

In organic soybean production, seeding rate is important not only for establishing the potential for good yields, but also for weed control. Some organic farmers feel it is important to plant more than 200,000 seeds per acre which is considerably higher than is generally recommended for conventional production on comparable row spacing. A 2012 study located at the Allison Organic Research Farm was performed to help answer questions related to optimal soybean seeding rate.

The field used for this study (4-1) was used for corn production in 2011. The corn stalks were

174,000/a	57.1 <sup>a</sup>	57.1 <sup>a</sup>
224,000/a	51.9 <sup>a</sup>	51.9 <sup>b</sup>
	Alpha (0.05) = 5.8	Alpha (0.10) = 4.4

This study occurred during one of the worst droughts in recorded history (~ 20% of normal rain fall (May-July) so soil moisture was a major factor impacting both crop and weed growth. A past soybean population study in 1998 with more normal rainfall showed a strong positive relationship between yield and population, but its top final population was only 167,000 plants/a. More in BT1 0ref66.384 0 0h( )JTJ7(p)t