2026
MICHIGAN SOYBEAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

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This report provides information on the performance of Conventional and Roundup Ready soybean varieties in Michigan for 2026.

The presentation of data for the entries tested does not suggest approval or endorsement of varieties by Michigan State University (MSU).

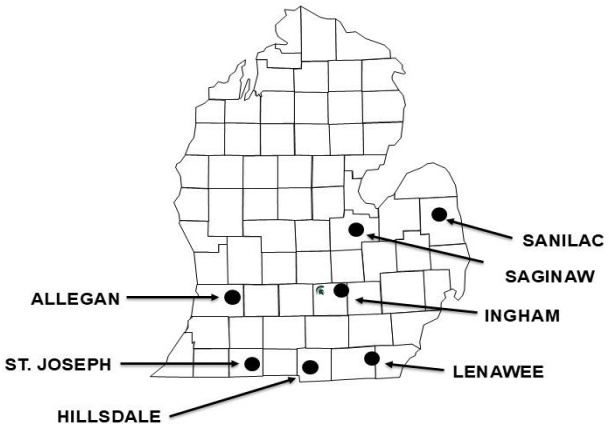
TESTING PROCEDURES

Soybean trials are reported for Central and South zones of Michigan. The Central locations for the Conventional and Roundup Ready trials include test sites in Allegan, Ingham, Saginaw, and Sanilac counties. The Southern locations for the Conventional and Roundup Ready trials include test sites in Hillsdale, Ingham, Lenawee, and St. Joseph (irrigated) counties.

Seventeen seed companies entered a total of 139 commercial varieties, not including the 48 experimental MSU lines. The cooperators, planting dates, harvest dates, and other site details for the locations are listed below.

Seed was planted in 6-row plots, 20 feet long with 15-inch row spacing, at a depth of 1.5-inches. The planting rate was 160,000 seeds/acre. At each location, varieties were replicated three times in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD). All locations were planted to 17 feet with 3-foot alleys. Only the center four rows were harvested. Experimental design, data management, and data analysis were conducted with Genovix, (Agronomix Software, Inc., Winnipeg, Canada).

2026 TEST SITE COUNTY LOCATIONS



TEST SITE INFORMATION

Allegan County
Nearest city: Hopkins
Cooperator: Paul Collier
Planting date: May 28, 2026
Harvest date: October 8, 2026
Previous crop: Corn
Soil type: Matherton Loam
Fertilizer: 200# Potash
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Post Conventional Trials – 32 oz./A Bentazon, 24 oz./A Clethodum
Post Roundup Ready Trials: 32 oz./A Glyphosate

Hillsdale County
Nearest city: Reading
Cooperator: Matt Lennard
Planting date: June 2, 2026
Harvest date: October 20, 2026
Previous crop: Corn
Soil type: Conover Loam
Fertilizer: Potash/DAP
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Early Post Conventional Trials – 32 oz./A Bentazon, 5 oz./A Imazamox,
Late Post Conventional Trials: 32 oz./A Bentazon, 24 oz./A Clethodum
Post Roundup Ready Trials: 32 oz./A Glyphosate

Ingham County
Nearest city: Mason
Cooperator: Steve Lott
Planting date: May 13, 2026
Harvest date: October 9-10, 2026
Previous crop: Soybeans
Soil type: Conover Loam
Fertilizer: 150 lbs. Potash
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Post Conventional Trials – 32 oz./A Bentazon, 24 oz./A Clethodum
Post Roundup Ready Trials: 32 oz./A Glyphosate

Lenawee County
Nearest city: Britton
Cooperator: Jason Woods
Planting date: June 1, 2026
Harvest date: October 22, 2026
Previous crop: Corn
Soil type: Lenawee Silty Clay Loam
Fertilizer: 200 lbs. K_2O
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Post Conventional Trials – 32 oz./A Bentazon, 24 oz./A Clethodum
Post Roundup Ready Trials: 32 oz./A Glyphosate

Saginaw County
Nearest city: Saginaw
Cooperator: Tom Hoff
Planting date: May 11, 2026
Harvest date: October 7, 2026
Previous crop: Corn
Soil type: Tappan-Londo Loam
Fertilizer: 200 lbs. Potash
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Post Roundup Ready Trials – 32 oz./A Glyphosate

