

# Foliar Feeding Soybeans-Too Late??

Posted by [cornfarmer4](#)®, 07/16/2005, 11:20:29

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First I want to say thanks for the insightful post on here. There are a handful of you guys out there that are clearly good farmers and willing to share information. Good, nonbiased info is hard to come by and is very much appreciated.

Is R2 too late to do any good?? I got caught not applying when I should have been (V5, V6) and now have product to apply and R2 beans. Anyone had good responses feeding this late??

Thanks

Re: [Foliar Feeding Soybeans-Too Late??](#) -- cornfarmer4

Posted by [Ed Winkle](#)®, 07/16/2005, 13:10:17

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No, it is not too late. I have seen plots by most major liquid companies that showed a good yield boost at R2.

It is like preventative fungicide, if you have it spray it.

The better the beans the more yield increase I usually see. Healthy beans in a drought like we are in seem to respond well, too.

Bill Moyer has good information that works well for us. Hope he posts too.

Ed

Re: [Re: Foliar Feeding Soybeans-Too Late??](#) -- Ed Winkle

Posted by [sri](#) , 07/16/2005, 20:08:20

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It is not too late and would exp. while your doing it with a little fungicide. I agree with Ed the best response seems to be in the best beans, Make sure you do this so a test yield can be done, we all need more info. We are about to start putting on 10 lbs. actual by spraying

urea as soon as it quits sprinkling around here. Have had some decent results but more testing needs to be done before I would recommend it across the board.

Re: [Foliar Feeding Soybeans-Too Late??](#) -- cornfarmer4

Posted by Bill Moyer<sup>®</sup>, 07/16/2005, 22:30:43

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Cornfarmer4,

First of all, foliar feeding of field crops is not a science. Some of us wish it was different, but it isn't. My company and I have been conducting high yield soybean trials for the past 4 years based on a challenge concerning Ray Rawson's supposed 118 bushels/acre. First of all we listened to the man 6-7 times, ate lunch with him a couple of times, and set out to try to repeat what he was doing. We didn't succeed! But we learned a lot about how the soybean plant responds to various treatments, and fertilizer compounds.

Fertility alone will not get you there, that's the problem with many fertilizer people; if it isn't fertilizer or chemicals, they don't know anything about it. I think that's where Rawson is right, you have to start at the roots.

The issue at hand: is R2 too late? No. Some of the best responses do come from later sprayed soys. Even early pod set is a bit late as far as I'm concerned, but not too late. You should understand that almost all soybeans run short on potash during pod fill, no matter how high the soil test. They don't have enough root system to get it all through the roots. Foliar can help at this time if you are using something with a good bit of potash in it such as 3-18-18, 0-0-30, and some others.

I always feel some Mn is appropriate if you are trying to push the beans. Use a couple of gallons of 3-18-18 w/ 1 pint of Mn. That assumes you have healthy soybeans to begin with. It may be a bit late, but if I was conducting trials on your beans I would use 1/2 pint of Boron 10% /acre. Boron earlier can give you lots of flowers that translates to lots of pods later. The first time we got on to this we thought we had mutant soybeans, because we had never seen so many flowers on a soybean plant before.

There are other compounds you can use, some good, some bad.

The above is by no means a complete program, just a way of going from where you are, to where you may be able to go. My company is very analytical about our approach to foliarizing soybeans. We analyse each treatment 14-15 days later at a lab to measure if we changed what is going on in the plant, and if we did, what was it we changed. Obviously, it goes both ways.

I've gone on a bit longer than I intended, sorry!

Bill Moyer, Dir LFB Solutions, Inc

Re: [Re: Foliar Feeding Soybeans-Too Late??](#) -- Bill Moyer

Posted by Tim(Ky) , 07/16/2005, 22:47:30

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Could you expand on the B?

Do you have a cost per ac?

Tim

Re: [Time to put B on????????????](#) -- Tim(Ky)

Posted by Bill Moyer® , 07/16/2005, 23:39:03

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Tim,

I usually prefer to apply Boron in the early vegetative stage (v2- v6), but as important as Boron is to reproduction, I feel it has to happen to stand a chance to maximize the potential pod set. Earlier seems to be better, but I would still want it. In one of the plots we are doing this year, we applied boron early and it was still short, so applied again.

Magnesium sometimes does nice things as Iowa proved a few years ago, but as they also learned, there is more to it than Boron and Magnesium.

Something we are toying with is to expand our research and data base next year by working with several more growers. Over the last 4 years we have been working with several farmers to test our theories. Even though we sell fertilizer, we realize that some of the people who might have an interest don't live within our market area. As a result, our recommendations will be for materials that can be bought in your local areas. We are too far along in this growing season to implement a full program, but if there was an interest we could discuss it prior to planting next year.

