

2024 CORN/SOYBEAN OBJECTIVE YIELD SURVEY

SURVEY PURPOSE

The Corn and Soybean Objective Yield Surveys are conducted in Ohio and Indiana. The *purpose of both the Corn and Soybean Objective Yield Surveys* is to accurately predict the production of Corn and Soybeans at the State, Regional, and National levels through objective analysis of plant counts and measurements as opposed to asking operators their opinions on their yield potentials. The enumerator's job in this process is threefold:

1. To provide NASS with counts and measurements which are used to forecast and/or estimate the corn/soybean yield per acre during the growing season.
2. To provide NASS with counts and measurements of the corn/soybeans left in the field after harvest. This data is used to estimate the harvest loss.
3. To provide changes in acres intended for harvest. These changes result for 2 possible reasons: 1) the sampled field was plowed up or destroyed after the June Agricultural Survey, but before harvest; or 2) the sampled field was intended to be planted during the June Agricultural Survey, but was never actually planted.

The Corn/Soybean Objective Yield Surveys provide factual information. This is a tool which farmers can use in making knowledgeable business decisions concerning marketing strategies, farming practices, and changing intended crop usage.

For 2024, Corn/Soybean sample fields were selected from respondents in the 2024 June Area Survey who reported corn and/or soybean acres in the tract.

The Corn/Soybean Objective Yield Surveys are conducted monthly from the last week of August through harvest.

QUESTIONNAIRE GUIDELINES

1. Record all entries legibly in black lead pencil.
2. Put all entries in the boxes provided. Do not write in office use boxes unless instructed to do so.
3. Write good notes in the margins to explain entries.
4. Record acreage entries to the nearest tenth.
5. Transcribe all data for Form A and Form B into the iPads and maintain paper copies for future reference.

MONTHLY PROGRAM

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|----------|---|
| Corn | ·Try to complete ALL Form-A's by September 1.
· Form-A and Form-B data will be submitted (on CAPI) for ALL samples.
· Form-E will be completed for every 'good' sample (sample # is a multiple of 4). |
| Soybeans | ·Try to complete ALL Form-A's by September 1.
· Form-A and Form-B data will be submitted (on CAPI) for all samples.
· Form-E will be completed for every 'good' sample (sample # is a multiple of 4). |

SURVEY REMINDERS/CHANGES

1. ALL **Form-A's** will be submitted on CAPI.
2. **The NOC** will receive the **actual crop samples (ears of corn & pods of beans)** and **FORM-E and the gleaning samples.**
3. **National OY Lab:** All corn and soybean lab samples will be processed in the National OY lab at the National Operations Center (NOC) in St. Louis, MO.
4. **Sending corn/bean samples to the NOC: We will continue to use UPS with Tyvek envelopes. Please find out where the closest UPS drop-off is to you.**

2024 Objective Yield Sample Sizes

State	Corn OY Sample Size	Soybean OY Sample Size
Arkansas		140
Illinois	200	200
Indiana	100	130
Iowa	200	200
Kansas	150	70
Minnesota	180	120
Missouri	150	150
Nebraska	200	130
North Dakota		120
Ohio	140	150
South Dakota	100	120
Wisconsin	140	
Total	1,560	1,530
# of States	10	11

FORM A

The *purpose of Form A* is to update the acres of corn/soybeans planted and to update the acreage expected to be harvested for grain/beans in the tract. This form is also used to identify the sample field, determine the acres to be excluded, obtain permission to locate both the sample and gleaning units, and determine use of pesticides with organophosphorus content.

For both crops, please try to complete ALL Form-A's by September 1. For Form-A's that are still inaccessible on September 1, please let your Supervisor know. Keep trying to complete Form-A's after September 1. Do not submit a Form-A as a refusal if you haven't contacted him/her by September 1.

