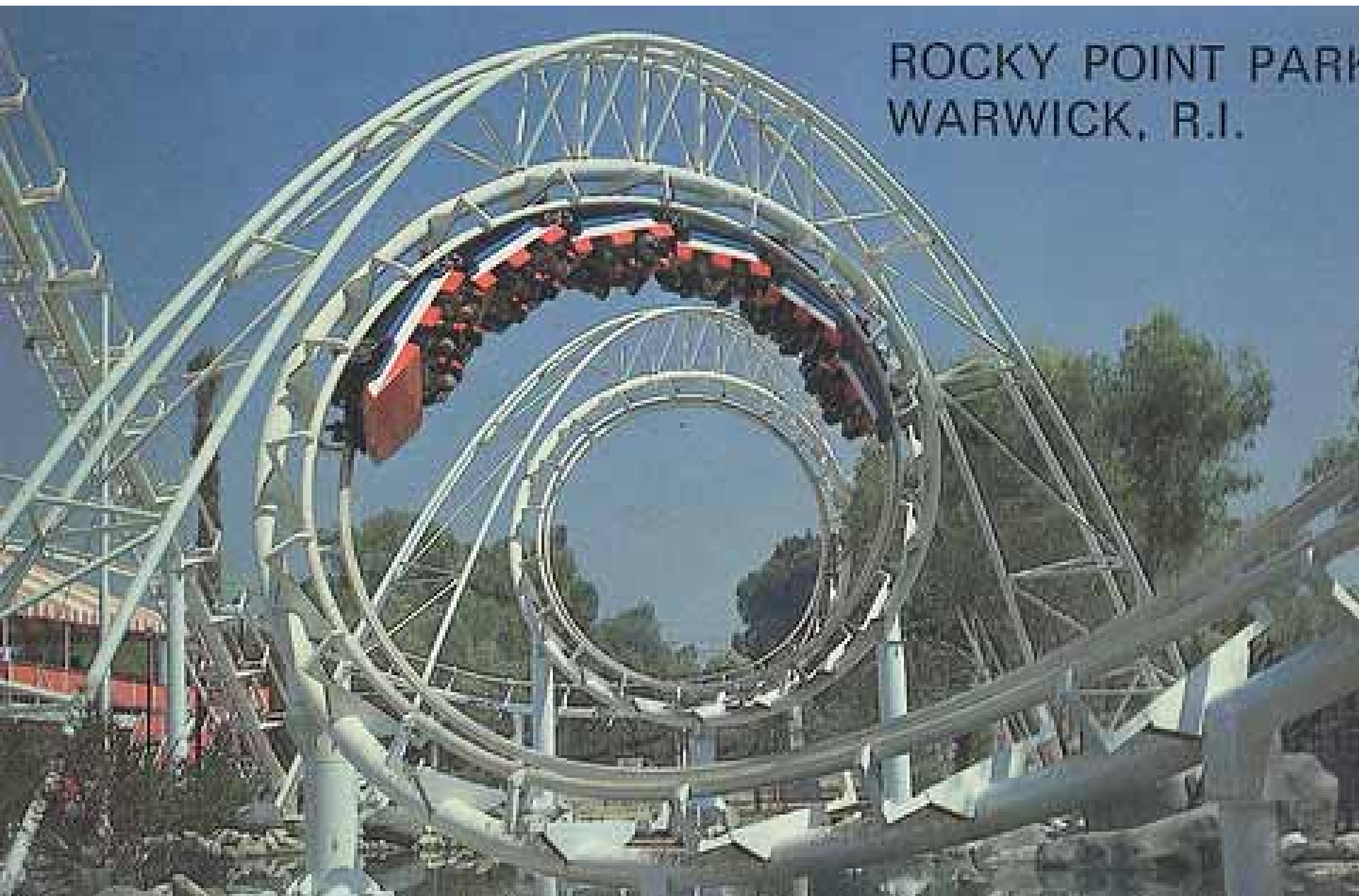




**Increasing Profitability Through Agronomic Practices
Jason Kelley – University of Arkansas Cooperative
Extension Service**



ROCKY POINT PARK
WARWICK, R.I.



