

## 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 management skills of the top yields.

**With over 600 entries from the past 11 years, some trends have been identified about management and agronomic 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 rewarded and recognized for high yields. Hear from the winning farmers at the awards meeting.
- Contest winners and participants will receive their prizes at the Great Lakes Crops Summit, Jan 31-Feb 1, 2018.



# 2017 Michigan Soybean Yield Contest

Sponsored by:



## 2017 Soybean Yield Contest

1. The fee per entry is \$25.00.
2. Limit of two entries per farmer.
3. The six classes are:  
Class A: Maturity 2.7 or later  
Non-Irrigated  
Class B: Maturity 2.7 or later  
Irrigated  
Class C: Maturity 2.1 to 2.6  
Non-Irrigated  
Class D: Maturity 2.1 to 2.6  
Irrigated  
Class E: Maturity 2.0 or earlier  
Class F: Non-GMO Soybeans of  
any maturity
4. A harvest form with complete contest rules will be mailed after August 30, 2017. Harvest forms can also be printed directly from:  
[www.michigansoybean.org](http://www.michigansoybean.org).
5. 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.
6. Harvest must be witnessed by an MSU Extension Educator, FFA Advisor, lender, farm manager or other impartial supervisor, including retirees. 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.

## Information

Information about the winners, the top ten yields and a summary of the contest will be posted at:  
[www.michigansoybean.org](http://www.michigansoybean.org) website.

## Prizes

- Each class winner will receive a trophy suitable for the farm office.
- Everyone who completes the contest will receive a personalized hat and may also win additional prizes, as provided by participating seed and chemical companies.
- Prizes will be awarded at the 2018 Great Lakes Crops Summit.

## 2017 Michigan Soybean Yield Contest Entry Form

Fill in the information requested below and send it to Ned Birkey at the Spartan Agricultural Consulting office.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

Zip\_\_\_\_\_

County\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

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 September 9, 2017.

For more information contact  
Ned Birkey at Spartan Agricultural Consulting, LLC.

Phone: 734-260-3442

Email: [birkey@msu.edu](mailto:birkey@msu.edu)