



## Transition / Organic Soybean Checklist

This checklist incorporates activities required for organic certification, as well as best/common practices. However, production practices should be developed for each unique situation as there is no "one-size-fits-all" plan.

Legend: **R** - Required **V** - Varies **B** - Best Practice

### PRE-PLANT

- R** All shared equipment needs to be cleaned prior to usage and the clean-out procedure documented.
- V** Approximately 10 days prior to planting perform an initial tillage for field preparation, and record.
- B** As close to planting as possible to planting -- ideally 1 day prior -- perform a tillage pass.

### PLANT

- R** All shared equipment needs to be cleaned prior to usage (including planter boxes, starter lines, etc.) and the clean-out procedure documented.
- B** Soil Temps above 50 for more than 4 days is desired for organic or transition planting.
- B** Pay attention to the weather, don't plant right before a long stretch of rain otherwise you will be behind in weed control.
- B** Consider planting 10% additional seed per acre (vs. normal) to compensate for reduced germination and extra tillage.
- R** Save the Seed Tags and purchase invoice - and send electronic versions to your AE.
- R** Ensure any inputs used are OMRI approved and in the OSP (if organic), and labels and purchase invoices are saved.
- B** Make a note of field conditions.

### POST PLANTING

- R** All shared equipment needs to be cleaned prior to usage and the clean-out procedure documented.
- B** Continually monitor the weather forecast and shorten frequency of activities if rain is forecasted to ensure all passes are completed.
- B** Every tillage pass needs to be aggressive - this is why we planted an extra 1,000-2,000 plants per acre.
- B** Crop scout every few days as the next 8 week are critical and being proactive is required to get in front of weed control.
- R** All inputs in mixed production operations must be stored separately and labeled to prevent contamination.
- V** Approx. 0-2 days post-plant harrow or tine weed the field (at 10 mph) to level the field to take out early germinating weeds.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later tine weed (at 12-15 mph) or rotary hoe to remove white root hairs from forming weeds (which will not eliminate weeds that have already developed).
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later tine weed or rotary hoe again. Be cautious not to injure the soybean plant below the surface.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later begin using the rotary hoe. If soybeans have emerged, ensure damage is minimal.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days rotary hoe again to ensure shallow rooted weeds cannot continue growing. Remember the rotary hoe will not eliminate visible weeds.
- B** Begin taking tissue samples and evaluating crop health every 10-14 days.
- R** OMRI approved nutrients or defensives can be applied, if they are included on your OSP. Save labels & receipts.
- R** Make sure applicator is cleaned prior to usage and the clean-out procedure documented.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later begin cultivating at a slow speed to to loosen soil.
- V** Approx. 1-3 days later make another cultivation pass, which will be faster as main objective is to begin throwing soil next to corn plant.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later, tine weed (at 3-4 mph ) or rotary hoe to target any weeds right at root base.
- V** Approx. 3-5 days later begin hilling soybeans -- reminder both speed and footprint of sweeps in row is important.
- V** Every 4-7 days later cultivate with the hillers down until crop canopy.

## POST CANOPY

- B** Continue to crop scout approximately 2-3 times per week to stay proactive.
- B** continue to take tissue samples every 10-14 days to evaluate crop health.
- R** OMRI approved nutrients or defensives can be applied, if they are included on your OSP. Save labels & receipts.
- R** Make sure applicator is cleaned prior to usage and the clean-out procedure documented.

## PRIOR TO HARVEST, HARVEST, STORAGE

- R** All shared equipment needs to be cleaned prior to usage and the clean-out procedure documented.
- R** Borders must be harvested and stored/sold separately, so as not to contaminate the organic crop. Document.
- V** Diatomaceous earth is an input available in OMRI approved forms that reduces insect activity for grain storage. If used, it must be included in the OSP.
- B** Verify CFMs for each bin. Harvest peas as soon as it meets specs to be air dried to reduce stand risk.
- B** Verify combine settings to ensure clean you get a clean sample.
- B** Perform proper bin management once grain is stored.
- R** Record all loads going into a bin - identify field of origin, weights/bushels, and any other pertinent information.
- R** Clearly have each bin labeled in with Organic or Transition identification.