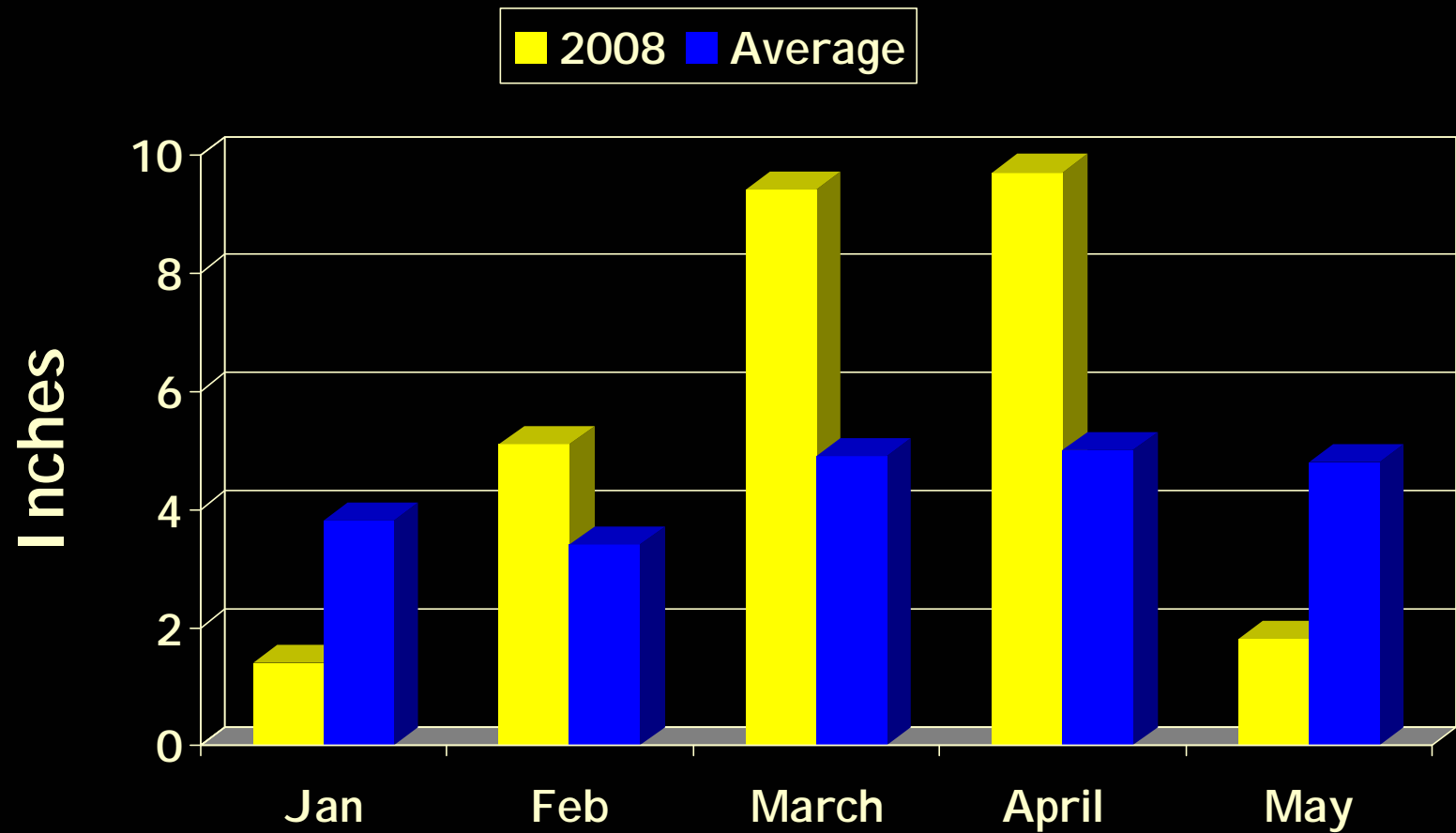
Beginning of 2008 - Excitement

- Many producers had good grain prices locked in – highest ever
- Harvested best corn ever in 2007 (even after the Easter freeze)
 - 168 bu/acre state average yield

Then it started to rain.....



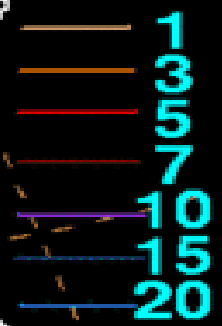
Rainfall for 2008 (Newport, AR)



2008 Acreage

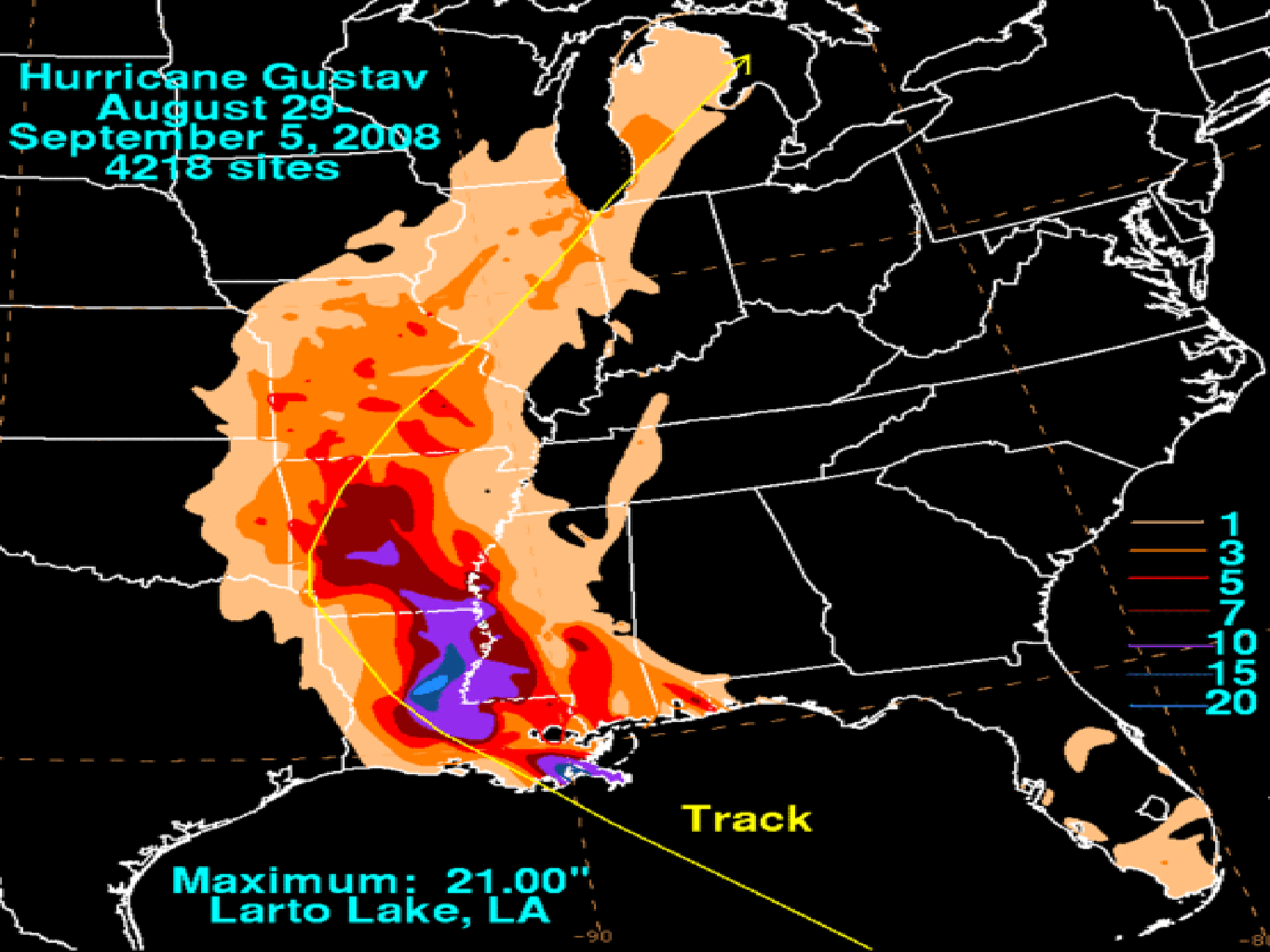
- Wet weather reduced anticipated acreage
 - Delays in planting or replanting from rainfall
 - Slightly reduced acreage
 - 440,000 acres of corn harvested
 - 130,000 acres of grain sorghum harvested

