

# WISCONSIN CROP "PEPS" PROGRAM

"Profits through Efficient  
Production Systems"

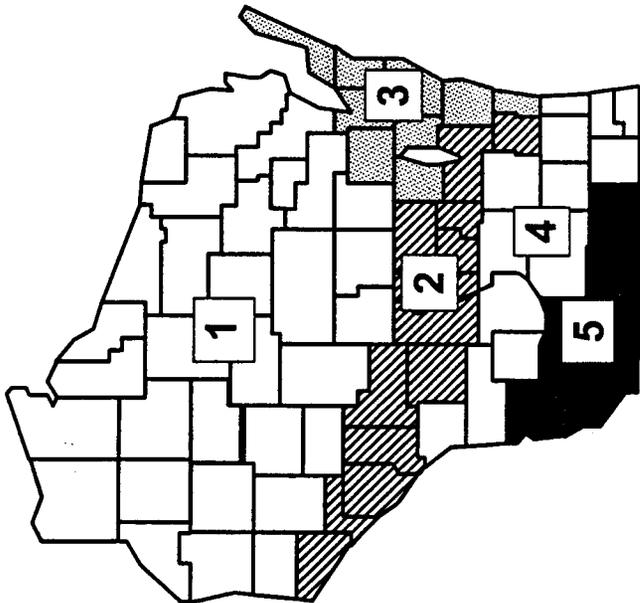
2003



University of Wisconsin-Extension  
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association  
Wisconsin Soybean Association  
Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board  
Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Kaltenberg Seeds  
Dairyland Seed Company  
Trelay Seeds  
Pioneer Hi-Bred Intl.  
Rural Insurance Companies  
Syngenta Seeds

- Costs for seed, herbicides, insecticides, insurance, scouting, etc. will be charged based on the figures provided by participants.
  - Nitrogen and micronutrient fertilizer costs will be those provided, however, P and K costs will be based on removal at the grain yield obtained. There will be no charge assessed for nutrients supplied by manure or previous-crop residues.
  - Equipment costs will be based on actual custom machinery hire, or on figures in the most recent publication entitled "Minnesota Farm Machinery Economic Cost Estimates," for individual operations based on appropriate machinery size and type.
  - Drying costs in the Corn, Cash Crop Division will be estimated for each point above 15% grain moisture per dry bushel.
  - Handling, hauling and storage costs will be assessed.
  - Standard variable irrigation costs per acre-inch applied will be assessed.
  - Land costs will be assessed based on the average of 1) typical cash rents for the program field provided by participant, and 2) a percentage of NRCS yields for the soil type. The percentage used will be derived from average estimated cash rents relative to average NRCS yields.
9. The program will be regionalized to account for climatic variations throughout the state. Districts are shown on the attached map.
  10. An entry fee of \$25 must accompany each entry. This entry fee will be waived for FFA chapters. Entry deadline is August 1.
  11. Participants will be informed of results as soon as they are tabulated. A \$100 cash award will be presented to the winner (most profitable) in each district for each division in the contest portion of the program.



## "PEPS" Program Districts

Yield and records verified in the Wisconsin PEPS program may also qualify for other programs/contests such as:

- National Corn Growers Association "Yield Contest"

## OBJECTIVES

- To recognize the practices utilized by the most profitable growers and to provide other growers, educators, and researchers insight into ways these producers integrate practices into a system.
- To emphasize soil and water conservation, efficiency, profitability and competitiveness vs. productivity alone.

## PROGRAM RULES AND FORMAT

1. The program includes both "contest" and "verification only" options (please designate desired option on entry blank). For both options, the UW-Extension reserves the right to use the information in overall participant summaries.
2. The program will include three divisions:
  - A. Corn: Cash-crop
  - B. Corn: Livestock
  - C. SoybeanThe following conditions separate the two corn divisions:

*Cash-Crop Division*

  1. Corn following legume or non-legume grain crops (corn, soybean, small grain, etc.) or non-legume forages or cover crops; no manure applied.
  2. A charge for drying costs will be assessed.

*Livestock Division*

  1. Corn following forage legume or green-manure legumes (alfalfa, red clover, etc); and/or any manure applied on land.
  2. Drying costs will not be assessed.Any field in which a) corn follows forage legumes or green-manure legumes or b) manure is applied can only be entered in the Livestock Division. The same field cannot be entered into both the cash crop and livestock division.

3. There is no limit on the number of entries by a participant. Growers are encouraged to compare profitability of their managed systems (tillage systems, weed control, etc.) and crops by entering several different plots.
4. For contest entries, the program field must be at least 10 acres in one continuous plot for each entry. The exception is for fields that are strip cropped or terraced. Individual crop strips, which must be at least 20 rows wide, must add up to at least 5 total acres of the crop in one continuous 10-acre field. Participant may select the best 10 acres in a field actually larger than 10 acres.

5. All fields on six percent slopes or more must be planted on the contour. Soil loss should not be higher than the tolerable "T" level designated for the soil involved. Average annual soil loss will be computed using the Universal Soil Loss Equation and/or the Wind Erosion Equation by county NRCS personnel, and will be included in the final report.

6. The participating growers must provide accurate crop production and cost record forms. Forms will be provided to all entrants, UW-extension agents, and industry co-sponsors.
7. Yield checks will be conducted by "yield-checkers" designated and approved for each county. Rules require that 1.25 or more acres must be harvested from the entered area. Harvest report forms and rules will be provided to all entrants.

8. For the contest portion of the program, placings within each district will be determined on the basis of greatest profitability. Profitability will be calculated using a) the producers measured, verified yields, b) production costs obtained using PEPS program cost record forms, and c) average cash grain price based on 50% sold at harvest and 50% sold on forward contracts. Ties will be broken by placing based on lowest cost per bushel.

(Rules continued on back)

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## ENTRY FORM

Deadline — August 1, 2003

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Option: \_\_\_\_\_

Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Verification Only \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Corn, Cash Crop \_\_\_\_\_

Corn, Livestock \_\_\_\_\_

Soybean \_\_\_\_\_

\* If entering more than one field, per division, number each entry.

Enclose \$25 per entry with this application to receive soil, crop record, and harvest forms. Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Crop PEPS Program.

Mail to: Wisconsin Crop PEPS Program  
UW-Agronomy Department  
1575 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

\* Please submit a separate form for each entry.