

# FACTS AND FIGURES AROUND THE 2018 CONTEST

*Greg Roth—Emeritus Professor of Agronomy, The Pennsylvania State University*

This year **31 members competed** in the 5-acre corn club contest and averaged 226.2 bushels per acre with a final stand of 32,433 plants per acre. The **top yield this year was 291.6 bushels** per acre. Yields were down significantly from last years average of 249.5 bushels per acre but the final population was up slightly from last years average of 31,076 plants per acre. Our yields this year were likely influenced by the **record rainfall and reduced radiation** this summer. This was a particular issue in the northern and western areas of the state and in areas with less than ideal soil drainage.

In our cultural practices summary, the average planting depth was 2.0 inches deep with an average seed drop of 35,280 seeds per acre. **Most fields in the club followed soybeans** (71%), while 22% followed corn. The average planting date this year was **May 8**, with only two fields this year planted in April. 78% of the club fields were planted using no-till and 71% of the fields were sidedressed with N that averaged 105 pounds N per acre. **Starter fertilizers were used by all club members:** 20 of the 31 used a pop-up program that varied from 2 to 6 gallons per acre, 9 used a higher rate row fertilizer program, and 5 used a combination of pop-up and higher rate row fertilizer, which was mostly liquid N based fertilizer. Biostimulant use was reported by 16% of the corn club members. About 45% of the members used an in row insecticide this year and the most common product was Capture LFR. 65% of the corn club fields received a post-emergent herbicide, and glyphosate was the most common herbicide applied then. Reported disease pressure varied from none to severe and 62% of the club fields were treated with a fungicide, either at V6, pretassel, green silk, brown silk using either Headline, Approach or Trivapro.

**Congratulations again to all the producers who participated in this year's program.** Many thanks are due to the extension educators and crop consultants who helped collect the yield and cultural information for the club. Also, a special thanks is due to Martin Krone and Eric Rosenbaum from PCGA for their diligent work in pulling this report together.



