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# Get high quality soybean

## through good agricultural practices



Working in partnership to create down-to-earth messages on integrated soil fertility management



Guidelines for Uganda



## 1. Land preparation

- Select a field that did not have a legume crop (e.g. beans) in the previous season to avoid the carry over of pest and diseases from the previous season's crop.
- Till or plough-in weeds and crop residues at least 1 month before the rains
- Do a second ploughing/tilling just before planting to break up large lumps of soil.

*If soil is acidic, broadcast 5 bags (50 kg bags) of agricultural lime per acre before ploughing*

## 2. Planting

- Plant improved certified seed for your area, or use good seed saved from the previous crop for a maximum of 2 seasons.
- Test seed for germination (before the rainy season). Plant 30 seeds, and if at least 25 come up, then the seed is good to plant.
- Inoculate seeds under a shade and plant on the same day.
- Plant at the beginning of the rainy season.
- Mark planting holes 20 cm apart and 60 cm between lines. The hole should be 5 cm deep.
- Apply one soda/beer bottle top of DAP per hole (80-100 kg of DAP per hectare). If decomposed manure is available, apply a handful per hole.
- Cover fertilizer with 2 cm of soil.
- Place two seeds per hole and cover with soil.

## 3. Field management

- Weed 2-3 weeks after planting and at 5-6 weeks after planting.
- Uproot and destroy diseased plants and those that look different from the rest.
- If pests and diseases are present, seek advice on how to control.

## 4. Harvest

- Harvest when most (at least 85%) pods are brown (like dried banana leaves) and most leaves have fallen off the plant.

## 5. Storage

- Dry the harvested plants on a clean dry surface (e.g. a tarpaulin) until they easily come out of the pods when threshing (2-6 days in sunlight).
- Thresh, winnow and then sort to remove foreign materials and diseased and cracked seed.
- Dry the clean seed for 3-4 days to 13% or less moisture content (seed is sufficiently dry when it cracks into two or when the outer cover comes off easily when rolled with feet on a hard surface).
- Place seed in bags that allow in air and store in a cool dry place away from direct sunlight. Place bags on wooden pallets.

Timely planting + improved soybean seed + fertilizers & inoculant + effective weed, pest and disease management + good storage = better soybean harvest and income