Hurricane Gustav
August 29 -
September 5, 2008
4218 sites



Track

Maximum: 21.00"
Larto Lake, LA

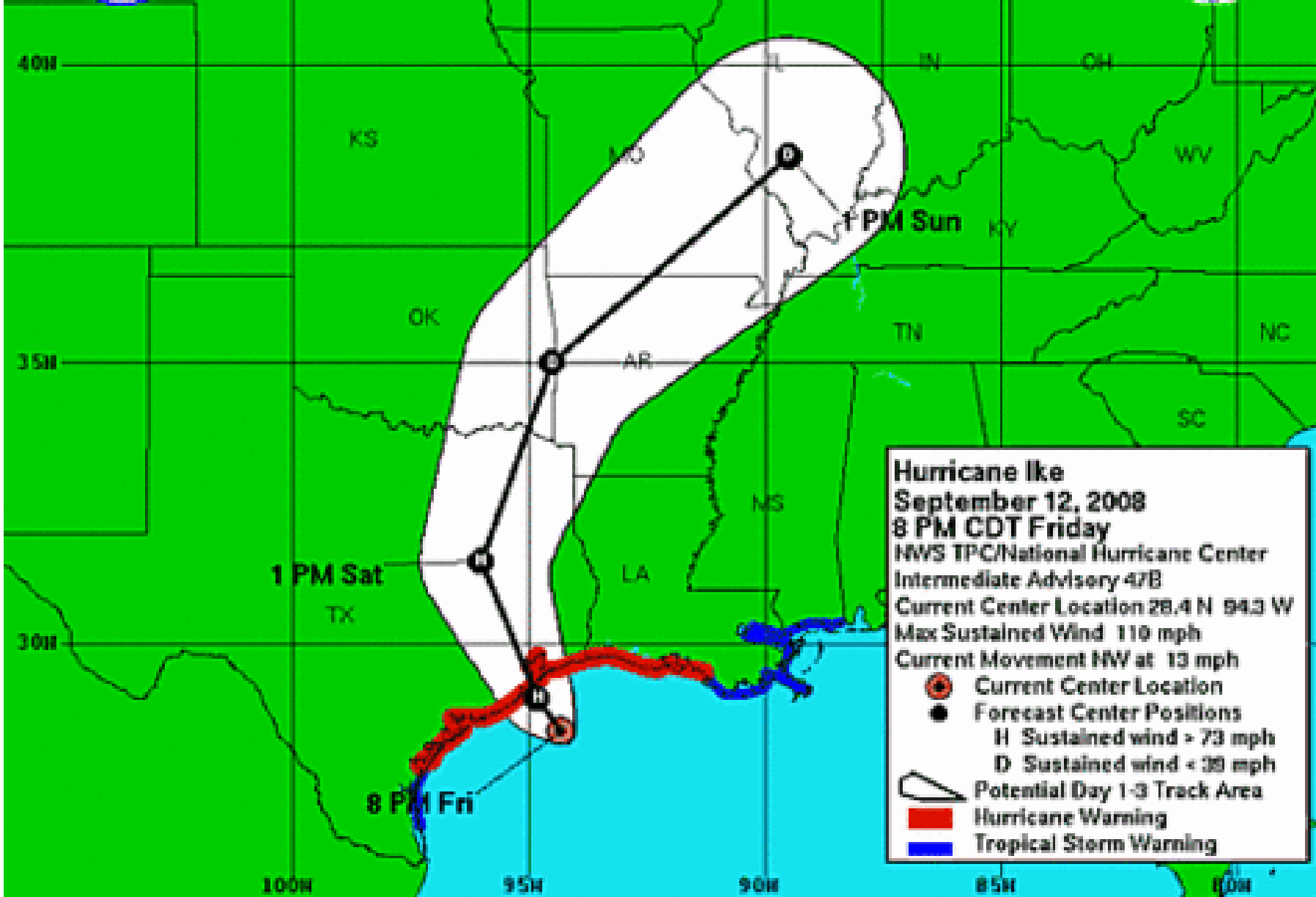









Approx. Distance Scale (Statute Miles)



True at 30.00H



Hurricane Ike
September 12, 2008
8 PM CDT Friday
NWS TPC/National Hurricane Center
Intermediate Advisory 47B
Current Center Location 28.4 N 94.3 W
Max Sustained Wind 119 mph
Current Movement NW at 13 mph

-  Current Center Location
-  Forecast Center Positions
 - H Sustained wind > 73 mph
 - D Sustained wind < 39 mph
-  Potential Day 1-3 Track Area
-  Hurricane Warning
-  Tropical Storm Warning

