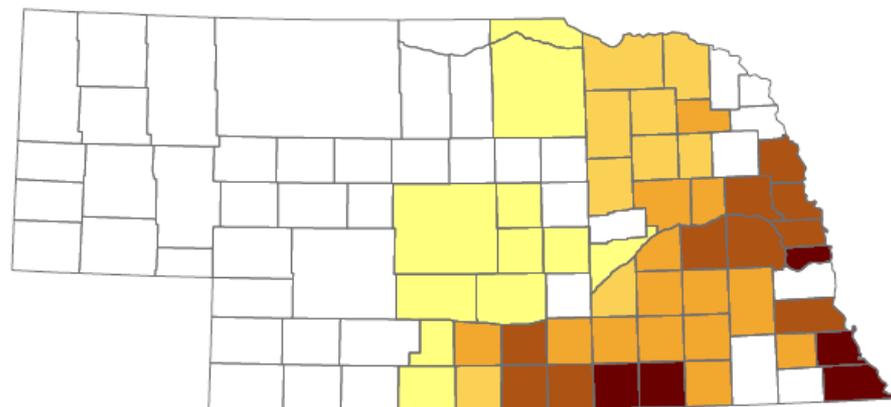
Irrigated yields (bu/ac)



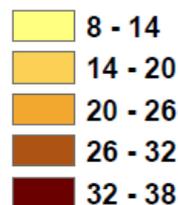
0 30 60 120 Miles



2012 dryland soybean yield



Dryland yields (bu/ac)



0 30 60 120 Miles



Figure 3. Trends in state-average Nebraska irrigated and dryland corn and soybean yields

Average irrigated corn and soybean yields in Nebraska in 2012 were the second highest in history.

Average dryland yields of corn and soybeans were the lowest since 1983 (corn) and 1984 (soybean).

SOURCE: NASS-USDA (1970-2012)

