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# Yields of the Field Experiments 1985

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## 85/R/MA/1 Varieties, Sowing Dates and Polythene Covers - Maize

### Rothamsted Research

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85/R/MA/1

MAIZE

VARIETIES, SOWING DATES AND POLYTHENE COVERS

Object: To study the effects of two sowing dates and polythene covers to the seedbed on the maturity dates and yield of three maize varieties grown for forage and grain - Long Hoos IV 6.

Sponsor: A.J. Barnard.

Design: 3 randomised blocks of 12 plots.

Whole plot dimensions: 1.6 x 10.4.

Treatments: All combinations of:-

1. VARIETY                      Varieties:  
    BASTILLE  
    FRONICA  
    LEADER
2. SOW DATE                    Dates of sowing:  
    10 APR                      10 April, 1985  
    10 MAY                      10 May
3. COVERS                      Covers to seedbed after sowing:  
    NONE                        None  
    POLYTHENE                  Polythene sheet

NOTES: The covers were photo-degradable and were laid by hand, within 7 days of sowing, and then perforated at about 10 cm intervals over the drill rows to allow seedling emergence.

Basal applications: Manures: Muriate of potash at 520 kg. 'Nitro-Chalk' (27.5% N) at 550 kg. Weedkiller: Atrazine at 2.8 kg in 220 l. Insecticide: Pirimicarb at 0.14 kg in 220 l.

Seed: Varieties sown at 100,000 seeds per hectare.

Cultivations, etc.: - Muriate of potash applied: 11 Dec, 1984. N applied: 10 Apr, 1985. Early-sown plots spring-tine cultivated and sown: 10 Apr. Atrazine and polythene treatments applied to early-sown plots: 16 Apr. Late-sown plots power-harrowed and sown: 10 May. Atrazine applied to late-sown plots: 15 May. Polythene treatment applied to late-sown plots: 17 May. Insecticide applied: 24 July. Harvested by hand: Forage harvest: 15 Oct. Grain harvest: (Cobs picked by hand, threshed by stationary combine harvester). Early-sown with polythene: 14 Oct. Early-sown no polythene: 24 Oct. Late-sown: 7 Nov. Previous crops: Potatoes 1983, maize 1984.

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- NOTES: (1) Plant counts were made at establishment, mid-season and pre-harvest. Growth rates, plant heights and lengths of selected leaves were measured.
- (2) Weedkiller was not applied to two plots, those with treatment combinations

VARIETY	SOW DATE	COVERS
LEADER	10 APR	POLYTHNE
BASTILLE	10 APR	POLYTHNE

The yields of these plots were treated as missing and estimated values were used in the analysis.

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FORAGE DRY MATTER TONNES/HECTARE

\*\*\*\*\* TABLES OF MEANS \*\*\*\*\*

SOW DATE VARIETY	10 APR	10 MAY	MEAN
BASTILLE	14.02	14.42	14.22
FRONICA	14.95	13.99	14.47
LEADER	13.26	13.54	13.40
MEAN	14.07	13.99	14.03

COVERS VARIETY	NONE	POLYTHNE	MEAN
BASTILLE	15.63	12.80	14.22
FRONICA	16.18	12.76	14.47
LEADER	14.19	12.61	13.40
MEAN	15.33	12.73	14.03

COVERS SOW DATE	NONE	POLYTHNE	MEAN
10 APR	15.76	12.39	14.07
10 MAY	14.91	13.06	13.99
MEAN	15.33	12.73	14.03

SOW DATE COVERS VARIETY	10 APR NONE	10 APR POLYTHNE	10 MAY NONE	10 MAY POLYTHNE
BASTILLE	16.10	11.93	15.16	13.68
FRONICA	17.49	12.41	14.87	13.12
LEADER	13.68	12.83	14.70	12.39

\*\*\*\*\* STANDARD ERRORS OF DIFFERENCES OF MEANS \*\*\*\*\*

TABLE	VARIETY	SOW DATE	COVERS	VARIETY SOW DATE
SED	1.008	0.823	0.823	1.426
TABLE	VARIETY COVERS	SOW DATE COVERS	VARIETY SOW DATE COVERS	
SED	1.426	1.164	2.017	

\*\*\*\*\* STRATUM STANDARD ERRORS AND COEFFICIENTS OF VARIATION \*\*\*\*\*

STRATUM	DF	SE	CV%
BLOCK.WP	20	2.470	17.6
GRAIN MEAN DM%	23.0		
PLOT AREA HARVESTED	0.00028		

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GRAIN YIELD

GRAIN TONNES/HECTARE

\*\*\*\*\* TABLES OF MEANS \*\*\*\*\*

SOW DATE	10 APR	10 MAY	MEAN
VARIETY			
BASTILLE	5.57	4.55	5.06
FRONICA	5.45	4.13	4.79
LEADER	5.61	6.01	5.81

MEAN	5.54	4.89	5.22
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COVERS	NONE	POLYTHNE	MEAN
VARIETY			
BASTILLE	4.96	5.16	5.06
FRONICA	4.02	5.56	4.79
LEADER	4.82	6.80	5.81

MEAN	4.60	5.84	5.22
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COVERS	NONE	POLYTHNE	MEAN
SOW DATE			
10 APR	4.99	6.09	5.54
10 MAY	4.21	5.58	4.89

MEAN	4.60	5.84	5.22
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SOW DATE	10 APR		10 MAY	
COVERS	NONE	POLYTHNE	NONE	POLYTHNE
VARIETY				
BASTILLE	5.31	5.82	4.60	4.50
FRONICA	5.05	5.86	2.99	5.26
LEADER	4.61	6.60	5.02	7.00

\*\*\*\*\* STANDARD ERRORS OF DIFFERENCES OF MEANS \*\*\*\*\*

TABLE	VARIETY	SOW DATE	COVERS	VARIETY SOW DATE
SED	0.436	0.356	0.356	0.617

TABLE	VARIETY COVERS	SOW DATE COVERS	VARIETY SOW DATE COVERS
SED	0.617	0.504	0.872

\*\*\*\*\* STRATUM STANDARD ERRORS AND COEFFICIENTS OF VARIATION \*\*\*\*\*

STRATUM	DF	SE	CV%
BLOCK.WP	19	1.068	20.5

GRAIN MEAN DM% 55.1

PLOT AREA HARVESTED 0.00028