Impacts of Within-row Plant Spacing (Doubles, Skips, and Gaps) Given Consistent Population of Oilseed and Confection Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) with Phenotyping Using UAV Based Remote Sensing



Gap treatments have a reduced plant population

Controls and skip/double treatments have the same plant population

# Yield TX Location

Confection Yield TX 2020							
treat	Mean						
MEDG	1999.3	A					
Control	1972.7	A					
SDLOW	1906.3	AB					
HIGHG	1705.4	ABC					
MEDG2	1700	ABC					
SDHIGH	1547.6	BC					
SDMED	1545.2	BC					
SDMAX	1363.1	C					
CV = 16.67							
LSD = 420.79							

Yield was significant by location in 2020

Higher skip/double treatments are at the bottom

# Yield MN Location

2020 MN Confection Yield						
Treatment	Mean					
Control	2104.4	А				
LOWG	2064.7	AB				
SDHIGH	2015.8	AB				
SDMAX	2008.9	AB				
HIGHG	2000.1	AB				
SDLOW	1959.3	AB				
MEDG	1956.3	AB				
SDMED	1948.2	AB				
MEDG2	1844.1	В				
Common letters indicate that treatments are not significantly different						
CV = 7.61 LSD = 220.88						

2020 MN Oilseed Yield				
Treatment	Mean			
SDMED	2651.78	A		
SDLOW	2642.01	A		
CONTROL	2628.94	А		
MEDG	2616.55	А		
SDMAX	2597.94	A		
LOWG	2583.55	A		
SDHIGH	2575.71	A		
HIGHG	2546.03	А		
MEDG2	2395.1	В		
CV = 3.469 LSD = 130.74				

MEDG2 has the lowest population due to having two 2-meter gaps in the middle rows

# Unharvested plants is a combination of mostly diseased or lodged plants

Oilseed Unharvested Plants						
treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value		
		Error				
SDMAX	6.6875	0.5351	81	12.5		
SDHIGH	5.8125	0.5351	81	10.86		
Control	5.4375	0.5351	81	10.16		
SDMED	5.125	0.5351	81	9.58		
MEDG	4	0.5351	81	7.48		
HIGHG	3.5	0.5351	81	6.54		
Treatment $Pr > F = 0.0003$						

The highest occurrence of unharvested plants was in treatments with skips/doubles

treat	treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value	Pr >  t
			Error			
HIGHG	SDMAX	-3.1875	0.7344	81	-4.34	<.0001
MEDG	SDMAX	-2.6875	0.7344	81	-3.66	0.0004
SDMAX	SDMED	1.5625	0.7344	81	2.13	0.0364
HIGHG	SDHIGH	-2.3125	0.7344	81	-3.15	0.0023
MEDG	SDHIGH	-1.8125	0.7344	81	-2.47	0.0157
Control	HIGHG	1.9375	0.7344	81	2.64	0.01
HIGHG	SDMED	-1.625	0.7344	81	-2.21	0.0297
Tukey-Kram	ner					

# Quality

#### Pint cup samples

<b>Confection Testweight</b>								
treat	Estimate	DF	t Value					
Error								
SDHIGH	23.3598	0.1819	93	128.41				
Control	23.0202	0.1819	93	126.54				
HIGHG	22.743	0.1819	93	125.02				
SDMAX	22.7238	0.1819	93	124.91				
MEDG	22.7112	0.1819	93	124.84				
Treatment $Pr > F = 0.0065$								

treat	treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value	Pr >  t	
			Error				
HIGHG	SDHIGH	-0.6168	0.2216	93	-2.78	0.0065	
MEDG	SDHIGH	-0.6486	0.2216	93	-2.93	0.0043	
SDHIGH	SDMAX	0.636	0.2216	93	2.87	0.0051	
Tukey-Kramer							

Distribution of seed size in a pint cup sample

Using sieve plates

	Confection Seed Size 22/64						
treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value			
		Error					
HIGHG	0.4997	0.01544	87	32.37			
MEDG	0.4891	0.01497	87	32.67			
SDHIGH	0.4566	0.01544	87	29.58			
Control	0.4509	0.01497	87	30.12			
<b>SDMAX</b> 0.4501 0.01633 87 27.56							
Treatment Pr > F = 0.0024							

treat	treat	Estimate	Standard Error	DF	t Value	Pr >  t	
Control	HIGHG	-0.04879	0.02026	87	-2.41	0.0181	
HIGHG	SDMAX	0.04966	0.02124	87	2.34	0.0217	
HIGHG	SDHIGH	0.04314	0.02063	87	2.09	0.0394	
Tukey-Kramer							

Confection Seed Size 20/64							
treat	Estimate	Standard Error	DF	t Value			
MEDG	0.8177	0.01539	87	53.13			
HIGHG	0.8126	0.01589	87	51.14			
Control	0.7897	0.01539	87	51.31			
SDHIGH	0.7528	0.01589	87	47.38			
SDMAX	<b>SDMAX</b> 0.7527 0.01684 87 44.7						
Treatment $Pr > F = 0.0012$							

# Gap treatments have a lower population

treat	treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value	Pr >  t	
			Error				
MEDG	SDHIGH	0.06489	0.02149	87	3.02	0.0033	
MEDG	SDMAX	0.06505	0.0222	87	2.93	0.0043	
HIGHG	SDHIGH	0.05977	0.02186	87	2.73	0.0076	
HIGHG	SDMAX	0.05993	0.02252	87	2.66	0.0093	
Tukey-Kramer							

Confection Seed Size 18/64							
treat	Estimate	Standard Error	DF	t Value			
MEDG	0.952	0.009059	87	105.09			
HIGHG	0.9435	0.009355	87	100.85			
Control	0.9378	0.009059	87	103.52			
SDMAX	0.908	0.009922	87	91.51			
SDHIGH 0.9007 0.009355 87 96.28							
Treatment	Treatment Pr > F = 0.0002						

This is the smallest sieve plate size used

The gap treatments and control measured a significantly higher distribution of large seeds compared to the skip/double treatments

treat	treat	Estimate	Standard	DF	t Value	Pr >  t
			Error			
MEDG	SDHIGH	0.05131	0.0129	87	3.98	0.0001
MEDG	SDMAX	0.04407	0.01331	87	3.31	0.0014
HIGHG	SDHIGH	0.04274	0.01311	87	3.26	0.0016
Control	SDHIGH	0.03709	0.0129	87	2.88	0.0051
HIGHG	SDMAX	0.0355	0.01351	87	2.63	0.0102
Control	SDMAX	0.02985	0.01331	87	2.24	0.0275
Tukey-Kramer						

The SDHIGH treatment had the highest testweight

## Emergence

Timelapse images

First emergence June 17<sup>th</sup> (right)

Most emergence occurred by June 19<sup>th</sup>

Last emergence on timelapse cameras was June 24<sup>th</sup> (June 22<sup>nd</sup> below)



Spray paint was used to ground truth areas with different plant stages



Combination of vegetation indexes increase contrast between vegetative material and soil



Classify the pixels in the high contrast raster that are plants





Precision for blocks with known singles was 85%

Reflects the percent of known plants that are correctly classified.

Blocks that had doubles were underestimated 63% of the time to just a single plant.

The false negative rate (for the classification to fail to detect a plant in a block) was 10.2%

### Thank you!

#### National Sunflower Association

Brent Hulke Calvin Trostle Ron Meyer Brady Koehler Mike Grove Brian Smart Andre Gossweiler Mike DeGreef Cameron Poyd Jaime Paterson Adam Wronski

Cassidy Voeltz Kali-Jo Olson Maya Gatz