

# Soybean Growth Cycle

## Germination

A new plant germinates or begins when the seed coat is softened with proper moisture (50% of the seed weight) and the temperature is warm enough. The primary root called the radicle begins to emerge from the seed into the soil.



## Emergence

The cotyledons are pulled up through the soil by the hypocotyl stem or “hook” as it lengthens. Once out of the soil, the stem straightens and you can see the first true leaves or cotyledons at the top of the stem.



## Vegetation

Leaves develop along the stem. The point of attachment is called a node. Soybeans have numerous nodes and leaves that are in sets of three.



## Reproduction

Flowers bloom and pollination occurs. This allows fertilization to take place. The pods begin to develop and seeds form within the pod.



## Maturity

The plant reaches maturity once all the pods are filled with fully developed seeds. The plant then turns brown and dies. The plant is ready to be harvested!



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