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Estimation of Soybean Yield Loss from Defoliation
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Soybean yield loss from defoliation is greatly affected by stage of defoliation. Soybean plants can recover from extensive leaf area loss if loss occurs before pod set. **Use the following information with caution.** These data are for indeterminate varieties and estimate yield loss from defoliation only. Be careful to observe plants closely. Stem bruising from hail, especially below the cotyledons can greatly increase yield loss.

Expected yield loss (% of “normal”) when % of leaf area destroyed is:

Growth stage	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
VE-VC	0	0	1	3	4	5	6	7	13	20
V1-V2	0	0	1	3	4	5	6	7	13	20
V3-V4	0	0	1	3	4	5	6	8	14	21
V5-V12	0	1	2	4	5	6	7	9	15	22
R1-R2	0	2	3	5	6	7	9	12	16	23
R2.5	1	2	3	5	7	9	11	15	20	28
R3	2	3	4	6	8	11	14	18	24	33
R3.5	3	4	5	7	10	13	18	24	31	45
R4	3	5	7	9	12	16	22	30	39	56
R4.5	4	6	9	11	15	20	27	37	49	65
R5	4	7	10	13	17	23	31	43	58	75
R5.5	4	7	10	13	17	23	31	43	58	75
R6	1	6	9	11	14	18	23	31	41	53

from NCIA Soybean Loss Instructions #6302