Impact of Gustav and Ike Hurricanes on Corn and Grain Sorghum

- Approximately 25% of corn and 10% of grain sorghum harvested prior to Hurricane Gustav
- Heavy Rainfall in Southern and Central Arkansas – 20+ inches in some areas of SE Arkansas
- Lodging was an issue in corn, although not as much as anticipated
- Sprouted grain and poor quality was a real issue in grain sorghum

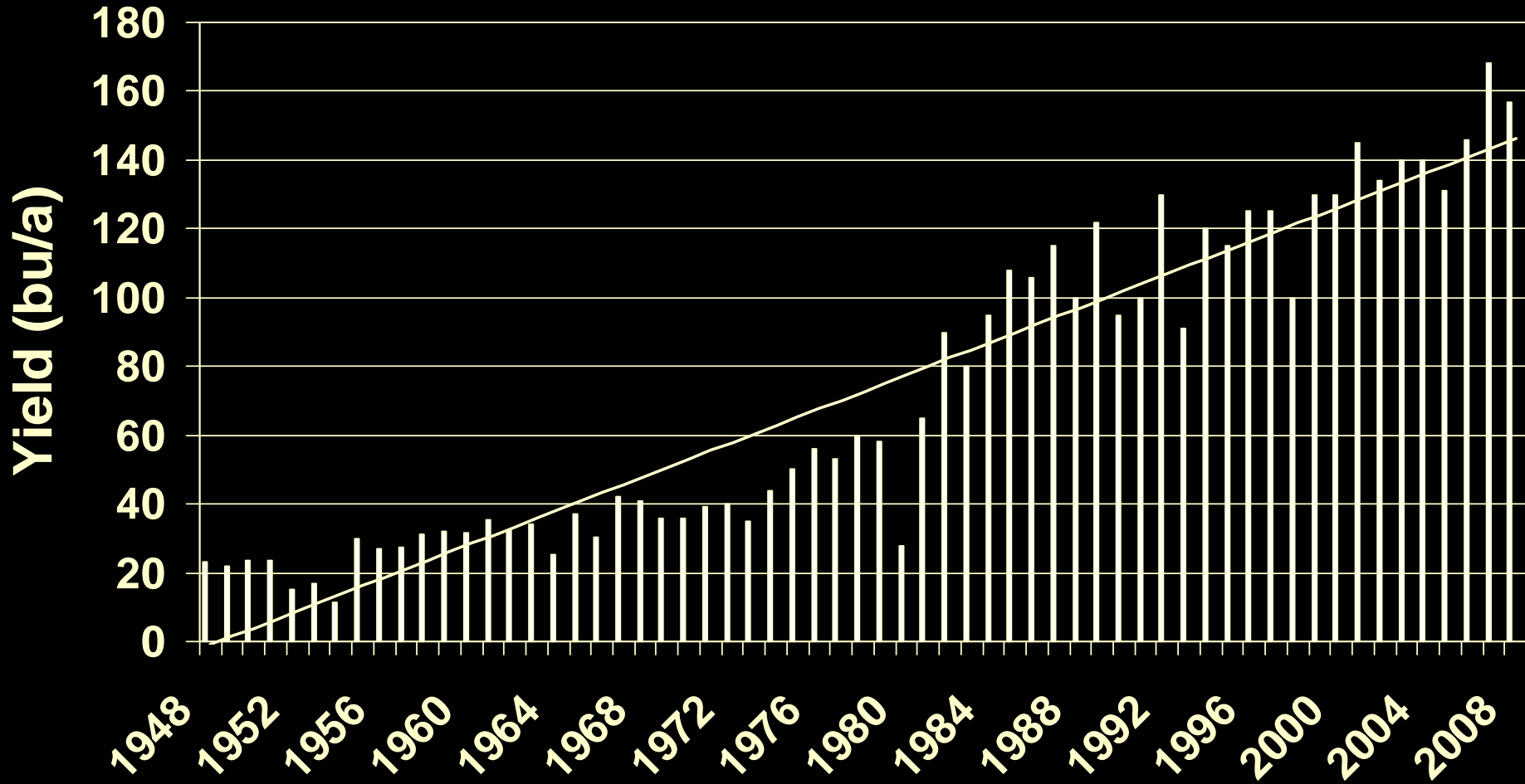




Despite Poor Harvest Conditions

- Hurricane rain delayed harvest
- State average corn yields estimated at 157 bu/acre (2nd highest ever)
- Grain sorghum yield estimated at 87 bu/acre

