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# Yields of the Field Experiments 1986

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## Harvest Areas for Cereals

### Rothamsted Research

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## Harvest areas for cereals

On most of those cereal experiments at Rothamsted and Woburn (but not Saxmundham) which are harvested by combine the 'blank-row' technique is used to distinguish the areas taken for yield from the discard areas. For example when seed is drilled in rows 7 in. (18 cm) apart appropriate coulters are prevented from sowing and 8 or 16 rows are left for yield according to the cutter-bar width of the combine to be used. If the row-spacing is other than 7 in. a similar arrangement is used but with a different number of rows.

The ends of plots are separated from each other or from headlands by 3 ft (91 cm) fallow paths made after the crop has established.

The 'Area harvested' in the 'Yields', when the blank-row technique is used, is the product:-

number of rows harvested x distance between rows x length of rows.

A series of experiments at Rothamsted showed that on average the yield of 16 rows (50 ft (15 m) long) was 7.8% greater with blank rows than without. (Experimental Husbandry 23 pp 16-20 (1972)).

If no rows are left blank and the plot is wider than the combine harvester so that discards are left uncut, the 'Area harvested' is the product:-

width of cutter bar x length of rows.

If the plot is narrower than the combine so that the whole area between paths is cut, the 'Area harvested' is the product:-

number of rows x distance between rows x length of rows.

We do not apply the adjustment used by some workers who take the harvested areas as width x length where each is measured to the centre of 'paths' up to a maximum of 18 in. (46 cm).

## Tables of means

Tables of means are presented directly from computer output. Both factor and level names are presented in upper case characters. Vertical and horizontal lines are omitted e.g.:-

|          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| FACTOR C | LEVEL C1 |          | LEVEL C2 |          | LEVEL C3 |          |
| FACTOR B | LEVEL B1 | LEVEL B2 | LEVEL B1 | LEVEL B2 | LEVEL B1 | LEVEL B2 |
| FACTOR A |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| LEVEL A1 | *        | *        | *        | *        | *        | *        |
| LEVEL A2 | *        | *        | *        | *        | *        | *        |

## Standard errors

NOTES: (1) This report gives standard errors of differences, not of means.

(2) Annotations (e.g. \* min rep, max-min, max rep) to S.E.Ds are only explained the first time they occur in any experiment.