

# High-Yield Soybean Management Starts This Fall

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**T**he 2010 crop is almost completely harvested. The weather for harvest was favorable, and conditions for fall fieldwork are allowing for a lot of deep tillage, which is a much-needed change over the last few years.

I have been asked often over the last two seasons to discuss management practices for maximizing soybean yields. I want to remind everyone that high-yield management starts this time of the year. The first step is to make sure your records are complete for this year's crop and to address any problem areas that may have excessive compaction, drainage issues, weed escapes, and so on. Second, collect soil samples for fertility and soybean cyst nematode (SCN) analyses so you can address

crop nutritional needs and proper variety selection for SCN resistance. Weather conditions have been favorable for taking soil samples this year. Finally, take time to evaluate all available data before rushing to make your variety selection decisions.

The University of Illinois Crop Sciences Variety Testing yield data are now available on the website ([vt.cropsci.illinois.edu/soybean.html](http://vt.cropsci.illinois.edu/soybean.html)). The data are available both in Excel spreadsheets for easy sorting and as Acrobat PDFs for easy printing. The data will also be posted at [www.vipsoybeans.org](http://www.vipsoybeans.org) soon, with the addition of efficacy ratings for SCN resistance and other important disease tolerances. Δ

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