Why Planting Date Matters - Take a Look!

Picture Date: 6/26/2003

Picture Date: 6/24/2004

2008SMFD-Specht001

2008SMFD-Specht002

Between the V1 Stage and the R5 Stage, a new main stem node is produced every 3.7 days, so about two nodes per week!

Fig. 14. Beginning seed (R5) stage—seed 38mm ± 18

2008SMFD-Specht003

How soon can you plant? A better question is how soon do you want your soybean seedlings to EMERGE?

At a 5% probability, (03 May – 19 Sep), the growing season length is 139 days. At a 29% probability, (26 April – 01 Oct), the growing season length is 167 days!

2008SMFD-Specht004
THE SIMPLE DOLLAR SAVING SOYBEAN PLANTING

1. A delay in the soybean harvest due to a delay in planting is one bushel per day of delay.
2. If a one - day delay in planting after May 10 leads to a $6 per acre loss in soybean price, then the loss is $60 per acre each day of delay.
3. If a one - day delay in planting after May 20 leads to a $8 per acre loss in soybean price, then the loss is $80 per acre each day of delay.

Plant Early – But Do It Right!

1. Know the calendar date of last-ever spring frost for your area.
2. For a zero risk of seedling freeze, time your planting start date to ensure that seedling emergence occurs on or after that date.
3. Emergence is slower in the cool soils of late April, so use high quality seed and consider treating seed with fungicide.
4. Bean leaf beetle leaf feeding in early plantings are not a problem unless they are transmitting bean pod mottle virus.

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2008SMFD-Specht009

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2008SMFD-Specht010

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2008SMFD-Specht011

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2008SMFD-Specht012
Deferred (but not a deficit) irrigation treatment
(no irrigation until R3 stage (early pod filling) full irrigation thereafter)
ET-(In+Rain) deficit was 1.8" on picture date – irrigation was triggered next day

Yield: 87.2 bu/ac

Deferred irrigation reduced leaf size in the upper canopy, but likely led to
that dry matter ending up in the roots to extend rooting length and depth.
Compare with leaves in prior slide. NO wilted leaflets suggests that the
rate of water uptake from the soil is commensurate with leaf transpiration.

If your irrigated crop rotation is
Corn / Soy and you are not achieving
a long-term Yield Ratio of
3.25 bu/ac Corn / 1.00 bu/ac Soy

Examples:
163/50, 179/55, 195/60, 211/65, 228/70,
244/75, 260/80, 276/85, 293/90, 309/95

then you are mismanaging one or
the other of the two crops.
Which crop do you mismanage?