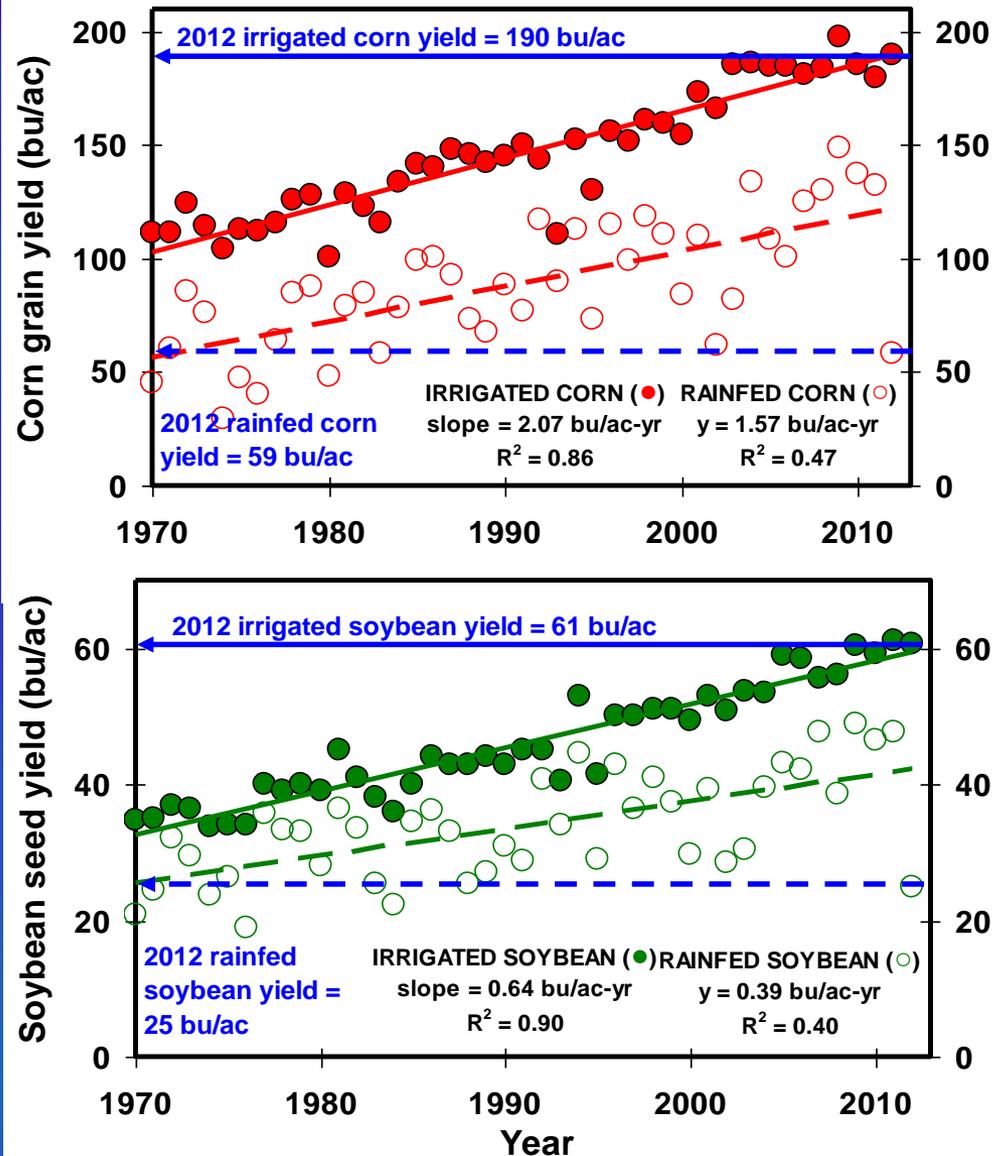
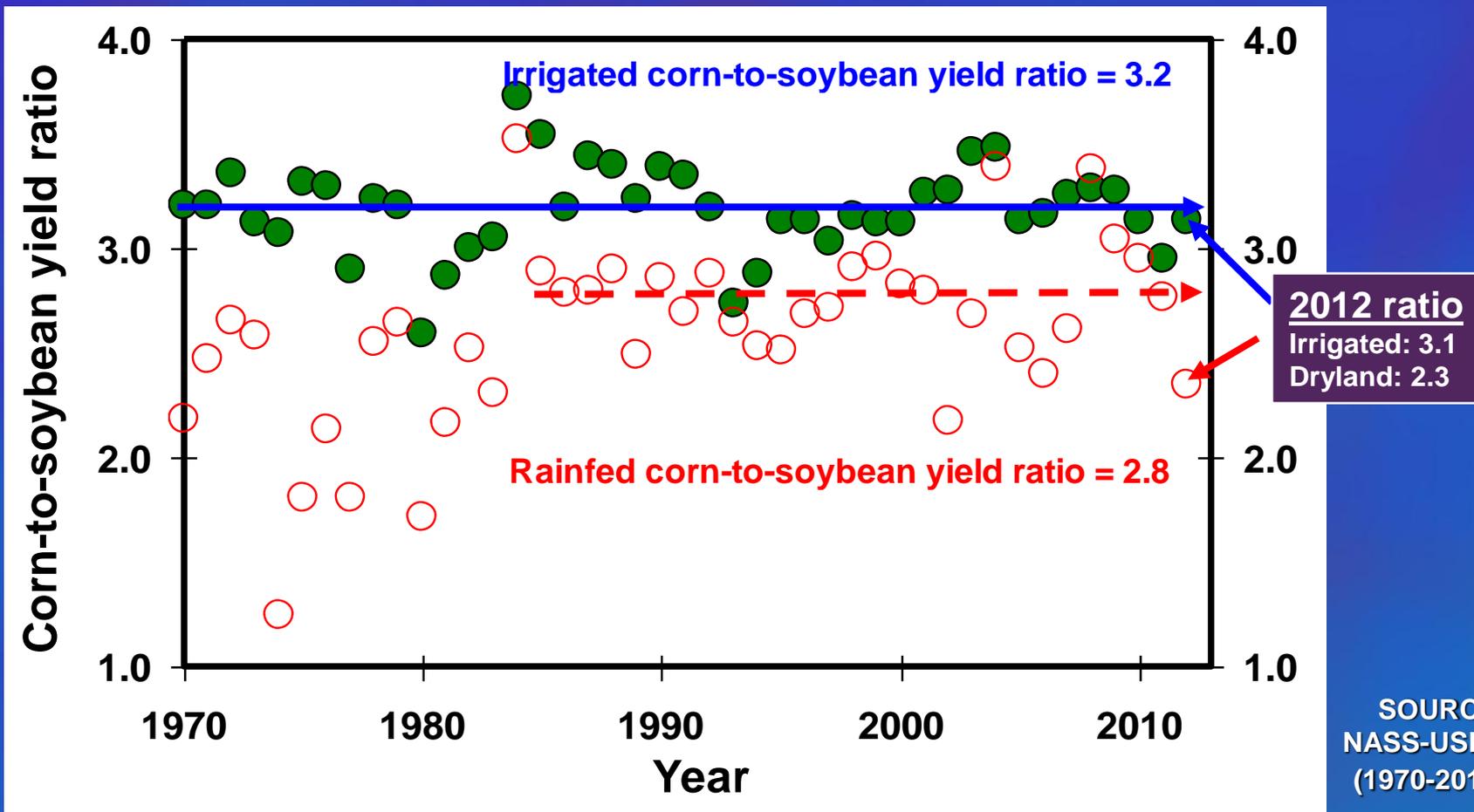


Figure 4. Trends in state-average irrigated and dryland corn-to-soy yield ratio in Nebraska.



SOURCE:
NASS-USDA
(1970-2012)

Relatively stable average irrigated and dryland corn-to-soybean ratios of 3.2 and 2.8, respectively, since 1970 (irrigated crops) and 1985 (dryland crops). In 2012 the corn-to-soybean ratio was 3.1 for irrigated and 2.3 for dryland crops.

UNL CropWatch.unl.edu

For more information see the June 28, 2013 companion article on CropWatch.unl.edu. CropWatch is a comprehensive University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension crop production and pest management resource.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.

UNL CropWatch.unl.edu

For more information see the June 28, 2013 companion article on CropWatch.unl.edu, a comprehensive University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension crop production and pest management resource.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.