



Reminder - Careful Handling Needed for Soybean Seed

Soybean seed is a more fragile seed type than most of the other major crops and always needs more careful handling. This year, early test results indicate somewhat better seed quality than last year. However, some soybean seed is at low moisture levels and will be more prone to injury during conditioning, seed treating or loading into farm equipment. Use care to prevent damage to your seed's germination potential.



Example: The main problem we have seen in soybean samples tested this year is mechanical damage, although at lower levels than last year. When the seed is low moisture, it is more fragile and prone to injury during any handling.

Consult with extension soybean experts for recommendations for the varieties you will plant. On-farm storage before planting should be in a cool, dry location, and handling should be minimized. Always check the seed label and keep a copy of each label and invoice for the lot planted in each field.

The State Plant Board Seed Lab conducts several tests to determine seed quality. If you have questions on the seed you are planting, selling or treating, you may want to send a sample for testing close to planting time. For more information, call the Plant Board Seed Division at (501) 225-1598 or check out our web site at:

<http://plantboard.arkansas.gov/Seed/LabServices/Pages/default.aspx>