## 2018

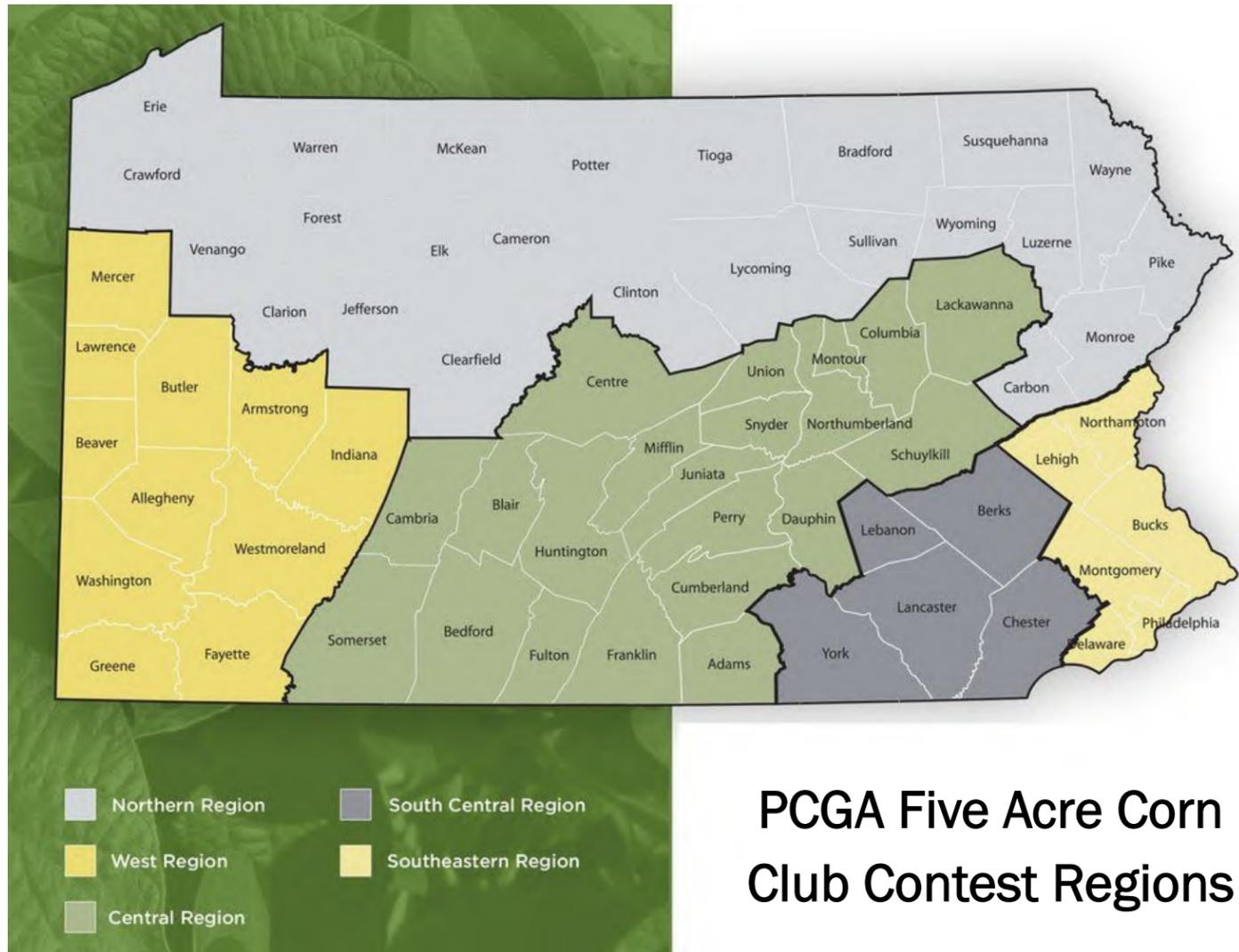
### 5-ACRE CORN CLUB CONTEST REPORT

*An important part of  
Pennsylvania's corn  
production since 1965*

### 2018 Major Sponsors



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Thanks to your membership and contributions, PCGA & NCGA were able represent Corn Growers' interests in the following areas in 2018:

- Grain Bonding
- Trade
- Ethanol
- Transportation
- Sustainable Corn Production Methods
- Commodity Pricing Issues
- End Use Products
- Farm Bill
- Soil Health and Sustainability



**Thank You!**

## Connect with us!

 **Eric Rosenbaum, Executive Director**

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 **pcga@pacorn growers.org**

 **www.pacorn growers.org**





## PCGA Thanks 2018 Harvest Supervisors for their Time and Efforts!

- Anna Busch, PSU Extension
- Michael Fournier, PSU Extension (retired)
- Andrew Frankenfield, PSU Extension
- William Gallegher, PSU Extension (retired)
- Jeff Graybill, PSU Extension
- Casey Guindon, PSU Extension
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- Nick Hebrock, CCA - Stutzman Crop Care
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- Heidi Reed, PSU Extension
- Eric Rosenbaum, CCA – Rosetree Consulting LLC
- Mitchell Shirk – Rosetree Consulting LLC
- Gene Shurman, PSU Extension (retired)
- Del Voight, PSU Extension

## PCGA & The Five Acre Corn Club Contest

*A Reflection from Eric Rosenbaum—Executive Director, Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association*

Welcome to the PA Corn Grower's Association's 2018 Pennsylvania Five Acre Corn Club Report! This year the report has a new look, as part of PCGA's increased responsibility for managing the contest. The Corn Contest is PA's premier yield contest, providing valuable insight into the productivity and stewardship of Pennsylvania's corn growers. Our contest participants are continuously improving production practices and adopting new technologies to produce higher yields with lower per unit inputs and lower environmental risks. Agricultural technology, advanced genetics, plant health pesticide products, soil health practices and 4R nutrient stewardship practices are increasingly important in the intensification of crop management on our participants' farms. This contest raises up those efforts and showcases the fruits of that labor. Thank you to all the 2018 participants.

PCGA is always looking to increase participation in the 5-acre corn contest. This year, we established a subcommittee to provide oversight and ideas to the board. Ken Barlieb (Hubner Seeds), Kelly Dietrich (Pioneer Seeds), Lyle Stephens (Growmark FS), Andrew Frankfield (PSU), Elizabeth Hinkel (PCGA president), Martin Krone (PCGA secretary & treasurer), Greg Roth (PSU) and Eric Rosenbaum (PCGA Ex. Dir.) serve on the committee. The committee will be meeting through the early part of 2019 to define opportunities for expanded participation in the contest.

