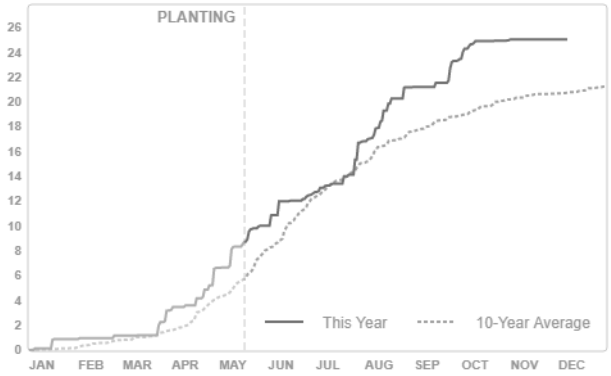
15" vs 30" Row Spacing for Soybeans

Study ID: 179029201701
County: Chase
Soil Type: Valent loamy sand 3-9% slopes
Planting Date: 5/17/17
Harvest Date: 10/14/17
Population: 145,000
Variety: Asgrow 2733
Reps: 7
Previous Crop: Corn
Tillage: Disk
Herbicides: ***Pre:*** 32 oz/ac Roundup® and 4 oz/ac Fusilade®
Seed Treatment: None
Foliar Insecticides: None
Foliar Fungicides: None

Fertilizer: 3 gal/ac 13-0-0 and 8 lb/ac 0-21-0 micronized soft rock phosphate on 6/4/17
Note: Hail on 10/1/17
Irrigation: Pivot, Total: 13.10"
Rainfall (in):



Introduction: Research from UNL's Soybean Management Field Days showed a yield benefit for 15" row spacing compared with 30" rows. This is the second year this grower evaluated 15" versus 30" row spacing; he also conducted this experiment in 2015.

Results:

	Moisture (%)	Test Weight	Yield (bu/acre)†	Marginal Net Return‡ ($/ac)
15"	10.4 A*	58 A	62 A	548.86 A
30"	10.3 B	58 A	58 B	519.91 B
P-Value	0.082	0.510	0.009	0.009

*Values with the same letter are not significantly different at a 90% confidence level.
†Bushels per acre corrected to 13% moisture.
‡Marginal net return based on $8.90/bu soybean.

Summary:

- There was no difference in test weight between the 15" and 30" row spacings.
- Moisture was significantly higher for the 15" row spacing, but was only a difference of 0.1 percent.
- Yield was 4 bu/ac greater for the 15" row spacing treatment. This is consistent with the grower's results from 2015, when a 4 bu/ac yield increase was seen for the 15" row spacing.
- Net return was significantly greater for the 15" row spacing treatment.

Sponsored by: University of Nebraska Lincoln; Nebraska Corn Board

In Partnership with: Nebraska Soybean Checkoff; Nebraska Corn Growers Association; Nebraska Dry Bean Commission