

# Soybean Stand Establishment and Assessment Scorecard

SYNGENTA SOYBEANS – A SYSTEMS APPROACH



Production Factors	Stand Assessment Specifics	Points	Your Score
<b>Soybean Variety</b> (CHU)	RECOMMENDED VARIETY	1 POINT	
	CERTIFIED TAGS	1 POINT	
<b>Targeted Seeding Rate</b> <sup>1</sup> (seeds/acre)	HAS ESTABLISHED TARGETED SEEDING:		
	BASED ON VARIETY	1 POINT	
	BASED ON FIELD OR YIELD ZONE (SEEDS/ACRE)	1 POINT	
<b>Seed Treatment</b> (fungicide and/or insecticide)	HAS CONDUCTED FIELD PEST ASSESSMENT	1 POINT	
	PLANTS TREATED SEED AS REQUIRED	1 POINT	
<b>Calibrated Planting Equipment</b> <sup>2</sup> Make _____ Model _____	COMPLETED CALIBRATION ACTIVITY ON PLANTING/SEEDING EQUIPMENT	1 POINT	
<b>Planting Date</b>	1ST HALF OF PLANTING SEASON	1 POINT	
	2ND HALF OF PLANTING SEASON	0 POINTS	
<b>Tillage within in the Seed Zone</b> <sup>3</sup>	STRIP/ZONE, VERTICAL, CONVENTIONAL	1 POINT	
<b>Temperature at planting</b> (Soil/Air)	KNOWS TEMPERATURE STATS AT PLANTING	1 POINT	
	WITHIN 90% +OF TARGETED FINAL POPULATION	3 POINTS	
	WITHIN 80 – 90% OF TARGETED FINAL POPULATION	2 POINTS	
	WITHIN 70 – 80% OF TARGETED FINAL POPULATION	1 POINT	
	LESS THAN 70% OF TARGETED POPULATION	0 POINTS	
<b>Actual Stand Count</b> <sup>4</sup> (plants/acre)	90%+ OF PLANTS WITHIN SAME GROWTH STAGE	3 POINTS	
	80 - 90%+ OF PLANTS WITHIN SAME GROWTH STAGE	2 POINTS	
	70 - 80% OF PLANTS WITHIN SAME GROWTH STAGE	1 POINT	
	LESS THAN 70% OF PLANTS WITHIN SAME GROWTH STAGE	0 POINTS	
<b>Uniformity of Emergence</b> <sup>5</sup>	>90% OF SEEDS WITHIN SAME SEED PLACEMENT ZONE	1 POINT	
	>30% RESIDUE COVER	1 POINT	
	MEDIUM AND WIDE ROWS: NO IN-ROW BLANKS OR GAPS > 12"	1 POINT	
	NARROW ROWS: NO IN-ROW GAPS > 24"	1 POINT	
<b>Planting Depth Uniformity</b> <sup>6</sup>			
<b>Estimated % Residue Cover</b> <sup>7</sup> (Previous Crop type)			
<b>Uniformity within the row</b> (Medium, Wide or in Narrow Rows)			

This scorecard has been prepared as a benchmarking tool to assist soybean growers in assessing their current stand establishment production areas or techniques against other areas of refinement that can be used to enhance soybean yields.

GROWER NAME:

FIELD IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION:

DATE:

GPS COORDINATES:

TOTAL POINTS:

**17+ POINTS** - MASTER

**13 - 16 POINTS** - PROFICIENT

**< 13 POINTS** - BASIC

See back page for more details

## FOOTNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Targeted seeding rate as determined by Syngenta population matrix based on variety characteristics and yield productivity index of field

<sup>2</sup> Calibration process focused on determining seeding rate in seeds/acre

<sup>3</sup> Tillage within the seed zone is any soil disturbance or tillage within the seed zone including stall seed bed prep, even fall strip tillage. Note: pure no-till = "Open slot, place seed in the slot and close slot"

<sup>4</sup> Ideal stage to determine final stand counts is between 1st and 3rd trifoliate.

<sup>5</sup> Uniformity of emergence – based on percentage of plants at the same growth stage when conducting stand counts.

<sup>6</sup> Planting depth uniformity is based on < +/- ¼ inch (0.5 cm) planting depth variance

<sup>7</sup> Percent residue cover is to be determined using established evaluation techniques (Using Line-transect Method)



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17+ points

**MASTER:** You often serve as a key production manager or resource within your agricultural business unit. You are recognized as a true expert, but strive for continual improvement of production.

You attend agricultural and professional conferences to learn the most modern production techniques and technologies. You partner with industry experts on pilot projects to develop unique, customized solutions. You likely have a written, hyper-focused annual production plan and are always looking to synthesize complex agronomic production principals into your production system.

You have acquired a thorough knowledge and skill set that allows proficient production even under adverse conditions. You are able to respond quickly to setbacks by developing alternative approaches or solutions making sure to minimize impact where possible.

You monitor your crop by scouting with a high level of intensity, and you may actually pay for this service. You have also adopted numerous innovative BMP's such as in-crop fungicide application, customized fertility programs, on-farm variety and agronomy trials to identify production improvement opportunities with a high ROI.

13 - 16 points

**PROFICIENT:** You have a strong skill set and knowledge of soybean production allowing for relatively consistent yields year to year accounting for seasonal variations. You are also always working to hone your agronomic knowledge and skill set to grow a better crop each year.

You require minimal guidance to achieve your production goals in a normal production environment and are able to draw on your current skill set in difficult situations. You resolve issues promptly by determining the best course of action and are able to apply appropriate technology to solve the majority of your production problems. You are operating a production system that usually evolves slowly and you take calculated risks when adopting new production techniques, services or innovations that are proven. You will change your course of action to new production techniques, if other growers have adopted these new production techniques and you believe it will enhance your production system.

You conduct regular crop scouting activities and will realign resources to ensure your crop production system achieves the season's production goals. You openly welcome feedback and consider opinions from industry experts when developing production plans and identifying preferred solutions. You may conduct on-farm variety and agronomic trials but you also consider data from other local validation trials.

<13 points

**BASIC:** You have the skills required to grow a decent soybean crop under most growing conditions. You usually make sound, timely business decisions and tend to grow a soybean crop using tried and true production techniques.

You consider ideas generated by other soybean growers or academics only after the concepts are well proven. You recognize the opportunity and benefit from self-development and you attend professional conferences to help maintain technical knowledge. You work at developing and maintaining a network of experts that will share production information and recommend BMP's and a course of action. You consider recommendations primarily from certified crop advisors or seed advisors and will often have a basic plan to guide their activities through the course of the season.

You are not as adept at handling production system adversity but generally check crop progress and potential issues at a minimum frequency during the growing season. You may require close and sometimes extensive guidance to stay on course when conditions become adverse. Seldom conducts on-farm trials or local agronomic validation projects.

