HDC Coloured Bean Production Guideline

Hensall District Co-operative is committed to the Coloured Bean Business. We believe that high quality production starts with our producers. The following guidelines may help to assist you in this year's production.

Field Location

Fields best suited for coloured bean production are well drained, medium textured soils. Coloured beans must be in proper rotation to avoid diseases such as white mold and root rot. They should be grown in at least a three-year rotation with corn and cereal crops. Review previous year's herbicide program to ensure rotational issues are not a concern. (ie. Converge should not be used in the year prior to coloured beans.)

Genetically Enhanced (GE) Concerns

The contract edible bean fields will have no GE soybeans grown in the previous year. Isolation of the edible bean crop is required. A Grower can not grow GE crops in the fields adjacent to the contracted crop unless a buffer strip of 3 metres is present.
When harvest equipment (trucks, wagons, dump buggies, combines and bean harvesters) is shared between GE crops and Edible beans, the GE crops must be harvested at the end of the season.

Planting Date

Depending on the crop heat unit rating in your area, Coloured beans are generally planted between late May and mid-June.
To avoid emergence problems, plant into warm, moist soils. Planting in cool, damp conditions may reduce fast emergence, population and seedling vigour.

Seed

Hensall District Co-operative will supply you with certified western seed to reduce chances of seed-borne diseases such as bacterial blight and anthracnose.

Seeding Rate & Row Spacing

Row Width	Final Stand Plants per acre	Seeds per foot of row	Pounds per acre
30 Inches	60 to 70,000	3.5 to 4.1	72 to 80
20 Inches	70 to 75,000	2.9 to 3.2	81 to 85

*Plant population will vary greatly due to seed size; therefore, always check individual lots for number of seeds/ lb.

Soil Fertility

Adequate soil fertility is a must for growing top quality beans. We recommend soil testing to determine proper fertilizer application rates for Phosphorus and Potash.
Nitrogen requirements for coloured beans will be 30 to 60 lbs. /acre, but will vary depending on field history. If bronzing or root rot has been a problem in the past, beans will respond to additional nitrogen.
For specific fertility requirements, see your HDC Field Marketer

Weed Control and Herbicide

Weed free fields allow you to optimize yields, reduce disease pressures and ease pulling and harvesting and prevent staining.
Consult "Publication 75" – "Guide to Weed Control" and see your HDC field marketer for specific programs.
The producer must use only Canadian approved pesticides as per label instructions in their coloured bean production program.
Records of Agents, Rate, Method, Date and Days to Harvest

Insect Control

Monitoring insect population will optimize yield, and reduce disease pressure.
Leafhoppers, spider mites, Mexican bean beetle and Tarnished plant bug are the most common insects that can cause crop injury if proper conditions exist.
In recent years, an increase in the populations has been noted. Timely application of Dimethoate will be required for insect control when threshold levels are met.
For specific recommendations, contact your HDC Field marketer. Use only registered insecticides.

White Mould

White Mould is a disease that restricts the bean's ability to set pods fully, resulting in uneven early ripening, small seeds and reduced yields. Prior to and during the flowering period, symptoms or white mycelium or water-soaked lesions can be present on the plant. With prolonged periods of warm, moist conditions, plants can appear wilted, lighter in colour and an odour may be detected.
Once symptoms are present crop destruction and yield reduction has already occurred. To date, the most effective way to control white mould is through the use of a fungicide. Consult your local HDC Field marketer for rates and product choices.
Other ways to minimize disease pressure is to rotate out of beans (including soybeans), limit nitrogen usage and grow crops in wider row widths.

Harvesting

The grower must ensure that the necessary steps are taken to prevent contamination from glass, fuels, harmful contamination, treated seed and other market classes.
If the product from the combine does not meet the buyer's specifications, the grower agrees to bring in an edible bean combine at the grower's expense.

Please review combine clean out procedures. You should ensure your combine has been completely cleaned and flushed of any contaminated products.
The use of an edible bean combine is highly recommended to ensure low cracked seed coats and to prevent mud tagging and staining. When using a properly modified conventional or rotary combine to harvest, it is advisable to let the plants lay for a day in order to let the foliage and soil on the roots of the plants dry properly to prevent mud tagging and staining.
The combine should be checked periodically and adjusted as required to maintain minimum seed coat damage.
When using a properly modified conventional or rotary combine, cracked seed coats can be reduced by harvesting at 18 to 20% moisture and at lower cylinder speed, by unloading the bin at reduced engine speed and by keeping the combine full.
Coloured beans must be pulled and windrowed to ensure that maximum yield is harvested.
All product must be delivered free of contamination from other bean types.
Weed control is important to avoid staining the beans during harvest.
A desiccant should be used if Coloured beans or weed escapes have green stems and/or branches. This signifies live vegetative growth and can stain beans during harvesting of the crop.
Ensure that the combine is properly adjusted to prevent seed coat damage.

Please note, improper on-farm drying may cause quality problems for our customers and ourselves. We reserve the right to reject or take on a consignment basis, improperly on – farm dried beans.

Payment for coloured beans will be made on the basis of 18% moisture as standard unless otherwise stated in the contract.

Transportation

Inspect to ensure that all residual products from previous loads are not present in the truck/ wagon that coloured beans are delivered in. All corners, tarps, airlocks and unloading spouts should be free and clear of residual products

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