Records for evaluating seeding operation and seedling stands

To help fine-tune seeding operations it may be helpful to use the record form below. There are columns for planting date, variety, seed size and drill settings. Other pertinent information such as tillage and soil condition can be added in the *note section* .

Once seedlings emerge, one can compare their population (per foot of row) to the original target rate and pre-recorded drill settings. Noting seeding depth and the number of days to emergence can also be helpful.

The table converts the seeding rate per acre to the equivalent number of seeds per foot of row. It also lists the number of seedlings assuming the emergence rate in parenthesese (rate tends to decline as seed rate increases). For example, if planting early and aiming for 1.4 million seeds/acre, then one would expect to drop 20.1 seeds per foot and eventually find approximately 18.5 seedlings. For a late October planting using a drill setting for 2.2 million, one might see over 25 seedlings per foot of 7.5 in. row .

Relating target seeding rate per acre to seed and seedling numbers (for 7.5 inch row spacing)

target seeding rate (millions/ac)	*equivalent seeds per ft of row*	*estimated seedlings per ft of row*
1.4	*20.1*	*18.5 (92%)*
1.6	*23*	*20.7 (90%)*
1.8	*25.8*	*22.7 (88%)*
2	*28.7*	*24.7 (86%)*
2.2	*31.6*	*26.5 (84%)*

[1] Target seeding rate/ 43560 x 0.625 = seeds per foot of row (7.5" spacing).

[2] an estimated emergence rate in parentheses

Record for planting notes, drill settings, and seedling evaluluation

planting record						**evaluation**		
field	*plant date*	*variety*	*seeds per lb*	*drill setting*	*drill depth*	*days to emerge*	*seedling depth*	*seedlings per ft*

Notes

M.L. Nagelkirk
MSU Extension 11/4/16

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