

Soybean Approach and Budget

We can approach regenerative soybean crop nutrition in a number of ways, from individual applications to a full, customized nutritional program. Each application below is a part of a comprehensive approach, and each may be used as a standalone treatment. They are arranged, in order from the top, by greatest return on investment and ease of implementation, not according to seasonal timing. Estimated costs per acre are based on an average 100 acre field.

1. **BioCoat Gold Mycorrhizal Seed Coat: About \$7 per acre** (depending on seed weight and planting population).

The most cost-effective step into regenerative agriculture is to use our dry seed inoculant **BioCoat Gold**. In addition to assisting early germination, seedling vigor, and root development, BioCoat Gold contributes to greater nutrient uptake and drought resistance and is the easiest way to establish beneficial bacterial and fungal species throughout your fields while you are planting seeds. There is no additional equipment needed; simply mix the BioCoat Gold powder dry onto seeds before planting.

2. **Pod Set Foliar Applications: \$31-\$42 per acre**

The next progressive step for soybeans is to make two reproductive foliar applications of **Accelerate**, the first at the 3rd-4th trifoliolate and the second around pre-bloom. We've found this approach can show an immediate increase in pod set of up to 50%. If necessary, this can be applied in a single 6-8 quart application, but this rate may translate into a less dramatic overall effect on bloom and pod set.

- Two applications of 4 quart **Accelerate** -or-
- Single application of 6 quart **Accelerate** -or-
- Single application of 8 quart **Accelerate**

3. **Pod Fill Foliar Application: \$21-\$31 per acre**

A frequent limiting factor to realizing full yield potential on soybeans happens at the approach to pod fill when the demand for potassium increases greatly. While it is best to monitor potassium levels with **Plant Sap Analysis** and be prepared to apply as needed during pod fill, you can often predict potassium needs based on soil levels, previous yields, and relative pod set for the year. Also, boron increases the flow of sugars into the developing seed and helps ensure large well-filled beans.

- 2-3 quart of **Holo-K**
- 1-2 quart of **Rebound Boron**

4. **Liquid In-Furrow at Planting: \$34-\$39 per acre**

If you have the capacity to apply liquid nutrition in-furrow at planting, then the simplest single product to use is **Planter Solution**. This is an all-around macro- and micronutrient booster and carbon solution that enables a step forward in terms of building a nutrient-rich, biologically active zone around your plant roots. Where budget and equipment allow, Planter Solution is well worth it.

- 2 gallon **Planter Solution** -or-
- 1 gallon **Planter Solution** and 2 quart **Rejuvenate**

5. **Regenerative Soil Health Program: \$45-\$61 per acre**

The most effective step toward long-term soil regeneration, independent of crop-type, is to start in the fall with the **Regenerative Soil Health Program**. This builds soil by increasing microbial digestion, building long-chain carbon structures, sequestering nitrogen, and recycling nutrients like phosphorus and essential micronutrients; all this can point to a decrease in your input costs for subsequent seasons. For soybeans, an affordable rate per acre is:

- 4-6 quart **Rejuvenate**
- 2-3 quart **SeaShield**
- 50 gram **Spectrum**

Because most markets do not reward increased quality and conventional commodity prices are beyond growers' control, an average soybean program cost averages around \$125 an acre. Where the grower stands to benefit from organic or food-grade premiums, future soil health, and bean nutrient content, even more gains can be achieved.