Hardin County Extension News Release

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Recommendations for Late Planted Soybeans

Hardin County – Persistent wet weather prevented soybean planting in many areas of the state. Late planting reduces the cultural practice options for row spacing, seeding rate, and relative maturity. The row spacing for June planting should be no greater than 7.5 inches if possible. Row width should be narrow enough for the soybean canopy to completely cover the inter-row space by the time the soybeans begin to flower. The later in the growing season soybeans are planted, the greater the yield increase due to narrow rows.

Higher seeding rates are recommended for June plantings. Data from previously conducted seeding rate trials suggest seeding rates between 200,000-225,000 seeds per acre when planting the first half of June.

For June planting dates, plant the latest maturing variety that will reach physiological maturity before the first killing frost. This is to allow the plants to grow vegetatively as long as possible to produce nodes where pods can form before vegetative growth is slowed due to flowering and pod formation. The recommended relative maturity ranges are June 1-15: 3.2-3.8; June 15-30: 3.1-3.5; and July 1-10: 3.0-3.3 for northern Ohio.

Article written by Dr. Laura Lindsey, OSU Extension Soybean and Small Grains Specialist, and edited by Mark Badertscher, OSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator-Hardin County.