



## Soybean Reproductive Development Stages

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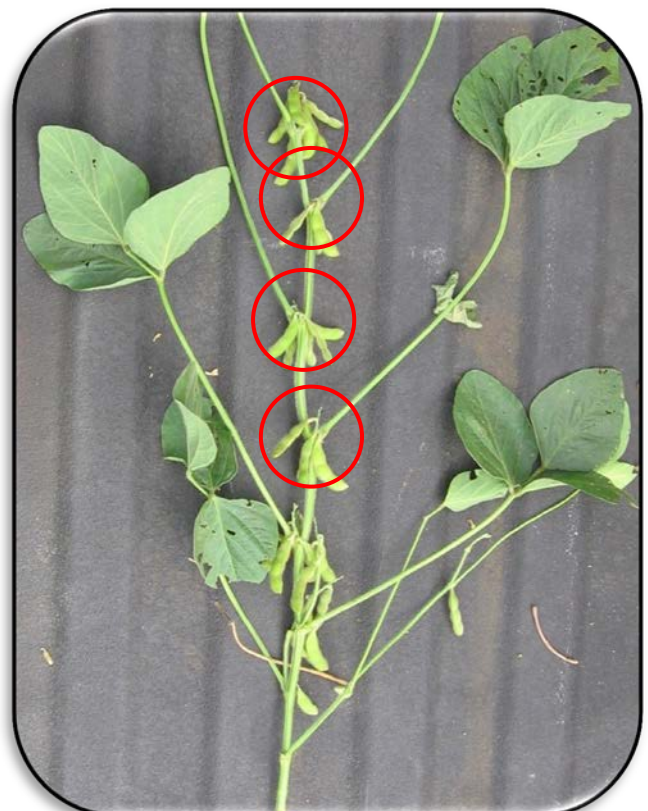
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### *How to Identify Soybean Development Stages*

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Remove the soybean plant at ground level to make it easier to stage. Examine each main stem node one at a time to determine the development stage. Focus on the top four nodes that contain fully developed leaves (shown below). A fully developed leaf is one that is located immediately below a node containing a leaf with unrolled or unfolded leaflets (leaflet edges are no longer touching). The soybean crop is considered to be at a particular stage when 50% of the plants reach that stage. Listed with stage description for R1 through R6 are the approximate number of days to R7, or physiological maturity, for full season (FS) soybean planted in May and double crop (DC) soybean planted in June/July.





**R1: One open flower at any main stem node**

Days to R7 = 68 FS, 57 DC



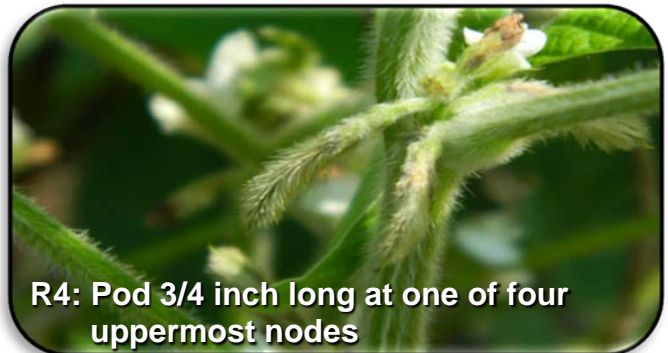
**R2: Open flower at one of two uppermost main stem nodes**

Days to R7 = 65 FS, 55 DC



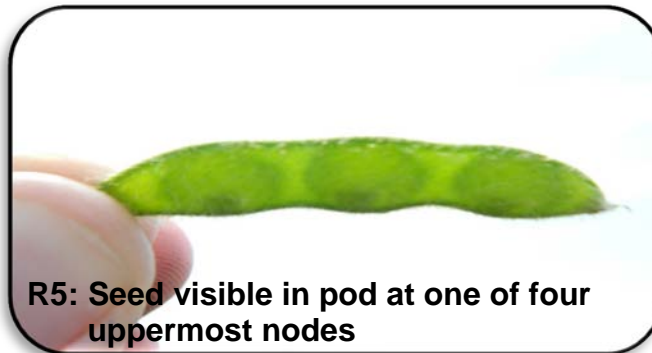
**R3: Pod 3/16 inch long at one of four uppermost nodes**

Days to R7 = 53 FS, 47 DC



**R4: Pod 3/4 inch long at one of four uppermost nodes**

Days to R7 = 44 FS, 38 DC



**R5: Seed visible in pod at one of four uppermost nodes**

Days to R7 = 34 FS, 30 DC



**R6: Green seed touching inside pods at one of four uppermost nodes**

Days to R7 = 19 FS, 17 DC



**R7: One pod on the main stem reached mature color**



**R8: 95% of pods reached mature color**