AR State Average Corn Yields



1985-2008: 3.5 bu/a increase each year



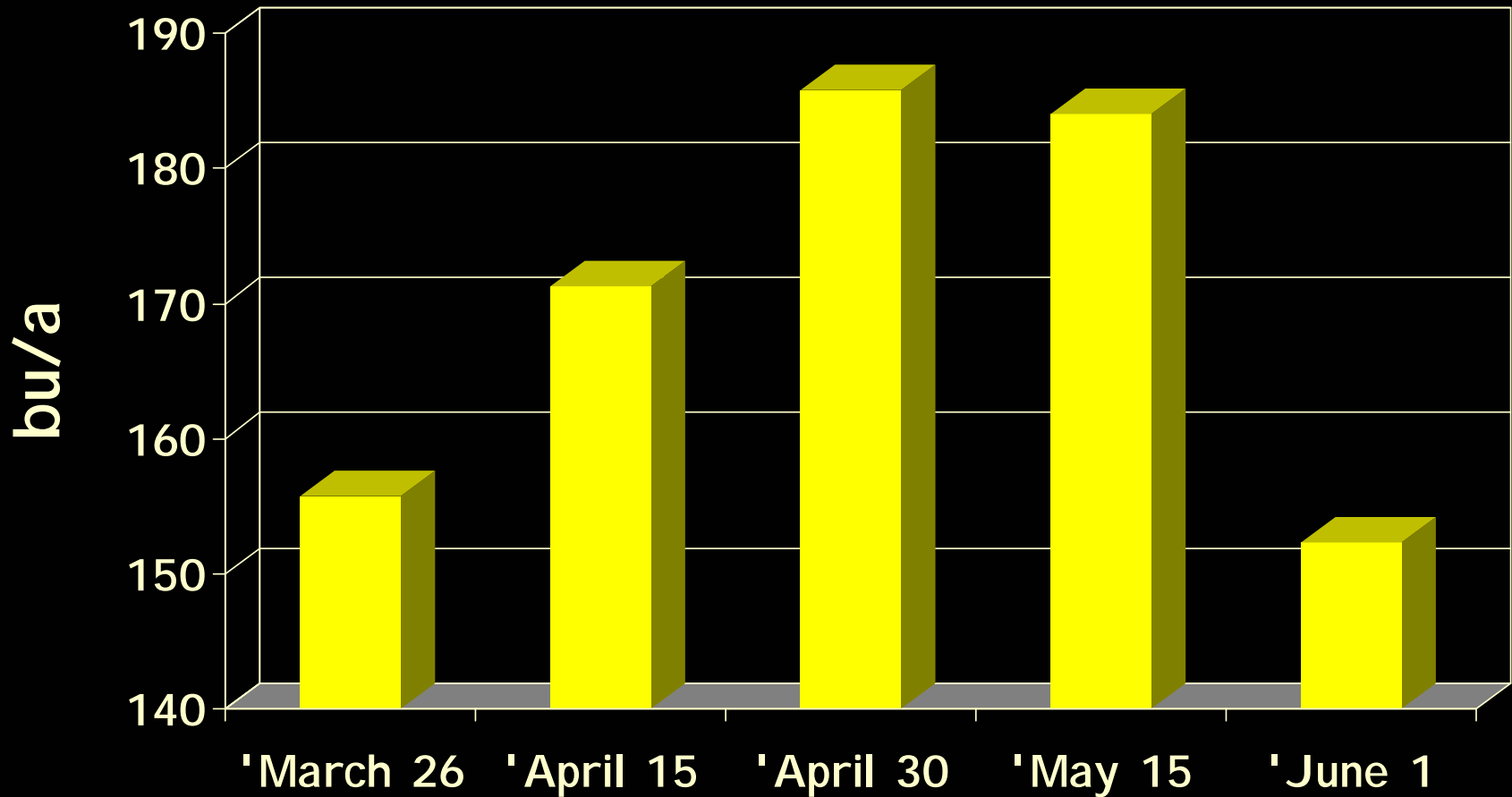




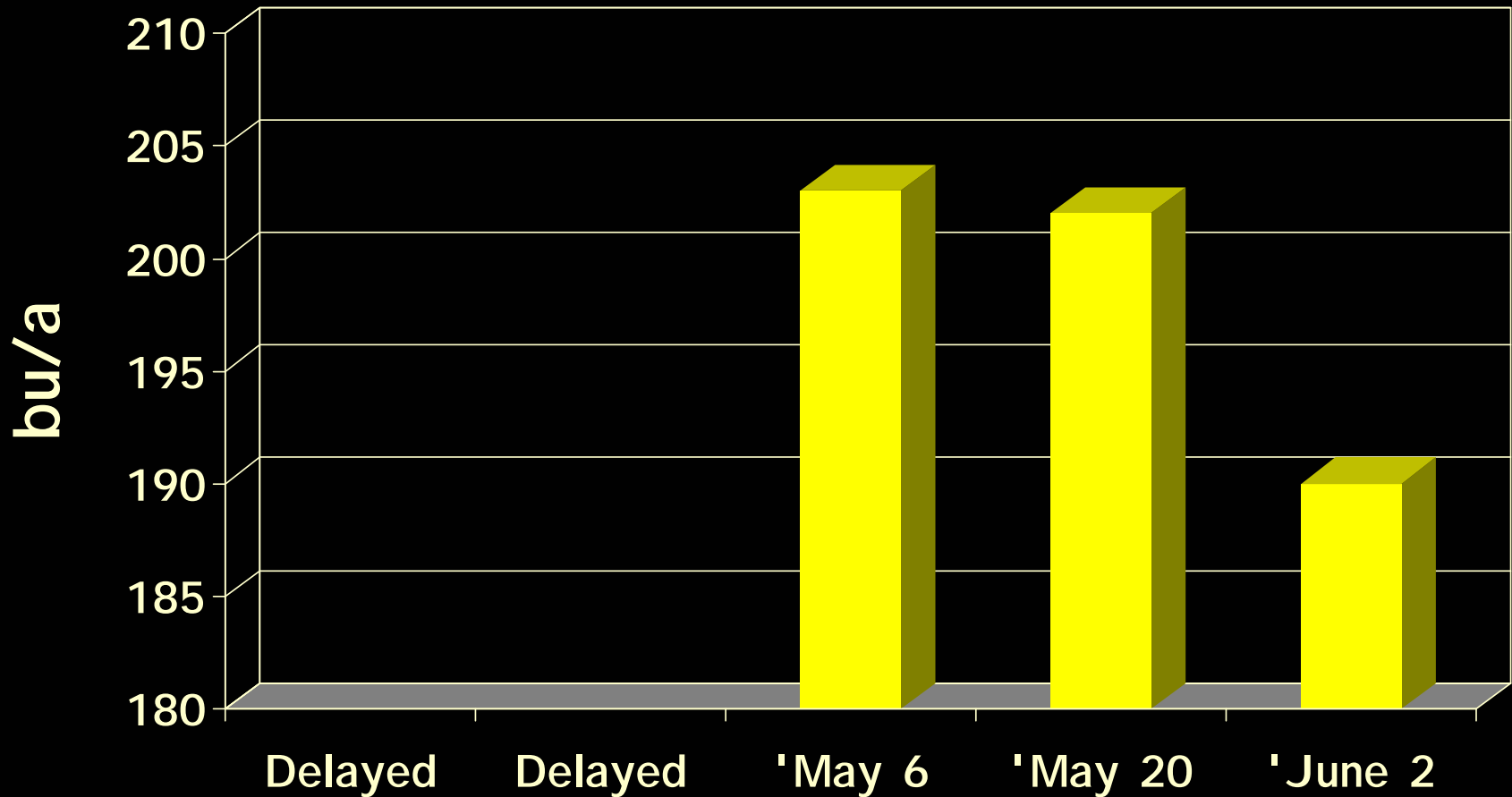
Keys for success in 2009 with corn and grain sorghum

