

# Soybean Planting Tips

#1 Roundup Ready  
Tonnage  
Protein  
Food Plot™  
EAGLE SEED



#1 Soybean  
FORAGE BIOMASS™  
8496 Swan Pond Rd \* PO Box 308  
Weiner, AR 72479 \* 870-684-7377

## FERTILIZER:

- Optimum pH for soybean is between 6.0 and 7.0; 6.5 is ideal.
- Inoculate soybeans if the soil has either high or low pH, has been water-logged or extremely cold, or has no recent history of soybean growth. Inoculant can also reduce your costs; Nitrogen is not needed on decent soil if the soybeans are inoculated. Starter N is fine. It is recommended that you apply the inoculant to the seed just prior to planting.
- For best results fertilize according to your farm's soil test (taken in summer or fall) analyzed by your State Extension Service. If you don't have a soil test, use inoculant and 0-40-70. Soybeans remove a minimum of 40 units (lbs) of Phosphorous and 70 units of Potassium. For maximum deer antler and body weight production, Dr. G. Woods, deer biologist, uses 0-70-120.

## INTER-SEEDING WITH ROUNDUP READY CORN:

To maximize plant growth for both species, it is best to plant soybean and corn in separate patches. If you prefer inter-seeding them, studies show that optimum results are achieved with 3-5 lbs corn and one bag per acre of soybeans. Add N for the corn, soybeans will fix only enough for their own use.

## HERBICIDE APPLICATION:

- It is best to start with a clean, weed-free seed bed. When no-till planting, apply glyphosate prior to or at planting.
- Glyphosate can be applied at any time, but weeds need to be controlled in the first 3 to 4 weeks to maximize soybean plant growth. It is important to spray weeds before they reach 4 inches in height.
- Roundup PowerMax and WeatherMax are the best products; the only active ingredient should be glyphosate, though most formulations will also contain a surfactant (follow label directions).

## PLANTING TIME, DEPTH, SPACINGS:

- In general, most northern food plotters can plant in late May or early June. Southern food plots can usually be planted in late April to early May. Check with your local extension service for optimum dates. This is usually after your last spring frost when the soil temperature at a one inch planting depth is above 65°F. Soybeans have a different kind of emergence, so it is usually best to plant after a rain. Rain can cause surface soil compaction and crusting which prevents plant establishment.
- The recommended planting depth is 3/4 to 1 inch into a moist soil. Avoid planting in a dry soil, or in muddy conditions.
- When broadcasting, increase your seeding rate to 75 lbs or about 1.5 bags/acre since not every seed will have proper seed to soil contact.
- Seed size will vary, so use a minimum of one bag to the acre. The chart is provided to calibrate your drill or planter based on row width. If planting in less than optimal conditions or heavy deer densities, use the higher plant population and a narrower row up to 15 inches in width.

## ESTABLISHMENT:

Use deer deterrents for the first 4-8 weeks, especially in areas of heavy deer pressure or in cooler than normal temperatures.

## DRAINAGE:

Make sure your crops have good drainage. Soybean plant growth and nitrogen fixation can be lost when water stands on an area for 3 or more days.

Row Spacing	<u>140,000</u>	<u>175,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
	Seeds per row foot for each population desired		
38" row	10.2	12.7	14.5
36" row	9.6	12.1	13.8
30" row	8.0	10.0	11.5
20" row	5.4	6.7	7.7
15" row	4.0	5	5.7*
7.5" row	2.0	2.5	2.9*
Broadcast/ square foot	3.2	4.0	4.6*
RECOM- MENDED SOIL CONDITIONS AND DEER DENSITY	Use this rate for good soil conditions or low deer density	Use this rate for normal deer density	*Use this rate for less than ideal soil and/or heavy deer density

Data compiled from multiple states and sources including extension and university data.

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