Our approach is to program the entire crop season, from soil test, seed selection, fertilizer, foliar fertilizers, other elements where called for. Many of our recommendations are just that, recommendations. Seed selection suggestions are not for a particular variety, just a particular type to look for. The cooperators would need to keep good records and would need to pull several plant samples throughout the growing season. Cooperators would also have a list of materials, they mght need from their local

supplier. We are actually looking for cooperators to try a 20-40 acre field, then put in strips of treatment vs no treatment. Your actual treatment cost would only involve 10-20 acres of additional cost above your normal program.

After harvest this fall if someone has an interest in following this further, we can then discuss it. Thanks!

Bill Moyer, Dir LFB Solutions, Inc

Re: [Re: Time to put B on????????????](#) -- Bill Moyer

Posted by [cornfarmer4](#)®, 07/17/2005, 08:46:11

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Thanks Bill, Great info. Contact me on for next year. I'm in NE IN, my email is [cornfarmer4@aol.com](mailto:cornfarmer4@aol.com)">[cornfarmer4@aol.com](mailto:cornfarmer4@aol.com)

Matt

Re: [Re: Time to put B on????????????](#) -- Bill Moyer

Posted by [TNAIalfa](#)®, 07/17/2005, 18:22:17

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Can you put it on with RU?

Lyn Stacey Lewisburg, TN

Re: [Re: Time to put B on????????????](#) -- TNAIalfa

Posted by [Bill Moyer](#)®, 07/17/2005, 22:06:06

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Can't say that Monsanto approves, but we don't see the difference in weed control when we do.

Bill Moyer, Dir LFB Solutions, Inc

Re: [Time to put B on????????????](#) -- Tim(Ky)

Posted by Bill Moyer<sup>®</sup>, 07/17/2005, 11:36:36

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Tim,

Got long winded, and forgot the cost of the Boron. Boron 10% at a 1/2 pint/acre isn't that much. Application probably would cost more than the product. Whatever the local area would be charging.

One of my cooperators this year bought from his local area and got 5% Boron, applied a 1/2 pint, still showed short. That's why my reference to applying a second time in my other post. If you are applying 1/2 strength apply 2x as much. It's obvious, but at times it doesn't hit us till later.

It is my thought process concerning the post for cooperators next year, that not only will I have products named specifically, but how much would be a reasonable price to pay for them. That way everyone would have a good idea what they were in for.

Bill Moyer, Dir LFB Solutions, Inc

Re: [Time to put B on????????????](#) -- Tim(Ky)

Posted by [jakescia](#)<sup>®</sup>, 07/17/2005, 15:39:47

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Product is solubor.....but I am not sure right now of the percent in liquid.

## **Boron-Magn. over top beans to set more pods**

Posted by don@<sup>®</sup>, 08/03/2005, 11:37:55

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I read with much interest an earlier post from Bill Moyer '\_\_\_solutions'(Maybe) about spraying boron and a little mag over the beans to induce flowering and set more pods. Timing was critical. BUT I did not pay enough attention to exactly "when" this is to be done. Also asked around and "nobody" has any of this stuff or ever heard of it(no

surprise here). So can anybody give me a place to purchase this miracle juice, 'hopefully'??? Course no August rain will be no beans.

Re: [Boron-Magn. over top beans to set more pods](#) -- don@

Posted by Bill Moyer<sup>®</sup>, 08/03/2005, 17:08:54

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Don,

Don't know where you live, but in my part of Michigan, both are readily available. If the fertilizer retailer doesn't have them in stock, he can just call his wholesaler and it is delivered next day or so, depending how soon it is needed. This time of year even the wholesalers don't want anymore inventory than they have to.

Both products are micronutrients, commonly used in production agriculture. Boron is used in a lot of the fruit crops and alfalfa. In Alfalfa they often carry Solubor instead of the 10% Chelate. Magnesium can also be a chelate product. Epsom salts is probably the most well known Magnesium sulfate (dry). Disolves readily in water if no Chelate is available. Usually there are commercial preparations of this available if not the chelate. When I ran a "Terra" fertilizer plant we had all this stuff available. Not miracle juice, just a supply of stuff different growers commonly used. Magnesium is often corrected ahead of time with "Sul-Po-Mag" or "K-Mag", or if need lime, high Mag lime(Dolemite).

Actually it was the University at Iowa State that originally came up with this recipe. It is a bit late at this point to do this, but earlier in the growing season, V3 or a bit later is the point in time you should do this.

Bill Moyer, Dir LFB Solutions, Inc

**Merely as support of what Bill is saying,  
so that all understand he is not .....**

Re: [Boron- Magnesium](#) -- Bill Moyer

Posted by [jakescia](#)<sup>®</sup>, 08/03/2005, 18:28:18

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pushing a "snake oil".....we foliar feed the magnesium and boron also.....for the reasons he has presented.....and we have had no connection with Bill or his products.