- Plant into good conditions – Planting Dates
- Plant the right amount of seed – Plant Pop
- Row Configuration

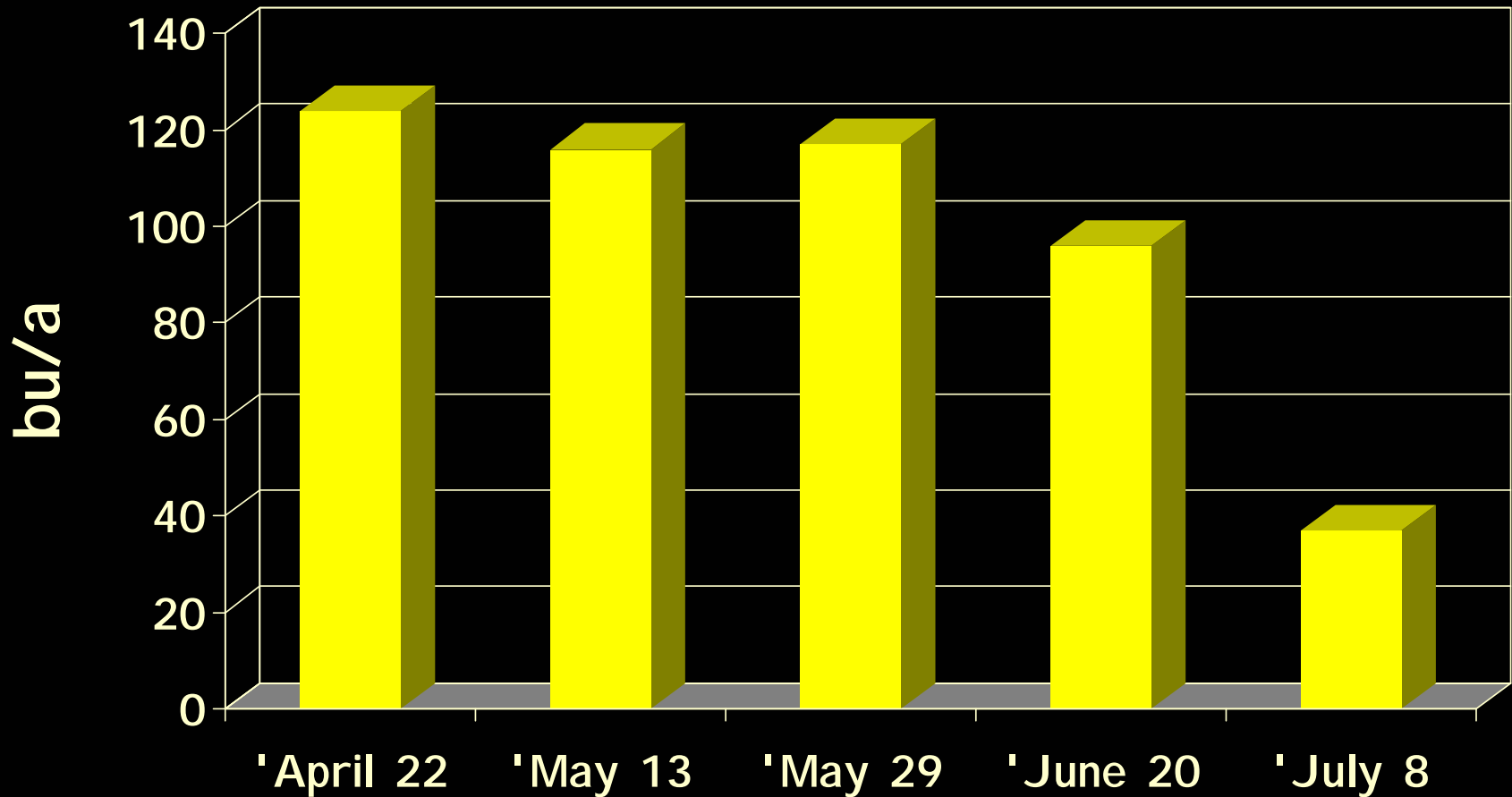
Effect of Planting Date on Corn Yield – Rohwer, 2008



