

Yield Contest Philosophy

It is generally agreed that 40% of the soybean yield is from management and 60% is from the genetics (variety). The checkoff funded Soybean Management and Research Technology (SMaRT) program is intended to address the 40% (management).

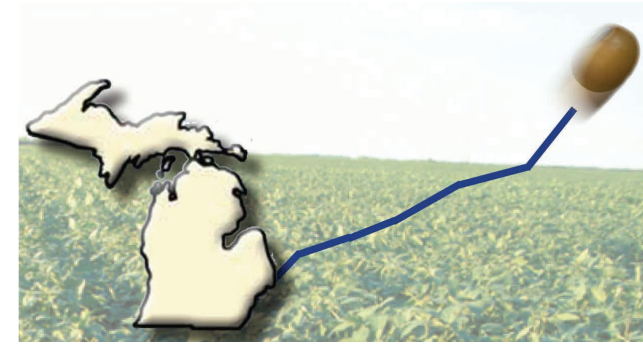
One of the many components of the SMaRT program is the Michigan Soybean Yield Contest. While recognition of the top yield participants is important, a particular focus will be on recording the agronomic and management skills of the participants.

With almost 600 entries from farmers in 28 counties, over the past 10 years, trends have been identified of agronomic and management practices to attain higher yields.



Attention To All Michigan Soybean Farmers

- Increase soybean yields and profitability in Michigan.
- Yield contest is open to all Michigan soybean farmers.
- Be recognized and rewarded for high yields. Hear from the top-yielding farmers at the awards meeting.
- Contest class winners will be recognized at the Great Lakes Crops Summit, January 25-26, 2017, Mt. Pleasant.



2016 Michigan Soybean Yield Contest

Sponsored by:



**Michigan Soybean
Promotion Committee**
www.michigansoybean.org



2016 Soybean Yield Contest

1. The entry fee is \$25.00 with a two entry limit for Michigan farmers.
2. **NEW!** Entries will be grouped by soybean maturity. The six entry classes are listed below:
Class A: Late maturity is 2.8 to 3+ Non-Irrigated
Class B: Late maturity of 2.8 to 3+ Irrigated
Class C: Mid maturity is 2.3 to 2.7 Non-Irrigated
Class D: Mid maturity of 2.3 to 2.7 Irrigated
Class E: Early maturity is 1+ to 2.2
Class F: Non-GMO soybeans of any maturity
3. A harvest form and complete contest rules will be mailed to paid farmers in August, 2016. Harvest forms can also be printed directly from: www.michigansoybean.org.
4. The minimum field size is five acres and the harvest area must be at least two contiguous acres. Only one entry per field is permitted.
5. Harvest must be witnessed by an MSU Extension Educator, FFA Advisor, lender, farm manager or other impartial witness. Seed, fertilizer or chemical company representatives cannot sign the harvest form.

Why a Soybean Yield Contest?

1. Provide a fun incentive for Michigan farmers to increase soybean yields.
2. Use the contest to increase farmer attention to the agronomics of soybean production in Michigan.
3. Share the information learned by the participants to help increase soybean yields for more profitable soybean production.

Prizes

- Each class winner will receive up to \$1,000.00 reimbursement for expenses to the 2017 Commodity Classic in San Antonio, TX from March 2 to 4, 2017.
- Each class winner will also receive a trophy suitable for the farm office and a personalized winter jacket.
- **NEW!** More prizes this year for 2nd place and other highest yielding farmers.
- Everyone who completes the contest will receive a personalized hat, and additional prizes, courtesy of participating soybean seed companies.

2016 Michigan Soybean Yield Contest Entry Form

Who is eligible to enter?

All Michigan soybean farmers.

Questions:

Contact Ned Birkey at Spartan Agricultural Consulting, LLC.

Phone: 734-260-3442

Email: birkey@msu.edu

Fill in the information requested and send it, with payment, to the address listed below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

County _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Spartan Agricultural Consulting, LLC
PO Box 57, Ida, MI 48140-0057

The entry fee is \$25.00 per entry. Checks made payable to Spartan Agricultural Consulting. The entry fee is due on or before August 27, 2016.