EFFECTS OF PLANTING DATE ON SOYBEAN YIELD

TRIAL OVERVIEW

• Previous work at the Monsanto Learning Center at Monmouth, IL has shown that planting date is an important factor affecting soybean yield.¹
• An earlier planting date could potentially be a low-risk/high-return soybean management practice.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

• The objective of this trial was to evaluate the impact of planting date on soybean yield.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Soil</th>
<th>Previous Crop</th>
<th>Tillage Type</th>
<th>Planting Date</th>
<th>Harvest Date</th>
<th>Potential Yield/Acre</th>
<th>Planting Rate/Acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth, IL</td>
<td>Silt Loam</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>Conventional</td>
<td>04/25/2017</td>
<td>10/18/2017</td>
<td>70 bu/acre</td>
<td>130,000 seeds/acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth, IL</td>
<td>Silt Loam</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>Conventional</td>
<td>05/30/2017</td>
<td>10/18/2017</td>
<td>70 bu/acre</td>
<td>130,000 seeds/acre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SITE NOTES:
• A 3.6 RM Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybean product was planted.
• The trial included 5 replications and planting dates of April 25 and May 30, 2017.
• Data from 2015 and 2016 were included in the summaries to show a three-year average.
• Planting dates for the three-year average are recorded as early and late.

UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS

Effect of Planting Date on Soybean Yield 2017

- The April 25 planting date in 2017 showed a 5.4 bu/acre advantage (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Soybean yield response to two planting dates at the Monsanto Learning Center at Monmouth, IL in 2017.
Early planting has resulted in consistently higher yields for the past three years (2015-2017) with an average yield advantage of 4 bu/acre (Figure 2).

Although growing conditions change annually, the results at the Monsanto Learning Center at Monmouth, IL, generally agree with university planting date information.²

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR FARM?**

- Early-planted soybean crops tend to out-perform later-planted soybean crops fairly consistently.
- Early planting assumes that the soil and weather conditions are suitable for seedbed preparation and seed germination.

**SOURCES**


Websites verified 11/9/17. 171103103817