Effect of Planting Date on Corn Yield – Keiser, 2008

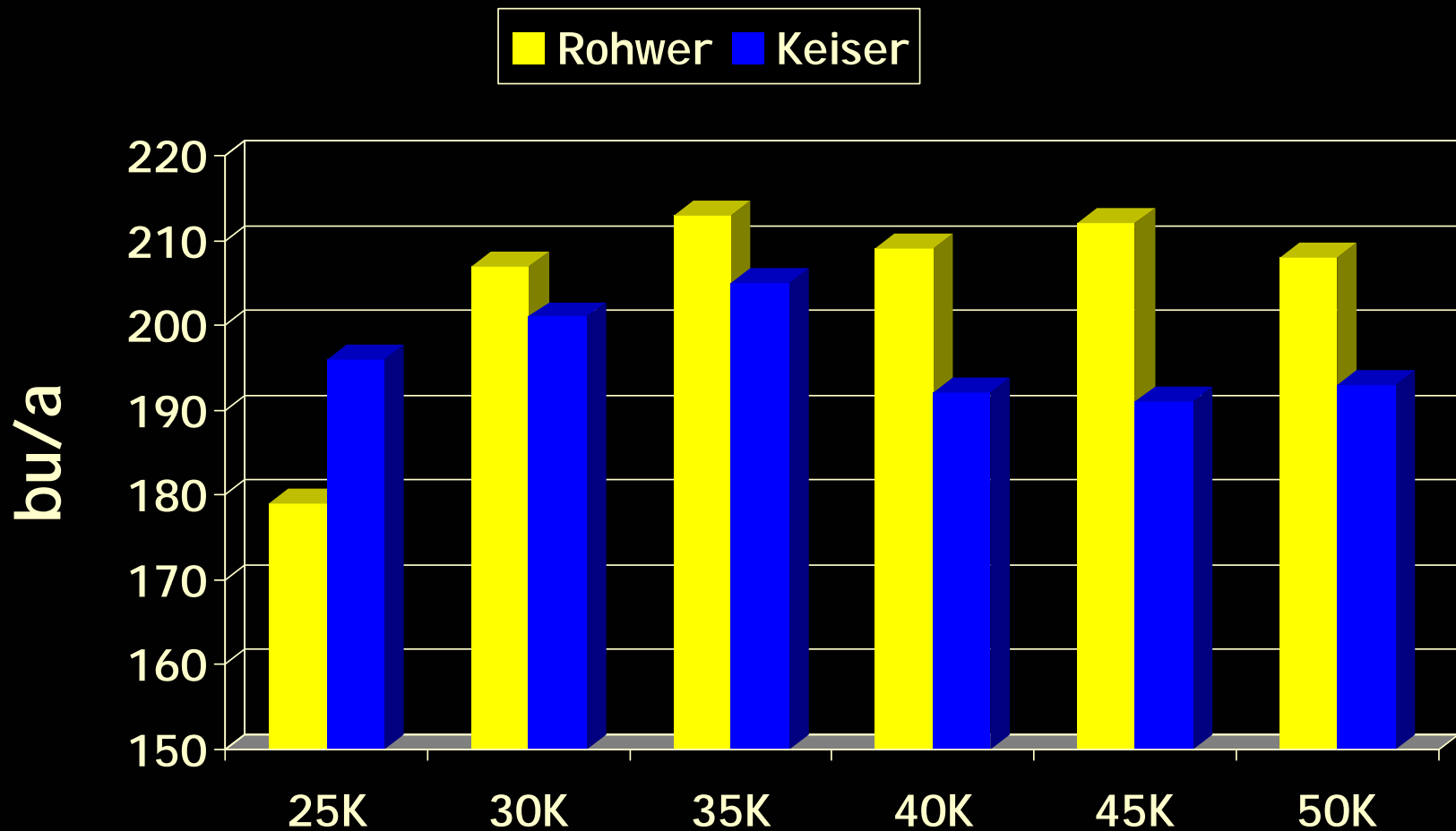


Effect of Planting Date on Grain Sorghum, Marianna, 2008



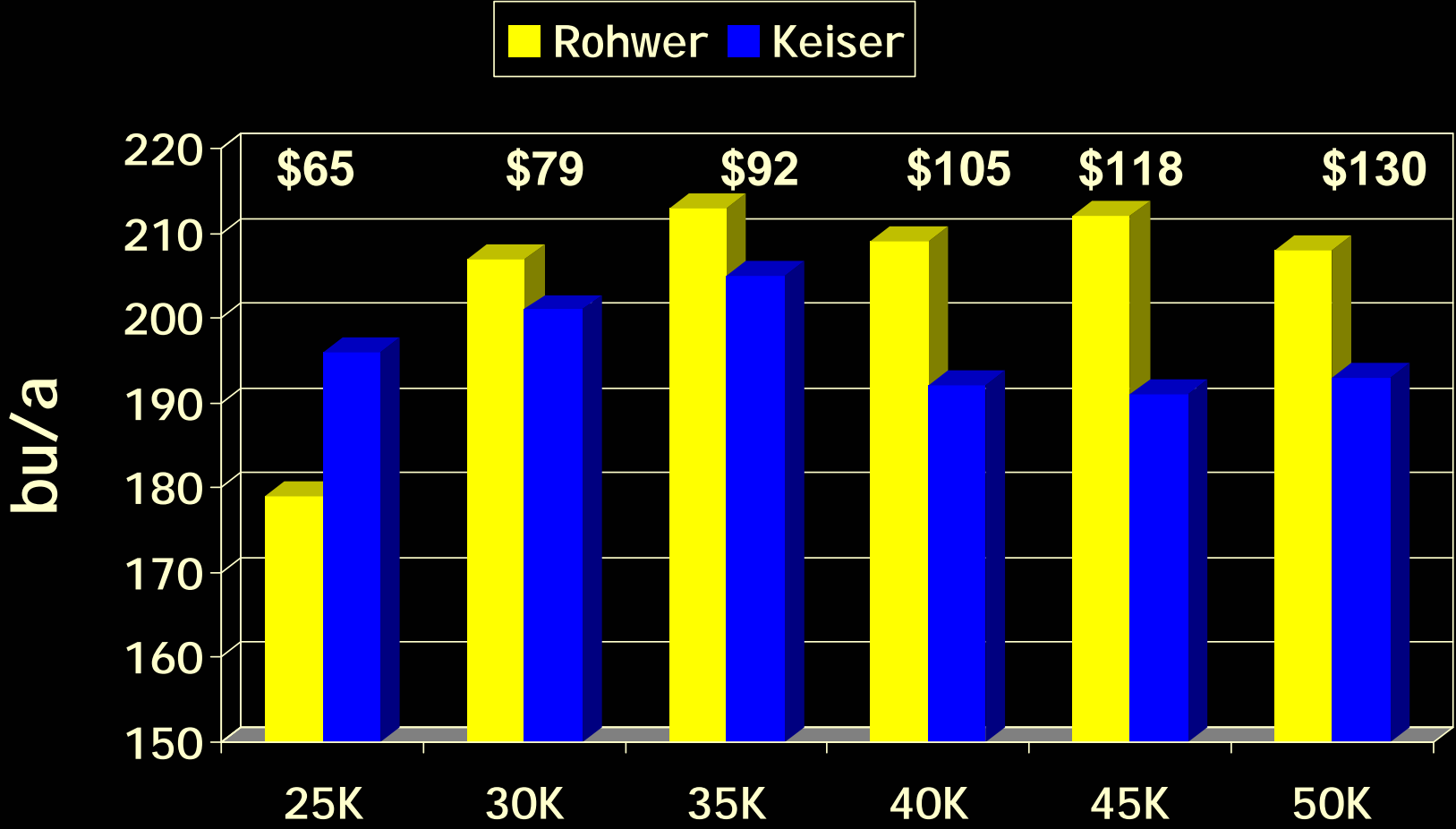
Plant Population

Effect of Plant Population on Corn Yield – Rohwer, Keiser, 2008