UNIT LOCATION AND FORM-B

Two units will be laid out for each sample. Unit 1 should be laid out before unit 2. A unit will only be laid out again if it could not be found or located on a subsequent visit. The samples will be laid out by counting rows and paces. The row & pace count labels are found on the kit envelope for each unit. The row & pace count for gleanings (Form-E) are the rows & paces (for that sample), plus 5. Unit location starts with locating and marking a starting corner. This starting corner should also be noted on your kit envelope.

The *purpose of Form B* counts and observations is to develop an indication to help set the monthly corn/soybean yield. Form B is the crux of the survey. Multiple Form-B's will be completed throughout the survey cycle.

Form-B walks you through the procedures to complete it successfully. Follow the skip instructions and this form will flow smoothly. When the stage of maturity is completed, make the appropriate counts for that maturity code. Please study item 6 on the Corn Form-B & item 7 on the Soybean Form-B carefully.

Important Reminders:

- a. If the sample field has any unusual row spacing (skip planting, strips, broadcast), write a note in the margin of the form.
- b. Corn: The maturity classification is based on distinct ear characteristics. Familiarize yourself with these maturity codes.
- c. Corn: When determining the maturity of the 5 ears beyond the unit, don't forget the TO BE rule. If there is more than one ear on a stalk: TOP--ODD; BOTTOM--EVEN.
- d. Corn: Practice calibrating your corn caliper, and reading it correctly!
- e. Corn: Dent harvest procedures are completed when at least 3 of the 5 ears are maturity code 6 or 7 (see item 7), and you are instructed to complete items 7 – 10 based on item 6. This is only done once for each sampled field.
- f. Corn: When the sample is mature, row 1 of both units (15 ft count area) will be harvested and weighed.
- g. Make sure you fill out the ID tags completely and accurately. This includes using the correct POID, sample number, date, etc. The lab in St Louis (NOC) will reach out to us if mistakes are made.
- h. Soybeans: The maturity code is determined separately for each unit. If undecided on a maturity code, classify into the lower stage. Don't forget to circle the maturity code on the Form B.
- i. Soybeans: Pods harvested should include all pods, regardless of whether or not beans are present. Do not exclude pods which you think would pass through the combine and not be combined.
- j. Soybeans: If only one unit is maturity code 5, harvest only that unit. Another visit (and harvest) will be made when the other unit is mature.
- k. Soybeans – *new in 2023, and doing it again in 2024*: After the unit is harvested, and before pods are sent to the National Lab, count the pods to complete items 14, 15, and 16. This procedure is described on page 512 of the Soybean IM.

FORM-E

The *purpose of Form E* is to provide harvest loss information. Form-E is completed for every fourth sample (your kit envelope will be marked accordingly). Close contact should be maintained with the operator because gleanings must be done **within 3 days of harvest**. If the sample field is lost for gleaning, an alternate field will be chosen (the alternate field must be in the same tract) and you will write "Alternate Field" on the Form E.

Complete the Form E through item 8 on the back page. The bottom part of the back page will be filled out by the lab.

UPS the FORM-E with the gleaning sample to the NOD-ST. LOUIS.

DUE DATES

ALL Form-B's and ALL Form-A's will be submitted on the iPad (CAPI)

Data Collection Period

August 24 (Saturday) - Sept 2 (Monday)

September 24 (Tuesday) - October 1 (Tuesday)

October 25 (Friday) - November 1 (Friday)

November 23 (Saturday) - December 1 (Sunday)

December cutoff date - December 6th (Friday)

Post-Harvest - within 3 days after harvest

You may need to complete your final visit in between data collection periods, based on the maturity of the crop and/or the farmer's harvest intentions. So, for example, if one of your fields is mature on October 14, it is ok to complete your final visit at that time. If this is the case, please send the sample to the lab (with the id cards fill out), but hold the Form-B until CAPI is open for the next data collection period. Please talk to your Supervisor if you have any questions.

Project Codes

102 Soybean Objective Yield Survey

104 Corn Objective Yield Survey