ABSTRACT: Our speaker has been called King David. Four times in the past decade, David Hula of Renwood Farms, Charles City, Va., has delivered the top national yield in the National Corn Growers Association corn yield contest. Last year, he won first place over 7,118 other corn growers in the United States with a yield of 368.4 bu/ac with Pioneer® brand hybrid P1615HR.

He first topped all winning yields in 2003 with 321.8 bu/ac. He did it again the next year with 339.4 bu/ac and a third time in 2007 with 385 bu/ac. He has consistently placed near the top since first entering the NCGA yield contest in 1996. And he had done this each year with Pioneer corn hybrids.

David farms with his brother Johnny and father Stanley on about 3,000 acres near the James River across three different counties in Virginia – James City, New Kent and Charles City. About 2,000 acres were dedicated to corn this year, both irrigated and dryland. Since the early-1980s, they have no-tilled corn and soybeans continuously – or as David calls it “never till.” This practice has provided them higher yields and lower production costs.

He was harvesting his contest entry while Hurricane Irene was beginning to move inland from the Atlantic. He harvested 300 acres ahead of Irene, before its 60 mile-per-hour wind leveled the rest of his corn. On 12/21/11 DuPont Congratulated David Hula for Highest Overall Yield with Pioneer® Hybrid P2088HR in the 2011 NCGA Corn Yield Contest. Hula attained the highest overall yield of 429.02 bushels per acre with Pioneer® brand P2088HR. He won first place in the No-Till/Strip-Till Irrigated category.