Effect of Plant Population on Corn Yield

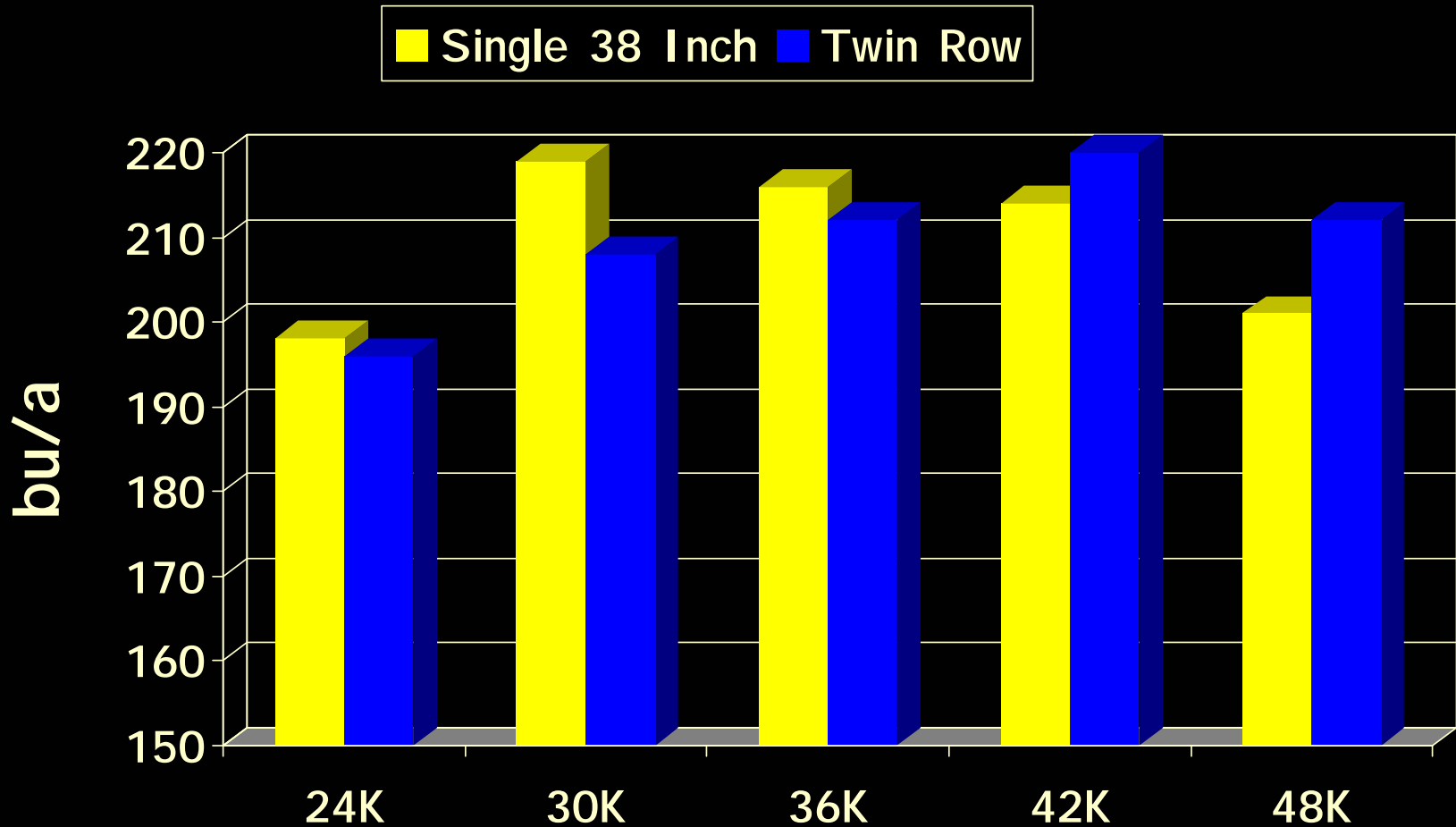
Rohwer, Keiser, 2008 (38" rows)





Single 38 Inch Rows vs Twin Row

Marianna, 2008





Reducing Grain Sorghum Lodging



2008/ 8/26



Things are not always as they appear???



Questions??

