Soybean Objective Yield Procedures
Reference Sheet

Maturity Code 2 - Pods Set, Leaves Still Green, or Earlier

This covers all plant growth stages until the pods are full. All leaves will still be green. Flowers may or may not be present.

Number of Pods per Acre		Average Pod Weight	
Field Counts	Model(s)	Field/Lab Measurements	Model(s)
Plants Nodes Lateral Branches w/ Dried Blooms, Flowers, Pods Blooms, Dried Flowers, & Pods Pods with Beans	Plants: Model 1 Pods per Plant: Model 2	None	5-Year Average Historical Average Weight per Pod

Maturity Code 3 - Pods Filled, Leaves Turning Yellow

Leaves will be yellowing on nearly all plants, but green leaves may still be more numerous on the plants than yellow or partially yellow leaves. Almost all the pods will be filled and some will be ripening.

Number of Pods per Acre		Average Pod Weight	
Field Counts	Model(s)	Field/Lab Measurements	Model(s)
Plants Pods with Beans	Plants: Actual Count Pods per Plant: Model 2	None	5-Year Average Historical Average Weight per Pod

Maturity Code 4 - Pods Turning Color, Leaves Shedding

All leaves will have turned yellow and some will have fallen. The pods will have their full size. Pods will be changing color from green to brown, but most pods will still be green. The beans are not firm and they have not completely shrunk inside the pods.

Number of Pods per Acre		Average Pod Weight	
Field Counts	Model(s)	Field/Lab Measurements	Model(s)
Plants Pods with Beans	Plants: Actual Count Pods per Plant: Model 2	None	5-Year Average Historical Average Weight per Pod

Maturity Code 5 - Pods Brown, Almost Mature or Mature

Virtually all pods will be brown and easily opened so the beans can be removed. The beans are brown and have shrunk inside the pod. Most or all of the leaves have been shed by the plants.

Number of Pods per Acre		Average Pod Weight	
Field Counts	Model(s)	Field/Lab Measurements	Model(s)
Plants Pods with Beans	Plants: Actual Count Pods per Plant: Actual Count	Weight of Pods	Actual Weight of Pods

Model 1: Uses five years of historic data to estimate the relationship between final number of plants per sample and the historic plant count from the same month.

Model 2: Uses five years of historic data to estimate the relationship between final number of pods per plant and the historic count of nodes, lateral branches, blooms, dried flowers, pods, and/or pods with beans from the same month.

This document is intended only as a quick reference guide. For full details, please reference "The Yield Forecasting Program at NASS" at
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Understanding_Statistics/Yield_Forecasting_Program.pdf