Comparison of Swine Manure and UAN as Nitrogen Sources at Side-dress for Corn Yield

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Objectives
To compare corn yield response to nitrogen applied at side-dress as incorporated swine finishing manure and incorporated UAN 28%.

Background
Crop Year: 2012
Cooperator: Jeff Duling
County/Town: Putnam, Glandorf
Soil Type: Paulding Clay
Drainage: Tile, systematic
Previous Crop: Soybeans
Corn Hybrid: Pioneer 33W84
Tillage: No-till
Soil Test: pH 6.2, P 81 ppm, K 232 ppm
OM 2.7%
Planting Date: April 18, 2012
Row Width: 30 inch
Herbicide: FulTime NXT 3 qts/acre
Harvest Date: October 18, 2012

Methods
A randomized block design with two treatments and four replications was used. Plots were 16 rows (40 feet) wide and 1,100 feet long. Liquid swine manure from a finishing building was applied via incorporation using a 5,250 gallon Balzer tanker equipped with a Dietrich toolbar. The Dietrich toolbar incorporated the swine manure at a depth of five inches using shanks with eight inch sweeps. There was damage to the corn stand in the manure treatments due to operator application error. Portions of the rows were plowed out by the manure toolbar.

The swine manure and 28% UAN were applied on the same day while the corn was in the V2 stage. Field conditions were firm at the time of application.

The 28% UAN application rate was 150 units of nitrogen per acre. All swine manure replications received 6,000 gallons per acre. Manure samples indicated 28.4 pounds of available nitrogen per 1,000 gallons. Swine manure treatments received 170 pounds of nitrogen, 61 lb./ac P₂O₅ and 120 lb./ac K₂O.

Table 1. Swine Finishing Manure Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>lbs. per 1,000 Gallons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen (available the 1st year)</td>
<td>28.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus as P₂O₅</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potassium as K₂O</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weather conditions during the time of manure application were sunny with an ambient air temperature of 75 degrees. The plot received well below average rainfall for the growing season.
Table 2. Treatment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment 1 (T1)</td>
<td>50 gal/ac UAN 28%, 150#/ac of N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment 2 (T2)</td>
<td>6,000 gal/ac incorporated liquid swine manure, 170#/ac of N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results and Discussion

Table 3. Yield Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatments</th>
<th>Yield (bu/ac)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28% UAN (T1)</td>
<td>154.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporated manure (T2)</td>
<td>151.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LSD (0.05)

The results of this plot indicated no statistically significant difference between the treatments (LSD (0.05) = 10.93, C.V=3.17). The incorporated manure yields were probably negatively impacted by stand reduction caused by operator error when the manure was applied.

The 28% UAN cost $0.62 per pound or $93 per acre plus the cost of application. The manure was available from the farmer’s swine finisher building at no cost. The manure application cost, using the Minnesota Manure Distribution Cost Analyzer spreadsheet was calculated at $20 per 1,000 gallons or $.02 per gallon. The cost of applying 6,000 gallons per acre as sidedress nitrogen was $120 per acre.

Acknowledgement

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