

What A bout Soybeans?

By Howard Henry

If you are thinking of growing soybeans for the first time, look up all the information you can to avoid making mistakes when starting into this crop. One good source is Publication 173—“A New Look at Soybeans,” available at county offices of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. It outlines the following important points:

Soybeans grow best on level, well-drained, fertile loam and clay loam fields, free of perennial weeds such as quackgrass, chicory and Canada thistle. They often suffer from drought and herbicide injury on sandy soils.

A wide range of varieties is available. To find the newest ones that will mature in your area, check Publication 296—“Field Crop Recommendations” also available at Cayuga office of ODAF.

Soybeans do not show much response to fertilizer applied at seeding time, but respond well to residual fertility from previous crops such as corn. A soil test is the best guide to what fertilizer is needed.

General recommendations call for 125 pounds of 8-32-16 on clay and 175 pounds of 6-24-24 per acre on loam or sand, broadcast before planting, or banded two inches below and two inches to the side of the seed. An additional 30 pounds of nitrogen per acre may boost yields when soybeans are grown in a field for the first time, because bacteria which supply nitrogen man not be present.

Manganese deficiency sometimes appears. Veins stay green while the rest of the leaf turns pale green or white. Apply six to eight pounds of manganese sulfate in 20 or more gallons of water per acre with a

herbicide-free sprayer as soon as the symptoms appear. Use a “spreader sticker” such as Tween 20 in the spray.

Apply a soybean-type inoculant to the seed just before planting. Bacteria in the inoculant convert nitrogen from air into a form that can be used by soybeans. Seed also should be treated with a fungicide-insecticide combination except when soybeans are grown in a field for the first time. The seed inoculant, so important in these fields, is more effective when the fungicide-insecticide is omitted.

Soybeans generally yield best in narrow row spacings, particularly when early, short varieties are grown. Plants should fill all the space between the rows by the time the crop is in full bloom. To achieve this, grow Merit and Altona varieties in 14, Handome

and Chippewa in 14 to 21 inch row spacings.

Level the soil as much as possible before seeding so the combine can operate close to the ground and catch the lowest pods at harvest.

Sow approximately 60 pounds (one bushel) of seed per acre in 14 to 28 inch row spacings. Also check seed drop because seed size varies from one variety to another. Sow approximately nine seeds per foot in 28 inch rows, seven per foot in 21 inch rows and five per foot in 14 inch rows.

Plant between May 20 and 30 with a grain drill or corn planter equipped with bean plates. Uniform depth of seeding at one to two inches is important. Pack after planting, but be prepared to break soil crusts if seedlings have trouble emerging.

Good weed control is important. Deep-rooted

perennial weeds must be brought under control before soybeans are grown, probably while growing corn. Annual weeds can be controlled in soybeans with a rotary hoe, herbicides and row cultivation.

Many herbicides are recommended for soybeans. Some give good control of broadleaf annual weeds while others are good on annual grasses. As a result, two herbicides are often mixed together in the sprayer, or applied separately at different times, to obtain control of both weed types. See Publication 75—“Guide to Chemical Weed Control,” available at Cayuga office of the ODAF for full information.

Careful harvest is very important. Combine slowly and close to the ground to catch low pods. The reel should be ahead of the cutter bar and operate at

about one and one half times the ground speed of the machine. The combine can operate closer to the ground if the seed head is packed after seeding to break down soil ridges and smooth cylinders and fans in the manufacturer's manual.

Small lots of soybeans can be stored in bins. Cereal grains in bins contain 13 percent less. Where large quantities are stored for long periods they must be aerated when low in moisture.

Soybeans may be sold as a cash crop or fed to livestock. They can be ground and raw to cattle and sheep, must be heat-treated for swine and poultry. Treatment equipment is available to heat soybeans on the farm so they can be fed to swine and poultry.

Steps For The Beginning Farmer

The Jarvis Record, Thursday, March 11, 1971—15A

D. Lyall MacLachlan, majority of young farmers who start farming do not begin on their family farm. Seldom is farm sold outright to

son in a single transaction but usually it involves a gradual transfer over a period of years.

This gradual transfer of ownership over a period of years seems most

appropriate in many cases. Although there is not a set pattern which is suitable in all cases; the following steps as an outline may offer some guidance to the farm family who is faced with this problem.

Once a young man has decided to farm, he possibly should consider working for wages for a period of two years. This can be considered in initial trial period where neither party has made a definite commitment. During this time the following questions can be answered.

