



# GROVER'S 2018 GUIDE

JUNE

## Management and Expectations for Late Planted Soybeans

Planting as early as soil conditions permit in April is optimum for the Midsouth to attain highest soybean yields. Unfortunately, our wet, cool spring delayed planting for many until mid-May and now into June. Soybeans begin to lose yield potential when planting is delayed beyond mid-May. Yield losses due to delayed planting average from 0.25 bushels after May 15 to 1 bushel per acre per day after June 10. Good management and irrigation to minimize stress in late planted soybeans will result in greater yields.

Planting an indeterminate, late group IV or early group V will yield as well or better than a later, full-season variety when planting in June or after. Because of their indeterminate growth, they will produce a taller, fuller crop canopy before flowering and have a longer season to flower, set pods and fill seed compared to earlier maturities. Progeny 4930LL, Progeny 4799RXS and Progeny 5016RXS are ideal indeterminate soybeans that do well under late planting scenarios and after wheat.

If possible, plant in narrow rows (30 inches or less) and increase planting rates by 10-20%. Narrow rows and higher plant populations allow the crop canopy to cover the soil sooner to suppress weeds and optimize the capture of needed sunlight during the reproductive growth stages to insure the best yields.

Fungicide and insecticide seed treatments may not be as beneficial with late planting since the soil will be warm and germination and soybean emergence should occur within three days. However, if planting into a field with a history of *Phytophthora* root rot or insect issues, a fungicide-insecticide seed treatment is advisable. In addition, a seed treatment will protect seed if moisture for

emergence is not adequate and seeds lay in the soil for an extended period prior to germination.

### **Other management factors to consider for a late planted crop are:**

- a. Monitor insects closely and treat as needed since insects such as stinkbugs and worms can cause serious problems on later soybeans.
- b. Be prepared to irrigate longer into the season and possibly at inopportune times when busy harvesting other crops. Do not turn the water off too soon.
- c. A plus for later planted beans is they often have better seed quality at harvest than earlier beans since they usually mature under cooler conditions, meaning less dockage from damaged seed.
- d. With adequate growing conditions and good management, 60 plus bushel yields of June planted soybeans are possible. Growers who apply good management to late planted beans will insure the best yields possible.



**- Dr. Grover Shannon**

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