Sanilac County
Nearest city: Sandusky
Cooperator: Gerstenberger Farms, Inc.
Planting date: May 20, 2026
Harvest date: October 14, 2026
Previous crop: Corn
Soil type: Parkhill Loam
Fertilizer: 0-0-60 200#
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 1.5 lbs./A Linuron, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor
Post-emerge – 12 oz./A Clethodim

St. Joseph County - Irrigated
Nearest city: Mendon
Cooperator: Goldenview Farms
Planting date: May 26, 2026
Harvest date: October 19, 2026
Previous crop: Commercial Corn
Soil type: Oshtemo Sandy Loam
Fertilizer: 150# Potash, 45# K-mag & 200# Pellet Gypsum
Herbicides: Pre-emerge – 9 oz./A Sulfentrazone, 1.5 pt./A Metolachlor, 11 oz./A Metribuzin
Post Conventional Trials – 32 oz./A Bentazon, 24 oz./A Clethodum
Post Roundup Ready Trials: 32 oz./A glyphosate

GROWING CONDITIONS AND COMMENTS

The spring began with extremely wet weather, delaying planting season. Conditions dried out and remained dry and cool for the month of May. The soybean variety trials planting season occurred from May 11th through June 2nd. During June most of the state experienced quality rain creating favorable growing conditions. The dry conditions followed by heavy rains produced stand issues in this year's Ingham plot. Additionally, the plot had a potassium deficiency that stunted plant growth. Combined, these circumstances significantly lowered yields and effected plot uniformity so the Ingham data is not included in this report.

Later into the growing season, the temperature increased causing dry spells and variable rain. It was during this period that Saginaw accumulated little rain which reduced yields slightly. The Lenawee plot had an abundance of precipitation and cooler than average temps, creating perfect conditions for plant disease. Throughout the late summer and maturing stage, multiple diseases including phytophthora, white mold and sudden death syndrome became prevalent which caused lower yields in susceptible plots.

September brought more rain slowing the maturity process. However, October brought clear skies and sunny weather allowing the soybean variety trial harvest to run from October 7 to October 22. Overall, the 2026 season produced high yields and quality data.

USING THE DATA

Results are presented in Tables 1 through 6.

Yield: Yield is expressed as bushels per acre at 13% moisture and is reported as single and across site means for 2026. Two- and three-year means are also presented where applicable.

Height: Plant height, reported in inches, was measured at maturity from the soil surface to the tip of the main stem. The reported values are means of 3 replications at all sites.

Lodging: Lodging scores reflect the erectness of the plants before harvest. The reported values are means of 3 replications at all sites. Ratings are based on the following scale:
1= Almost all plants are erect.
2= All plants leaning slightly, or fewer than 25% of the plants are down.
3= All plants leaning moderately (45%), or 25% to 50% of the plants are down.
4= All plants leaning considerably, or 50% to 80% of the plants are down.
5= Almost all plants are down.

Protein and Oil Content: This year's protein and oil data was collected using a HarvestMaster H3, which was new this year to upgrade the H2 data collection system. Each plot was analyzed with near-infrared (NIR) reflectance in real time during harvest. The system produced data based on 13% moisture that was converted to **DRY MATTER** for the report. The analysis was done on conventional experiments in all seven locations.

Phytophthora Resistance: Information on the presence of Phytophthora resistant genes were provided by the organizations entering varieties. Varieties denoted with:

- 1a are resistant to phytophthora Races 1, 2, 10, 11, 13-20, 24, 26 & 27.
- 1b are resistant to Races 1, 3-9, 13, 15, 18, 21, & 22.
- 1c are resistant to Races 1-3, 6-11, 13-15, 17, 21, 23, 24 & 26.
- 1k are resistant to Races 1-11, 13-15, 17, 18, 20-24 & 26.
- 3 are resistant to Races 1-5, 8 and 9.
- 6 are resistant to Races 1-4, 10, 12, 14-16, 18-21 & 25.
- 7 are resistant to Races 12, 16, 18 & 19.
- H is heterozygous (segregating) for the resistant gene

Soybean Cyst Nematode Resistance (SCN): Seed companies that screen varieties for SCN resistance have indicated if the variety has known susceptibility or resistance:

- R – Resistant
- MR – Moderately Resistant
- S – Susceptible
- MS – Moderately Susceptible

These notations followed by a number indicate the identified cyst nematode race. The source of resistance was mostly PI88788 with some Peking and PI89722. Sources are found in parenthesis after the variety name in the variety list table.

