

Planting small seed, Part 4: In-field planter calibration

Overview

Hybrid seed corn comes in many shapes, sizes and weights based on ear formation. This four-part series addresses special considerations for maximizing yield when planting small corn seed.

What you should know

- While corn seed comes in many sizes, shapes and weights, hybrid performance is comparable among hybrids within the same genetics under favorable conditions.
- Calibrating your planter in the field helps optimize performance of smaller seed.

Tips

1. Ensure the planter is level at planting depth.
2. Set the planter at its shallowest planting depth and plant 50 to 100 feet at normal planting speed.
3. Measure 1/1,000th of an acre based on row spacing (see chart).
 - Count the number of seeds in that length. Multiply by 1,000 for the plant population per acre. Repeat this process for every row to check for uniformity between row units.
4. Set the desired planting depth to field conditions.
5. Check all row units to make certain all rows are uniform in depth.
6. Check planter from field to field, as planting conditions change.

Individual speed spacing for different plant densities at various row spacing

Density	15"	22"	30"	36"	38"
Feet per 1/1000 acre	34' 10"	23' 9"	17' 5"	14' 6"	13' 9"
30,000	13.9	9.5	7.0	5.8	5.5
31,000	13.5	9.2	6.7	5.6	5.3
32,000	13.1	8.9	6.5	5.4	5.2
33,000	12.7	8.6	6.3	5.3	5.0
34,000	12.3	8.4	6.1	5.1	4.9
35,000	11.9	8.1	6.0	5.0	4.7
36,000	11.6	7.9	5.8	4.8	4.6
37,000	11.3	7.7	5.7	4.7	4.5
38,000	11.0	7.5	5.5	4.6	4.3
39,000	10.7	7.3	5.4	4.5	4.2
40,000	10.5	7.1	5.2	4.4	4.1



30-Second Summary

- Calibrate your planter in field to ensure best results for planting small seed corn.
- Watch for uniformity in spacing and depth.

NOTES:

For more information, contact:



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