

A unique opportunity

When corn and soybean planting stretched into June and even July in Illinois in 2019, we found ourselves grasping for any information we could find on 1) how much of an effect this would have on yield, and 2) what if anything we should change in management when planting was delayed and, in some cases, very late. What planting date data we had was somewhat helpful, but we did not have any data on what could happen when planting is delayed into the second half of June.

While it may be tempting to write off this year as a fluke from which there are no real lessons to be learned, we may want to rethink that. What we have is a giant, unplanned and involuntary experiment that is being conducted by Illinois farmers this year. This experiment can help us understand the ramifications of how planting date and variety maturity affect overall yields. This gives us the opportunity to collect a small amount of data on a large number of fields, which can be used to provide at least some idea of what we can do if we find ourselves in this kind of situation again in the future.

To do this, we have a simple request: share your information with us. We ask only for the following information from as many fields as possible:

1. Illinois county where the field is located
2. Crop: corn or soybean
3. Planting date
4. Maturity rating (corn relative maturity (days RM); soybean maturity group) of crop planted
5. Yield
6. Harvest moisture

Information on weather or management can be added, but this is optional. The information can be submitted to us several ways

1. Print the following page, fill it out for as many fields as possible, and send a copy via email to Russ Higgins (rahiggin@illinois.edu)
2. Take a picture of your yield notes answering these questions (using the form or not) and text image to Russ (815 274 1343)
3. Mail information, (address on form)

We would like all the data by the end of December 2019.

Additional notes:

1. We want data across a wide range of planting dates, not just late plantings
2. If you have yields from strip trials with different hybrids or varieties with different maturities, we can use that, but please specify that they're all from the same planting and field
3. If a field has drowned-out spots where there's no yield, either don't use the data or estimate yield from yield monitor data from parts of the field where stands were good. You can also estimate the percentage of the field that doesn't have stand/yield, and we'll use that to estimate yield

2019 crop planting date-yield survey

No.	Illinois County	Crop (Corn/Soy)	Planting date	Maturity rating: corn RM, soy MG	Approx. harvest date	Harvest moisture (corn), %	Yield, bu per acre	Other notes: disease, lodging, stand
Ex.	Peoria	C	6/2	108	11/15	26	146	
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Please return the form as an email attachment to Russ Higgins at rahiggin@illinois.edu

Text image to 815-274-1343

Or by US mail to: Russ Higgins
 3435 Higgins Rd.
 Morris IL. 60450