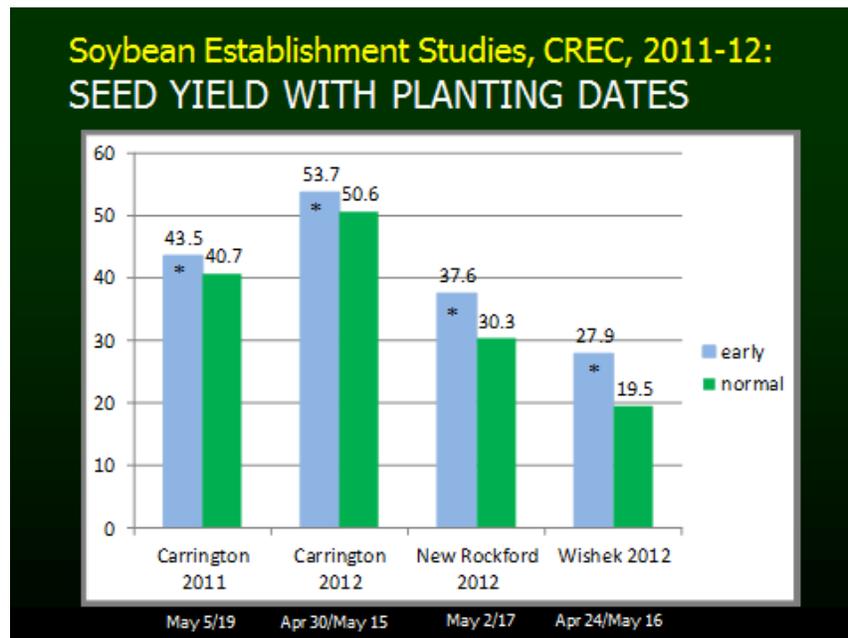


Response of Soybean and Dry Bean to Planting Date

Greg Endres, Blaine G. Schatz, Mike Ostlie and Tim Indergaard

Farmers are tending to plant soybean and dry bean earlier than traditional planting periods, which have been defined by long-term, last-frost dates. NDSU research data on early planting of both crops is limited. Work has recently started at the Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) to build a planting date database for soybean and dry bean.

In 2011, a soybean establishment study, funded by the North Dakota Soybean Council, was started at the CREC that included planting date as a component. In 2012, the study continued with additions of two other CREC off-station trials that included early planting dates. Soybean cultivars used in the trials were 0.4 relative maturity, except in the 2012 Carrington trial a cultivar with 0.7 relative maturity was used. The graph below lists the current data from this research. Seed yield at each site-year was significantly greater with the early planting dates versus yield with normal dates. Averaged across site-years, the yield advantage with early planting was 13 percent compared to traditional planting dates. Several trials are planned in 2013 to continue building the database.



The 2012 crop season began early and provided the opportunity for dry bean growers to plant their crop earlier than normal. The CREC started a trial during 2012 to explore the impact of early planting on two dry bean market types. 'Lariat' pinto and 'Eclipse' black bean were planted on May 17, May 30 and June 13. Across market types, the seed yield was similar among planting dates, ranging from 2570 to 2600 lbs/acre. The study will continue in 2013 at the CREC and may expand to other NDSU sites.



Dry bean planting date study (foreground: 2-row plots left to right): Lariat pinto bean planted on May 17, May 30 and June 13, 2013 (picture taken June 29).