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Identity Preserved Soybean Management

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1. Do not attempt identity preserved crop production unless you have changed your mind set. Quality of the product is at least as important, or perhaps more important, than yield. You must develop a customer service attitude.
2. Only in rare instances should you attempt identity preserved crop production without a contract. Know and understand all specifications in the contract including what happens to grain that does not meet contract requirements.
3. Develop an IP plan before signing a contract and keep detailed records of all IP crop management activities.
4. Variety selection: In most instances only a few varieties meet contract requirements. Understand contract requirements and attempt to find the yield potential of the possible selections. Some contracts require selection from an approved list of varieties. Select varieties that are adapted to your geographical region.
5. Field selection: Soil and landscape characteristics have minimal effects on most grain characteristics. Yield is still important, so IP crops should not be planted in fields with poor yield potential or a history of difficult to control pests
6. Isolation: Understand contract requirements for either isolation or grain contamination. Grain properties are genetically controlled so adventitious pollen can reduce grain acceptability. This is most problematic for cross-pollinated crops. Soybean is self-pollinated, however, a minimum separation of at least one row is advisable. Keep samples of the planted seed, the harvested grain, and the delivered grain.
7. Seeding rate and planting date: Crop management practices have minimal effects on most grain characteristics. Yield is still important so management for high yield is important. High yield may decrease some grain constituents such as protein. Weather conditions during seed-filling may have either positive or negative effects on grain composition. Grain that matures during hot and humid weather is prone to seed decay and other characteristics of poor quality.
8. Fertility: In most instances normal fertility practices are appropriate. Understand contract specifications, particularly for organic crops.
9. Pest management: Understand contract specification, especially for organic crops. Pest

management chemicals may interact with grain composition in an unpredictable manner, but this reaction is uncommon.

10. Harvest: Extreme care should be taken to ensure the highest possible grain quality. Combine settings may need to be changed frequently during the day as grain moisture changes.. Grain moisture content can drop and the probability for grain damage may increase quickly during the day. Combines with rotary cylinders may cause less cracking of grain. Harvest should be done only under appropriate weather conditions. Clean combines well before IP harvest events to minimize contamination..

11. Drying and storage: Drying should be performed in a manner that protects grain quality. High temperature drying can affect some grain characteristics and lead to small cracks in grain, so natural drying in the field is preferable. However, timely harvest is important to maintain grain quality and reduce yield loss. Bins should be well cleaned perform IP grain is added.

12. Grain handling and transportation: should be performed in a manner that protects grain quality and prevents contamination. Dry grain cracks easily. Sharp edges should be removed from augers and augers should be kept full during use with IP grain. All augers, wagons and trucks should well cleaned.