

PLANTING DATE AND SOYBEAN MATURITY GROUP--2014

Recent rainy periods that may have resulted in flooding of low-lying areas of soybean fields in the Midsouth will necessarily prompt replanting concerns. This then raises the question of what varieties, or rather which MG varieties, should be selected for the areas or fields that will require replanting.

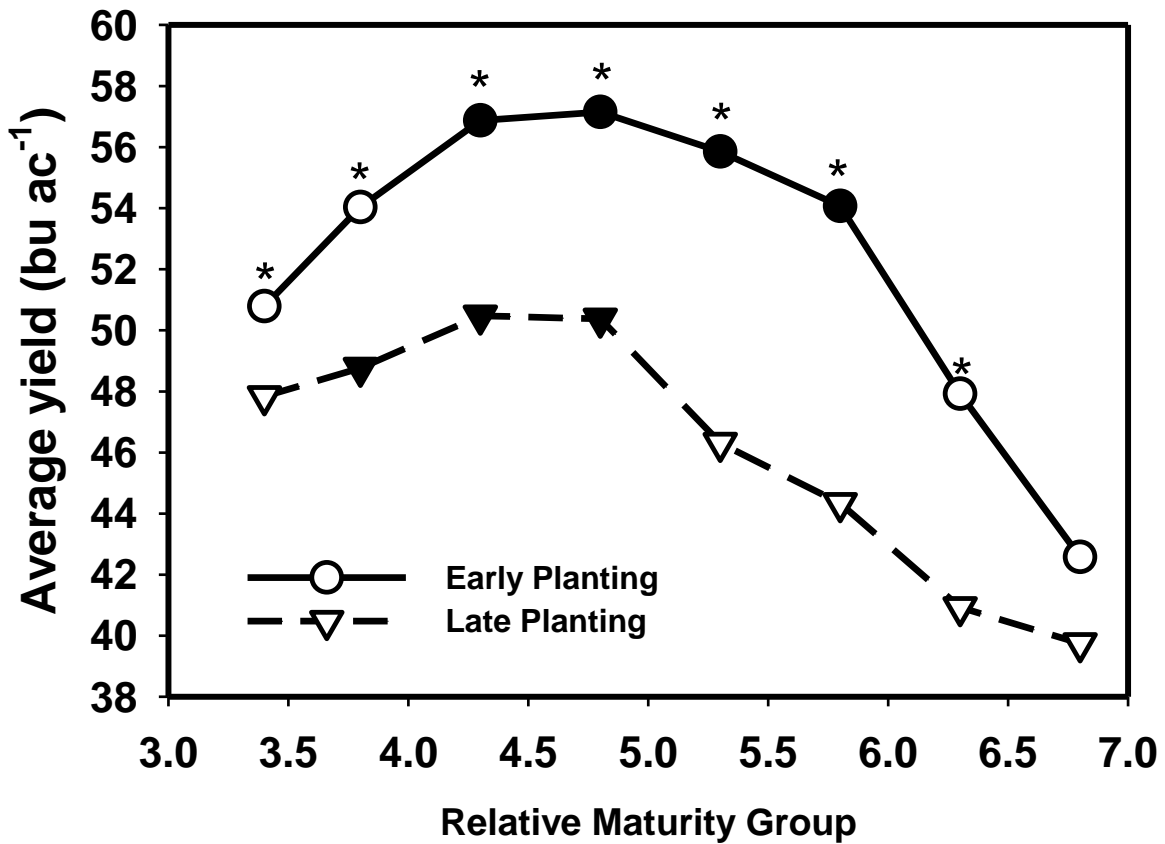
A large soybean project funded jointly by the United Soybean Board and the MidSouth Soybean Board (MSSB—Mississippi is a contributing member of this group) was conducted at eight locations in the Midsouth in 2012 and 10 locations in 2013. There were four planting dates at each location, and 16 soybean varieties from MG's 3 to 6. The MG 4 varieties had the highest yields, or were not significantly different from the highest yield, in 100% of the environments studied in both early and late plantings.

When considering only locations in east Arkansas and Stoneville, MS, results indicate that average soybean yields were highest from MG 4 soybean varieties (70 bu/acre) that were planted from June 1 to June 15 (Table 1). Average yields from July plantings were also highest from MG 4 varieties (50 bu/acre).

Planting period	# of environments	Maturity group			
		3	4	5	6
1 - 15 June	5	61	70	65	64
15 - 30 June	3	36	44	48	52
1 - 17 July	3	43	50	44	43

Figure 1 shows the average yields over all 18 environments in the study for MG 3 through 6 varieties from early and late plantings.

Figure 1. Average yields from early and late plantings at 8 (2012) and 10 (2013) locations for MG's 3, 4, 5, and 6. The asterisks above the data points indicate that the early plantings yielded significantly more than the late plantings. The solid symbols within the early or late planting dates indicate that the average MG yields were not different from the yield of the MG with the greatest yield.



Composed by Larry G. Heatherly from data supplied by Dr. Larry Purcell, July 2014.