

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Suggested Maturities for Normal, Late and Replanted Corn and Soybeans in the Midwest

4/29/13

Growers should always plant a range of corn and soybeans maturities. However, for optimum yields and economics they should concentrate on medium to full season corn hybrids and soybean varieties until a date at which harvest moisture and yield factors start to lean in favor of shorter season selections.

Recent wet, cool weather and delays in planting have brought on a rash of questions as to what corn and soybean maturities to plant and when to switch to earlier maturities. These questions are never easy to answer. Initial planting date, replant planting date, fertilizer program, desired rotation, herbicides usage, geographic area, type of crop insurance, and many other interacting factors all influence answers to these planting and replant questions.

A common mistake that many growers make is switching to earlier maturities too soon, resulting in a possible sacrifice in yield. Shown below are some suggestions as to what maturities of corn and/or soybeans to plant at different dates:

Suggested Corn Maturity Based On Planting Date

Area ¹	Prior to May 20	May 20 to June 10	June 10 to June 20	High Risk Date ²
1	90-100 Day RM	80-90 Day RM	70-75 Day RM	June 1
2	95-105	90-95	80-85	June 5
3	100-110	95-105	85-90	June 10
4	105-115	105-110	95-100	June 15
5	110-120	110-115	100-105	June 20

¹Area 1: Central SD, South Central MN and South Central Wisconsin, Eastern Wisconsin near Lake Michigan south of Manitowoc county.

Area 2: South Central South Dakota, Southern Minnesota, Southern Wisconsin.

Area 3: Southeast South Dakota, Northeast Nebraska, Northern Iowa, Northern Illinois.

Area 4: East Central Nebraska, Central Iowa, Central Illinois.

Area 5: Southeast Nebraska, Northeast Kansas, Northern Missouri, Southern Iowa, Southern Illinois.

²Approximate date at which there is a high risk that the corn will not mature or be at reasonable moisture contents in the fall. An alternative crop may be a better choice to plant.

Suggested Soybean Maturity Based On Planting Date¹

Area ²	4/20-5/20	5/20-6/20	6/20-7/1	7/1-7/10	High Risk Date ³
	Group	Group	Group	Group	
1	0 L - 1 L	0 L	0 - 00	00	July 1
2	1 L - 2 M	1 L	0 - 1 E	00	July 5
3	2 E - L	2 E - M	1 M-L	0 M - L	July 10
4	2 M - 3 M	2 M- 3 E	2 E	1 M - L	July 15
5	2 L - 3 L	2 L - 3 M	2 M	2 E	July 20
6	3 E - 4 L	3 E - 4 E	3 M - L	2 L	July 25
7	3 M - 4 M	3 M - 4 L	4 M - E	3 L	July 30
8	3 L - 4 L	4 M - 4 L	4 L - 4 E	4 M - L	July 30

¹Planting too early of a soybean variety often results in short plants with the pods located very close to the ground making harvest difficult. For dates after 5/20, suggestions refer to the latest maturity soybean suggested for that corresponding planting date and geographic area.

²Area 1: Central SD, Central MN and Central Wisconsin, Eastern Wisconsin near Lake Michigan south of Manitowoc county.

Area 2: South Central South Dakota, Southern Minnesota, South Central Wisconsin.

Area 3: Southeast South Dakota, Northeast Nebraska, Northern Iowa, Southern Wisconsin.

Area 4: East-Central Nebraska, Central Iowa, Northern Illinois.

Area 5: Southern Nebraska, Southern Iowa, North-Central Illinois.

Area 6: Northeast Kansas, Northern Missouri, and Central Illinois

Area 7: East-Central Kansas, Central Missouri, South-Central Illinois.

Area 8: Southeast Kansas, Southern Missouri and Southern Illinois.

³Date at which there is a high risk that the soybeans will not be mature in the fall by the time of the first killing frost.

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