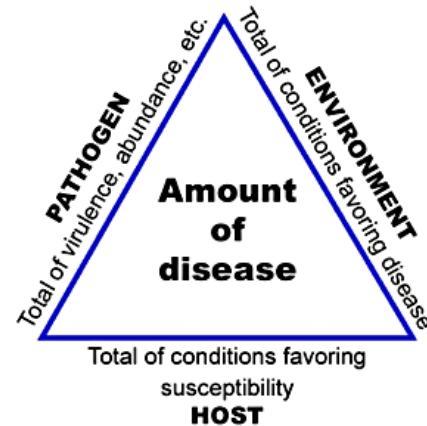


## 2016 Fungicides, Are They Worth It?

Diseases have been well known to rob yield from our crops, so why does this happen in some years worse than others? It is in part, because of the conditions that favor disease development. The figure below is the disease triangle, this is the quick summary of how the amount of disease is determined.

For an example, our Iowa weather usually favors the development of Northern Corn Leaf Blight (NCLB). This disease develops best at 65-80 degree temperature, along with humid/wet conditions. The length of time these conditions occur the more the disease advances. Following the disease triangle, here is a list of some of the ways we can handle the amount of disease for NCLB.

- Tillage, buries the corn residue lowering the abundance of the **Pathogen**
- **Host**, Crop rotation, Tolerant/Resistant hybrids decrease disease development
- **Environment**, this is where the weather calls The shots Creating good or bad disease conditions



Copyright 2015 - Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University

So where do fungicides come in... For a disease like NCLB we are lucky to have products that work great at controlling it. The appropriate fungicide can lower the abundance and virulence of the **Pathogen**. It also protects a susceptible **Host** (no corn is 100% resistant) and most important it protects the plant when the weather or **Environment** favors the greatest amount of disease development.

So to answer the question, **Fungicides are they worth it?** Yes they are, putting the right product on the right acre at the right time protects your yield. For more information on how to best utilize fungicides call us at Mickelson Seeds. We carry a variety of fungicide products for corn & soybeans, along with the knowledge to get the most yield out of using them.

**Dave Mickelson**  
**Seed & Chemical Specialist**  
515-571-6599  
Davidm@lvcta.com

**Alex Gascho C.C.A**  
**Agronomy Sales Specialist**  
515-571-0313  
Mickelsonseedsalex@gmail.com