This report, and contest, could not be possible without the many people dedicating countless hours behind the scene. Thank you to Martin Krone, Andrew Frankenfield, Jeff Graybill, Brooke Rosenbaum and all our harvest supervisors! Special thanks to retiring Professor of Agronomy Dr. Greg Roth, not only for his work in this year's corn contest, but for his many years of committed service to PCGA. He will continue to serve on the PCGA board and be a valued asset for corn growers, even from the great state of Retirement. The history of PCGA could not be told without him!

I am also excited to announce that AgChoice Farm Credit will be the major sponsor for the 2019 5-acre corn contest. AgChoice is a strong supporter of agriculture throughout PA and we look forward to building a stronger relationship with them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Rosenbaum, Executive Director



# Pennsylvania Five Acre Corn Club: Past Present and Future

*A Reflection from Greg Roth—Emeritus Professor of Agronomy, The Pennsylvania State University*

The Pennsylvania Five Acre Corn Club has been an important part of corn production in our state since 1965. It has been a joint collaboration between the Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association, Penn State, the Commercial Seed Industry and leading corn growers in the state. The Club has been a great way to document what the potential yield of corn is that can be obtained with current technology in the commonwealth. It has provided a platform for producers, seedsmen and agronomist to try different strategies to obtain top yields. This intense management has led to an increase of roughly 4 bu/acre per year during the course of the club history approximately double of the average state yield increase of about 2 bu/acre per year. This has likely been due to the rapid adoption of modern genetics, improved fertility and pest management. The Corn Club has documented the potential of a number of practices associated with more sustainable corn production in the state. A key practice was the adoption of no-tillage and the results of corn club champions over the years showed that no-till yields were equivalent or better than those achieved with tillage. The Club also demonstrated improved nutrient management with use of lower N rates and more use of side-dressed nitrogen applications by participants over the years. We also documented the adoption of new technologies such as rootworm resistant hybrids over time and the resulting decrease in the use of row insecticides. The Corn Club has also caused everyone involved in corn production to scrutinize the production practices and soil management of the champions. These have often demonstrated that champions are excellent managers of their equipment and very timely with planting and harvesting operations and sound agronomic management. For agronomists, corn club members help to reinforce the potential of key management practices to other growers. The use of top hybrids and higher plant populations used by Corn Club participants has helped many to successfully encourage other farms to adopt these management practices. Corn Club champions have participated in many conferences and field days over the years and shared their tips with other growers. The Corn Club has also provided a good opportunity for extension educators and commercial agronomists to participate with corn growers in the planning and harvesting of top yielding fields. The Corn Club has evolved over time with respect to rules and

objectives, but the focus has remained the same: how can we grow high yields of corn in the Keystone State? As we move forward there will likely be new technologies and practices that come into play and hopefully the Five Acre Corn Club will continue to document the adoption and impact of these practices. And the partnership led by the Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association will continue to sponsor the Corn Club and other activities that help corn growers in our state be successful.

## PCGA CONGRATULATES DR. ROTH ON HIS RETIREMENT!



**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE  
TO OUR ORGANIZATION.**



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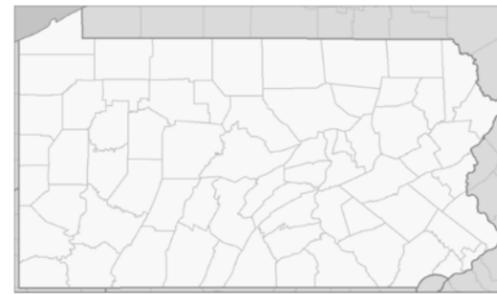
# Western Region

Producer Name	County	Variety	Yield (bu/A)
Michael Reskovac	Fayette	Channel 218-44STX	196.5
Anthony Miller	Indiana	Pioneer 0574AM	154.6

