

Test of Irrigation Scheduling Tools in Corn

Study ID: 1543141202501

County: Platte

Soil Type: Ovina loamy fine sand

Planting Date: 5/12/24

Harvest Date: 10/19/24

Population: 32,000

Row Spacing (in): 30"

Hybrid: DEKALB® DKC62-69, Wyffels™ 6826

Reps: 6

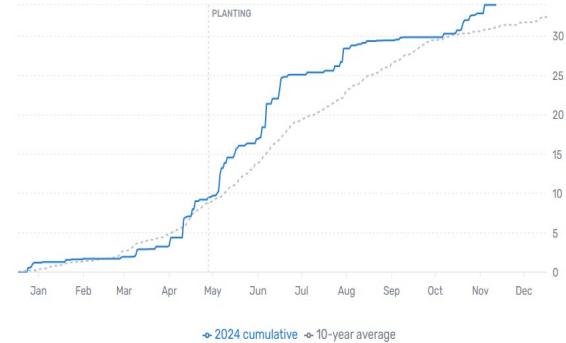
Previous Crop: Corn

Tillage: Conventional till

Seed Treatment: Company standard

Irrigation: Pivot, Total: Varied

Rainfall (in):



Introduction: This study evaluated the use of Aluvio™ (<https://aluvio.us/>) as an irrigation scheduling tool on corn. A center pivot equipped with a FieldNET system by Lindsay™ allowed for different irrigation rates applied in each irrigation event based on a speed control variable rate irrigation. A total of 180 degrees angle of the center pivot was used in this experiment (Figure 1). Whenever the grower decided to irrigate or Aluvio™ recommended an irrigation, an irrigation prescription map was uploaded in the FieldNET system and irrigation started.



Figure 1: Project Design and Layout

Results:

	Total Irrigation (in)	Moisture (%)	Yield (bu/ac)†	Marginal Net Return‡ (\$/ac)
Grower's Decision	5.80	11.8 A*	168 A	723 A
Aluvio™	4.05	11.9 A	168 A	722 A
P-Value:	-	0.89	0.96	0.74

*Values with the same letter are not significantly different at a 90% confidence level.

†Bushels per acre corrected to 15.5% moisture.

‡Marginal net return based on \$4.30/bu corn, \$8/ac cost for Aluvio™ technology, and \$6/ac-in irrigation water applied.

Summary:

- There were no significant differences in moisture, yield, or marginal net return between the treatments.
- Although they were not statistically the same, the total irrigation water applied was 1.8 in lower when using Aluvio™ system.
- It suggests that there is an opportunity for irrigation water savings while sustaining crop yield, mainly in years like 2024 in which spring rainfall was abundant.