

Influence of Drought on Corn Yield in China

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Abstracts

Corn, first planted from the sixteenth century in China and now one of the three major grain crops in China, has witnessed fast growth in the past six decades. China's corn planting area is projected to continue expanding in the coming years, mainly driven by the robust demand from feed and industrial sectors, relatively high planting profit and strong policy support.

Climate change is one of the major factors influencing China's corn planting. Among all the natural disasters that affect corn planting, the impact of drought is considered the most significant. Under the global warming and depravation of China's ecological environment, drought occurrence in China is estimated to be on an uptrend in the future.

In China, drought usually occurs unevenly in different regions, seasons and years, while corn's planting area is sprawling irregularly during the past years. Accordingly, the overlapping or staggering of drought occurrence with corn planting by geographic distribution and seasonal distribution aggravates the impact of drought on corn yield.

In order to figure out the impact of drought on corn yield and forecast the corn planting in China, CCM carries out this research, namely Influence of Drought on Corn Yield in China, through the following aspects:

Corn planting history in China from 1949 to 2012, including: changes of corn planting, planting area, unit yield, output and summarization of each decade;

Geographic distribution of corn planting from 1978 to 2011, such as: the division of corn planting area, the top planting areas and their share changes;

Geographic distribution of drought area in China

The influence of drought on corn yield, reflected in: comparison of geographic and seasonal distribution of drought with that of corn planting, correlation analysis between these two factors in China and in the top eight corn planting regions;

Local governments and farmers' reaction to drought

Change and forecast of corn planting under the climate change

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