**TOP PRODUCER**

**Michael Reskovac**  
Waltersburg

**196.5 bu / A**

# 2018 STATE CHAMPIONS

**1**

**Darren Grumbine—Lebanon**

Variety: Dekalb DKC62-53  
 Planting Date: April 24, 2018  
 Planting Rate: 40,000  
 Total Nitrogen Fertilizer: 150 lbs / A  
 Tillage Practice: No Till

**YIELD**

**291.7 bu / A**



**2**

**Karl Dirks—Mt. Joy**

Variety: Dekalb—DKC67-44  
 Planting Date: May 3, 2018  
 Planting Rate: 38,000  
 Total Nitrogen Fertilizer: 300 lbs / A  
 Tillage Practice: No Till

**YIELD**

**280.8 bu / A**



**3**

**Ernest Mast—Morgantown**

Variety: Pioneer—1442AM  
 Planting Date: May 3, 2018  
 Planting Rate: 34,000  
 Total Nitrogen Fertilizer: 275 lbs / A  
 Tillage Practice: Tilled

**YIELD**

**264.2 bu / A**




Congratulations to all Pennsylvania participants in NCGA's **National Corn Yield Contest.**

For a list of all participants, visit:  
[www.ncga.com/for-farmers/national-corn-yield-contest](http://www.ncga.com/for-farmers/national-corn-yield-contest)



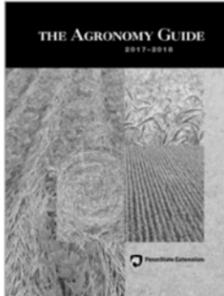
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## TOP PRODUCER

**Tim Stewart**  
Yardley

256.8 bu / A



## Southeastern Region

Producer Name	County	Variety	Yield (bu/A)
Tim Stewart	Bucks	Dekalb DKC67-44	256.8
John Frederick	Bucks	Growmark FS60R76VT2P	243.3
Sam Stewart	Bucks	Dekalb DKC62-08	239.2
Brian Fulmer	Northampton	Hubner H6663RCSS	211.1
Shane Fulmer	Northampton	Hubner H6663RCSS	194.2
Robert Rook	Bucks	Pioneer 1197	179.0

The same field, planted by Tim Stewart to achieve his winning  
**299 bu/A yield in 2017**, was the winner of the **1948**  
**Grange Fair with a yield of 49.8 bu/A!**

*Five Acre Corn Club Contest "Fun Fact"*

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**Congratulations to all  
2018 Participants!**

