

Maintaining Grain Quality in Soybeans

Harvest Optimization

Avoid Damage

- Start Harvesting at 14-15% moisture. If moisture falls below 10-11% stop harvesting and let crop sit overnight or through a rain shower.
- Beans 10% or less will have splits regardless of machine settings
- Run dry stems at 500 RPM rotor speeds and green stems at 600 RPM. If you still have splits open the concave 5 at a time.
 - The rotor speed needs to maintain higher speeds for material handling in the separator.
- Check clean grain auger flighting for no sharp edges
- Check settings every 2 hours

Clean Sample

- Close the concave 1-2 at a time.
- There is a unique balance between unthreshed pods and splits
- Verify that concaves are level and calibrated
- Keep the separator full by maintaining a constant ground speed
- For Foreign Material in your sample, increase the cleaning fan by 50 rpm increments until shoe loss is observed
 - Closing the sieve will create free beans in the tailings
 - Open chaffer by 2 mm

Grain Tank

- Do not completely empty the tank
 - Some grain left in the tank to cover the augers will minimize damage
- Keep grain from filling over the loading auger to prevent damage
- If stopping to unload, reduce engine RPM slightly

Cutterbar

- Always check for worn cutting components
- Calibrate reel speed
- Maintain ground speed so that the reel does not hit and shatter the crop
- Reel should look like it is pulling the combine through the field.

Down and Tangled Crops

- Adjust finger pitch back
- Tilt feederhouse forward to nose down the cutterbar
- Reduce ground speed
- Cut at a 45° angle to downed direction
- Increase normal reel speed by 50%

