

Corn Hybrid Response to Tar Spot

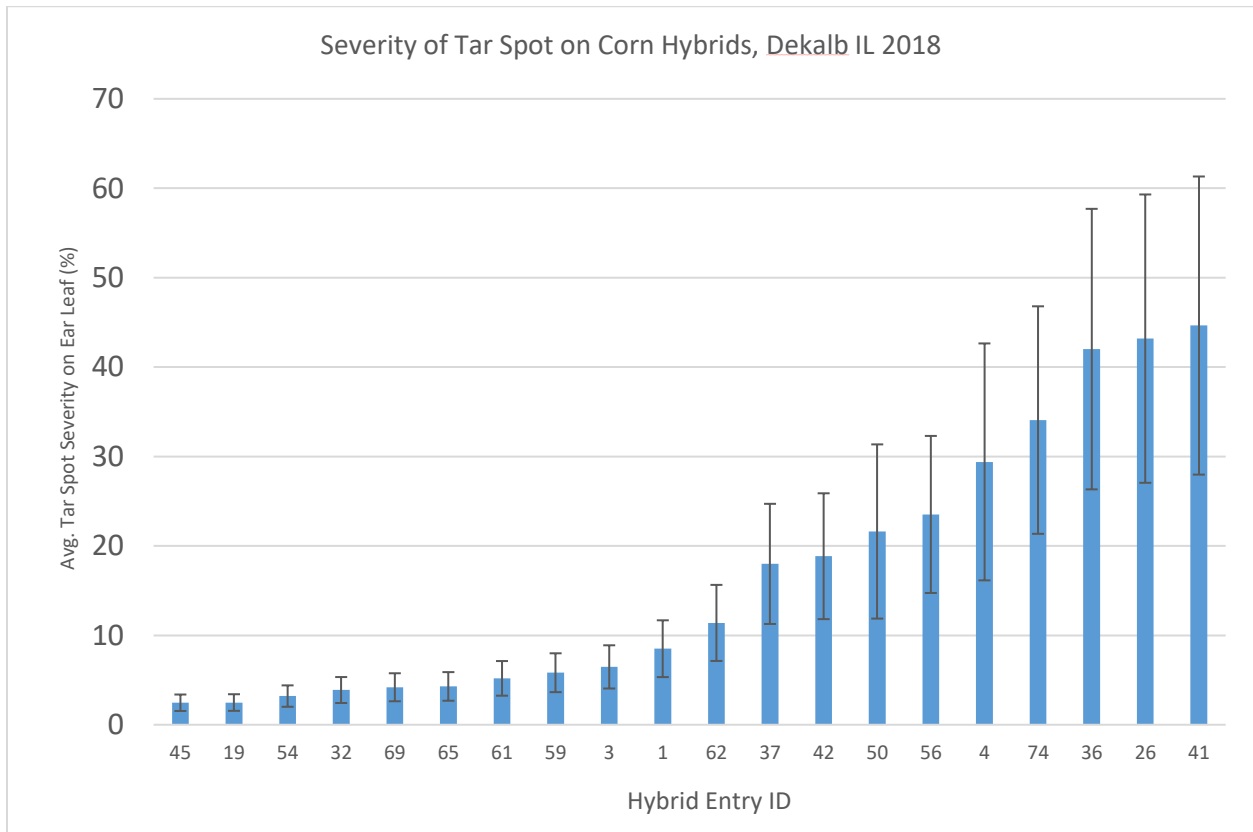
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Tar spot of corn is caused by the obligate fungal pathogen *Phyllachora maydis*. In its native range, Latin America, hybrid resistance is a key component to minimizing the impacts of this disease. A subset of hybrids contained within a corn variety trial naturally infected with *P. maydis* in DeKalb, Illinois was rated for tar spot response on 8/27/2018. Plots were 20 feet long and 10 feet wide. Six ear leaves were rated for tar spot severity per plot, and data statistically analyzed. Data indicated a significant hybrid response to tar spot, ranging from 2.5-44% severity. These data illustrate that hybrid may play a role in the severity of tar spot disease development and impact on corn. Industry practitioners and producers are encouraged to rate their hybrids for tar spot severity. We will continue to rate local variety trials into September. These efforts will help us devise informed management recommendations for the 2019 field season.



Note- Specific hybrid information is not included in this document at request of the site owner. Data presented are means \pm standard error. Main effect of hybrid $P < 0.0001$