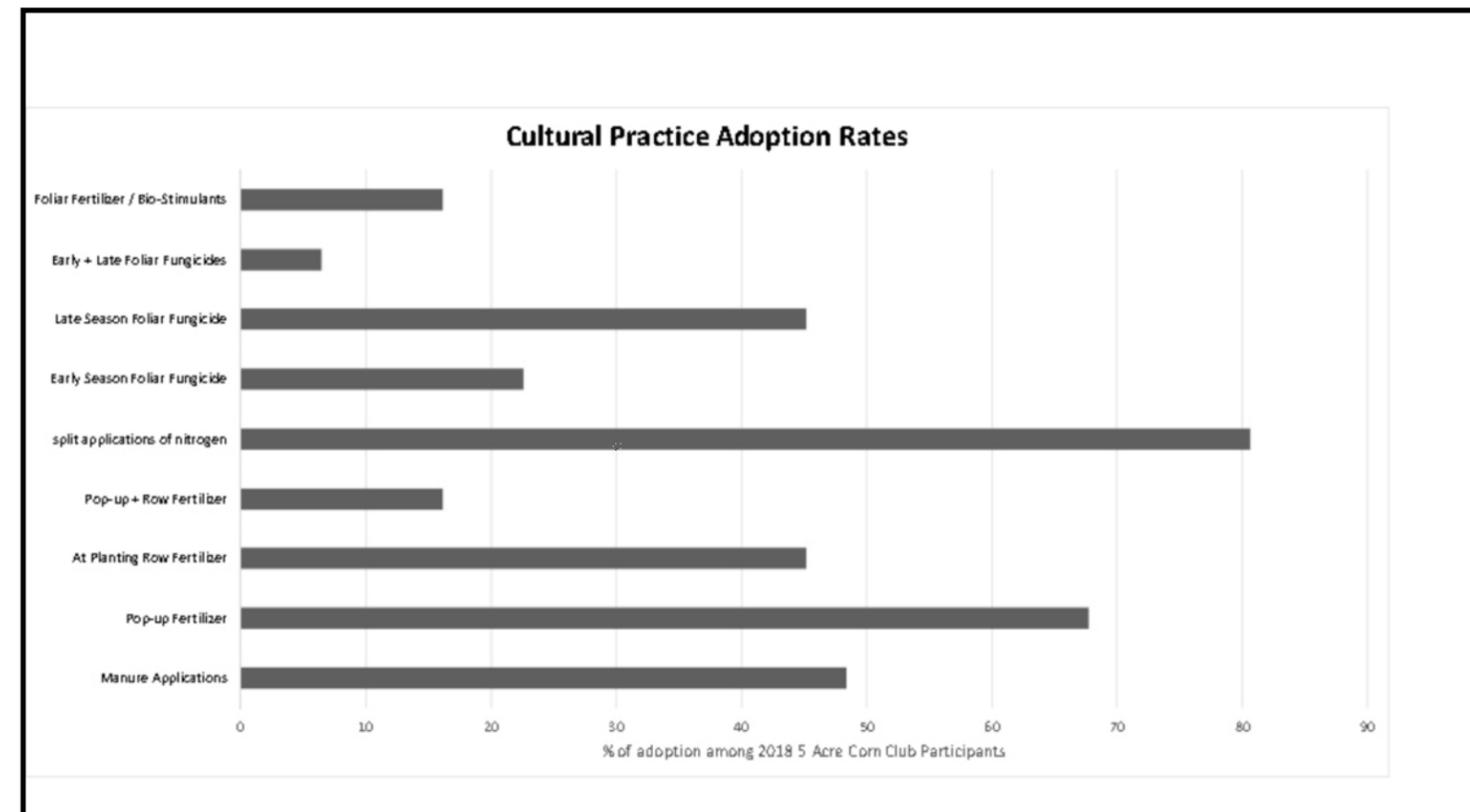
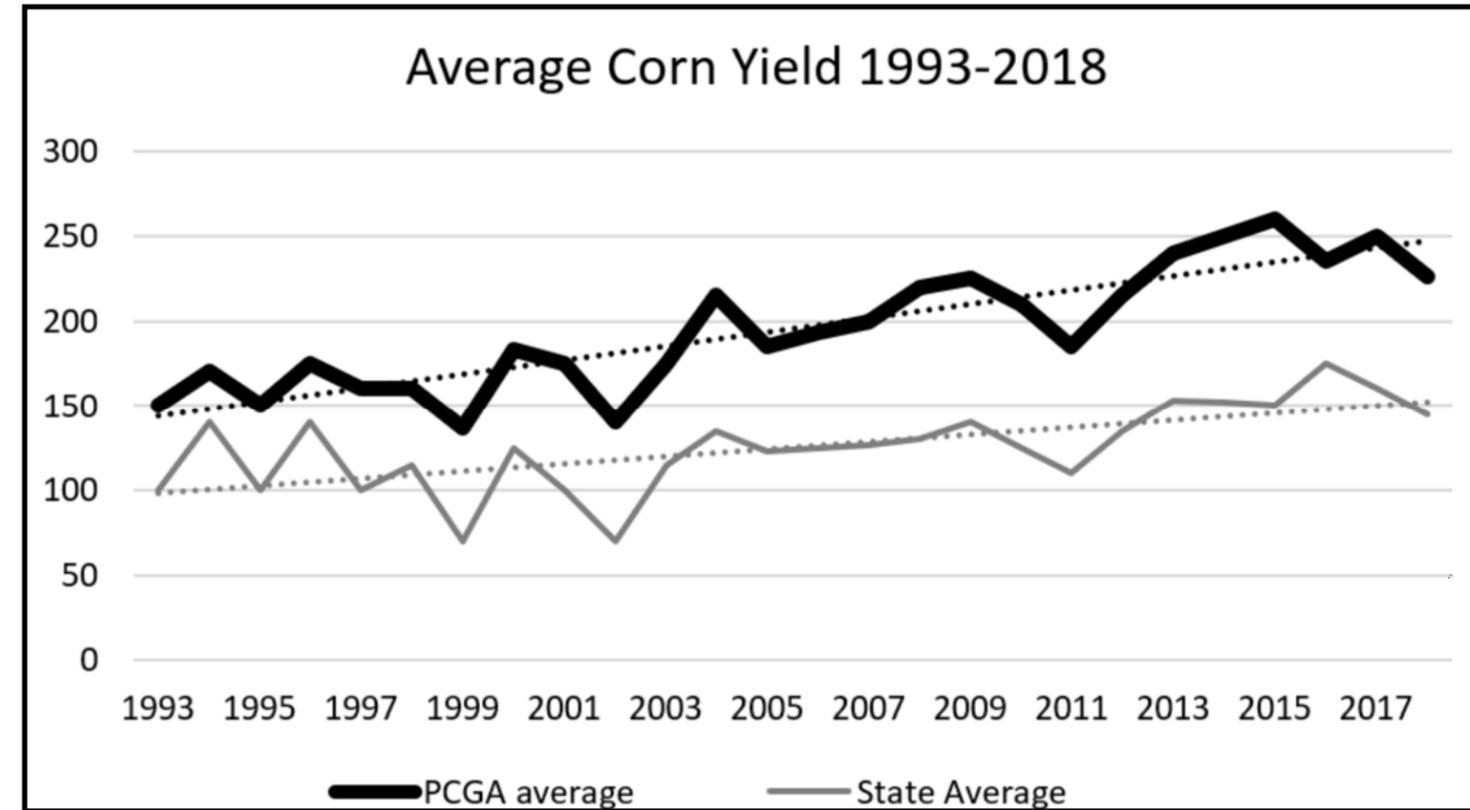
# Southcentral Region