— Can both parties work together in an agreeable manner?

— Will the farm now support two families, and if not, could the necessary adjustments be made to bring the farm to support two families?

— Is the junior member still convinced that farming is for him?

If the above questions are answered in the affirmative, then it is time to consider a more formal working agreement. We may then proceed to an income sharing agreement. At this stage the son does not own any real estate (land and buildings) or chattels (machinery, livestock, etc.) and still only contributes his labour and management to the farm business. But because they have an income sharing agreement the son will now get a percentage of the net farm income at the end of the year. The son now ceases to be an employee and becomes a partner in the farm business.

If the farm does well he stands to gain or if on the other hand it does poorly he will lose. The following illustration shows a method of determining the percent of net farm income which would go to the son.

Contributions to the farm business:
Real estate, amount, \$2,000; rate, 7 percent;

Next, the livestock and machinery is considered a capital sale and so there are no income tax problems for the father. There can be income tax implications with livestock if there is no basic herd, and the transfer of the cattle is not handled properly.

If the machinery in our above example is valued at \$20,000, this could be sold to the son and demand note for the \$20,000 taken back from son to father. Each year the father could make a \$2,000 gift to reduce the note, and as well the son may pay \$2,000 to his father from his earnings in the farm business.

In this manner the note is reduced by \$4,000 each year and the transfer is completed in five years.

Next, the livestock and

father, \$775; son, 0; and a total of \$775.

Livestock, machinery, supplies etc., amount, \$36,600; rate, 8 percent; father, 2928; son, 0; and total of 2928.

Labour and management, amount, 12 mos.; rate, —; father, 4800; son, 4000; and total of 8800.

This example shows that inputs to the farm are being contributed 77 percent by the father and 23 percent by the son. Therefore, net farm profit can be divided at year's end in the same proportions. These earnings for the son could be withdrawn by him or left in the farm business.

Partnership: The next step in transferring the farm is for the son to gain some equity in the farm business. It is here that a gifting program would be used to transfer some property to the son. One of the easiest assets to start a transfer with is machinery.

Machinery is considered a capital sale and so there are no income tax problems for the father. There can be income tax implications with livestock if there is no basic herd, and the transfer of the cattle is not handled properly.

If the machinery in our above example is valued at \$20,000, this could be sold to the son and demand note for the \$20,000 taken back from son to father. Each year the father could make a \$2,000 gift to reduce the note, and as well the son may pay \$2,000 to his father from his earnings in the farm business.

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supplies would be transferred.

Now the son owns everything except the land and he may decide to rent the farm from his father at this stage. Or a gifting program can be used to transfer the farm property itself by using the once-in-a-lifetime gift of \$10,000 plus yearly gifts of \$2,000.

Partnership agreement: Where son now owns livestock and machinery but dad still owns real estate: Contributions to the farm business:
Real estate, amount, \$82,000; rate, 7 percent; father, 5,775; son, 0; and a total of 5,775.

Livestock, machinery, supplies etc., amount, \$36,600; rate, 8 percent; father, 0; son, 2,928; and a total of 2,928.

Labour and management, amount, 12 mos.; rate, —; father, 4,000; son, 4,800; and a total of 8,800.

Now the net farm profit at the year's end will be distributed so that 44 percent goes to the son and 50 percent goes to the father.

Here we have also shown an increase in wages for son and a decrease for father.

These transfers will continue until the son is the sole owner and operator of the farm business. There is no particular format that all families should follow but the above example illustrates one possible approach. If you are a farm family in Haldimand County who has been wondering about this kind of problem, the Cayuga office can give you some guidance in this area.

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The Farm and Home Improvement Committee for the 1971 International Plowing Match recently outlined an ambitious program for the year. In addition to continuation of the Farm and Home Improvement Competition with its 150 entries the committee plans to contact many others for help in

dressing up the county year.

Women's Institutes and other organizations have been asked to assist in promoting attractive and home entrances.

breed organizations others it was suggested they put on a promotion of gate signs.

A gate sign competition has been considered by leaders. Local town and service clubs have approached about fixing signs at village and entrances.

High Schools were asked to consider how a clean-up campaign might be conducted; municipalities were asked to consider improved signs where required.

participation in various parades is planned.

John Bradshaw will well know as the gardener has been asked to address a "kick-off" meeting in March.

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