SELECTING A VARIETY

Some of the varieties in the conventional trials have special traits such as a specific oil profile, which growers can sell for premium prices. Talk to the seed dealer about premium varieties. Seed dealers and their contact information are listed in the 'Index of Varieties and the "Directory of Companies".

LSD values (least significant difference) are found at the bottom of each data column and are useful when comparing two varieties in the same table. If the difference between two varieties is less than the LSD value, this difference is probably due to chance or minor environmental differences. However, if the difference between two varieties is greater than the LSD, there is a 95% or greater probability that the difference in performance is due to the greater yield potential of one variety. Valid comparisons can only be made between averages in the same column. The C.V. (coefficient of variation) can be found at the bottom of each data column and is indicative of the trial precision. Lower C.V. values are associated with higher precision.

The primary consideration in selecting a variety is yield. When evaluating a variety, consider yield performance over locations and across several years, if available. Considerations other than yield are also important in selecting a variety. It is especially important to select a variety that will mature before the first frost in the fall.

The degree of lodging varies among varieties. Lodging ratings should be used to evaluate potential harvest losses. Growers who have experienced lodging in the past and have had harvest problems may want to select a more lodging-resistant variety. Alternatively, a variety susceptible to lodging may be planted at a slightly lower population to increase standability.

Growers should note seed size when selecting planting rates. Planting rates should be based on number of seeds per acre and not on pounds per acre. It often benefits growers to select a few good varieties for planting each year. Yield determination and careful field evaluation during the growing season will add to the grower's knowledge of variety performance and allow for better selection.

HERBICIDE TRAITS

The column in the chart labeled HERB contains the variety of herbicide resistance.

- Conv=conventional
- LL=Liberty Link
- RR1=Roundup Ready
- RR2X=Roundup Ready 2 Extend
- XF=Extend Flex
- E3=Enlist E3
- GT27=Glyphosate Tolerant
- LLGT27=Liberty Link and Glyphosate Tolerant

SEED TREATMENT

Treated soybean seed submitted for Michigan State University's Soybean Performance Trials are noted by abbreviation in the 'TMT' column. Questions concerning treatments should be directed to the seed company. Contact information can be found in the 'Directory of Companies'.

Code	Treatment
ACL	Acceleron-Insecticide
CM	Cruiser Maxx-Insecticide
DFender SDS	DFender SDS-Fungicide, Insecticide, Inoculate + Sa
ECL-Trio	Eclipse Trio-Fungicide
Eq-VAYO	Equity VAYO-Fungicide, Insecticide
H	Heads Up-Biological, Fungicide, Systemic Acquired Resistance (SAR)
I	ILeVO-Nematicide
LLLSS	Lumiderm- Insecticide + Luminate-Fungicide + LumiTreo Fungicide + Senator 600 FS- Insecticide + Sebring-Fungicide
N-Dur	N-Durance-Inoculant
Obv	Obvius Plus-Fungicide
O	Optimize-Inoculant
P	Poncho Precise-Insecticide, Nematicide
Rel	Relenya-Fungicide
Sa	Saltro-Nematicide
Step2	Stepup 2.0-Protein and amino acid supplement
SSS	Seed Shield Select-Fungicide, Insecticide
TITAN	Titan-Insecticide
T-Elite	Titan ST Elite-Fungicide, Insecticide, Inoculant
UT	Untreated
Vib	Vibrance Maxx-Fungicide
Vay	Vayantis IV-Fungicide
Vic	Victrato-Nematicide, FungicidE
WycKOAT2.0	WycKOAT 2.0- Fungicide, Insecticide, Nematicide, Inoculant, SAR