Producer Name	County	Variety	Yield (bu/A)
Darren Grumbine	Lebanon	Dekalb DKC62-53	291.7
Karl Dirks	Lancaster	Dekalb DKC67-44	280.8
Ernest Mast	Lancaster	Pioneer 1442AM	264.2
Kristen Grumbine	Lebanon	Pioneer 1442AM	255.9
Linda Krall	Lebanon	Pioneer P0843AM	254.4
Brian Kreider	Lebanon	Pioneer 1442AM	253.0
David Wolfskill	Berks	Dekalb DKC65-95	249.8
Richard Kreider	Lebanon	Pioneer P0843AM	241.8
Ethan Buser	York	Pioneer 1197AMXT	238.6
Elvin Reiff	Lancaster	Hubner H4890	235.0
Pat Buser	York	Pioneer P1442AMXT	234.6
Robert Buser	York	Pioneer P1197AM	228.9
Doris Stoltzfus	Lancaster	Hubner H4563	227.3
Merle Stoltzfus	Lancaster	Hubner H6663	226.6
Dylan Keller	York	Pioneer P1197AMXT	213.1



## By the Numbers

Trends, Facts and Figures about the 5-Acre Corn Club Contest



Elizabeth & Jared Hinkel  
congratulate all 2018  
participants.

# Central Region

Producer Name	County	Variety	Yield (bu/A)
Leslie Bowman	Franklin	Pioneer 1197AM	251.3
Pine Hurst Acres	Northumberland	Channel 216-36STXRIB	241.9
Rhoads Brothers	Columbia	Pioneer 1442AM	235.2
Carl Shaffer	Columbia	Pioneer 1442 AMXT	220.2
Wertz Brothers	Northumberland	Pioneer 0993HR	212.0

**TOP PRODUCER**

**Leslie Bowman**  
Chambersburg

251.3 bu / A



**TOP PRODUCER**

**D. Richard Snyder**  
Montoursville

199.7 bu / A



# Northern Region

Producer Name	County	Variety	Yield (bu/A)
D. Richard Snyder	Lycoming	DKC 64-35 RIB	199.7
Dawson Jones	Bradford	Agrigold A6346	166.8
Justin Jones	Bradford	Agrigold A6355	115.1



**In 2018, Pennsylvania's corn crop was worth over \$550,000,000!**

*Five Acre Corn Club Contest "Fun Fact"*

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