

2012 CMDC

How Cornstalks Can Bring Value Back to Nebraska

KLOPFENSTEIN

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Corn Cows and Residue

- **2 million beef cows**
- **2.5 million cattle on feed**
- **10.3 million acres of corn**
 - 42 million tons of residue produced
 - 2.8 million tons of residue needed for beef cattle

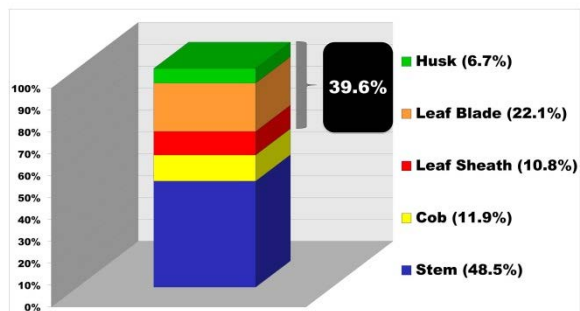
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Changes Challenges and Opportunities

- **Ethanol Industry**
 - NE is #2 in nation (24 plants)
 - Uses 35% of corn
 - ↑ Corn price
 - Pasture → Corn
 - Supply and price of forage
 - Abundance of corn residue

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Corn Plant Parts

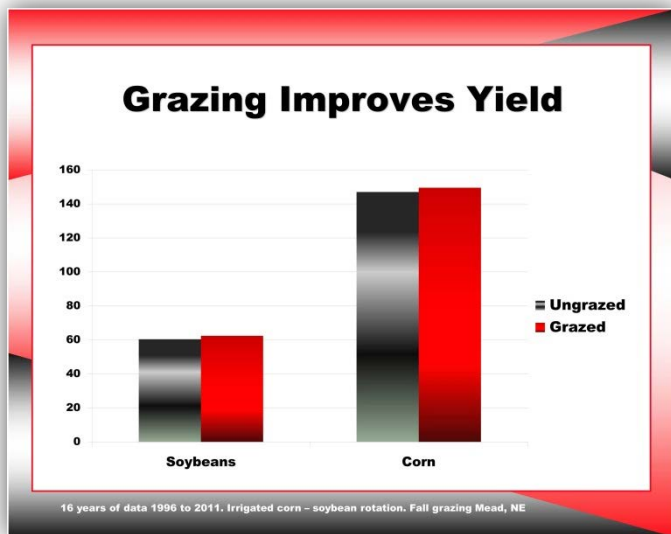


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Consequences of Grazing?

- **Subsequent Crop Yield**
- **Soil**
- **Water**

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Grain Yields After Stover Removal

Tillage	Stover removal (%)	Grain yield Bu/a
Disk	0	201.7
	36	207.5
	76	212.4
No tillage	0	180.9
	50	205.9
	100	202.0

Irrigated Fields in Mead, NE (2009-2010). From Weinhold et al. (2012).

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