

A close-up photograph of several vibrant yellow sunflowers in full bloom. The flowers have large, dark brown centers and bright yellow petals. They are surrounded by large, green, serrated leaves. The background is a clear, light blue sky.

Nufarm Spring Sunflower Boot Camp –Getting your planter ready to hit the field

Preparations for Spring 2026 – Preparing Your Planter



General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist

Make sure planter is level front to back and left to right
parallel bars are parallel

General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist



General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist

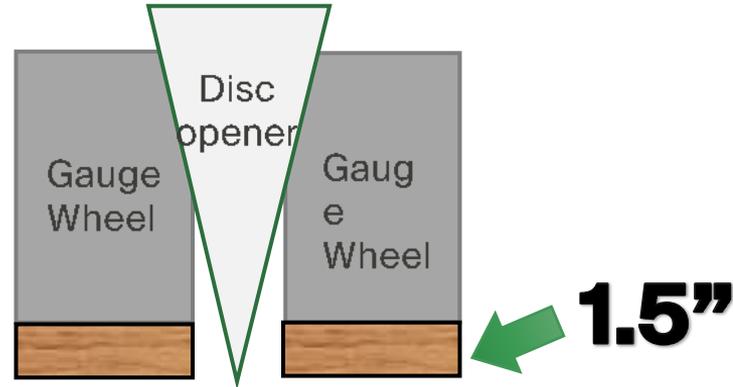


Make sure planter is level front to back and left to right parallel bars are actually parallel

General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist

- Make sure planter is level front to back and left to right
parallel bars are parallel
- Make sure all depth of each row unit is uniform

General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist



Make sure all depth of each row unit is uniform

General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist



General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist

- Make sure planter is level front to back and left to right parallel bars are parallel
- Make sure all depth of each row unit is uniform
- Check air pressure on Drive wheels daily, equal tire pressure keeps the tool bar level and parallel to the ground
- Check closing wheel alignment
- Check disk openers for wear, the diameter of a new disk is 15". A disk worn smaller than 14.5" may create a W in the trench and cause difference up to $\frac{3}{4}$ " in seed depth

General Planter Preseason / Maintenance Checklist

- Make sure drives are all in good working order (chains, bearings and shafts) Also make sure all chains / sprockets are properly aligned to insure there is no binding
- Make sure all seed tubes and sensors are clean / functional
- Make sure trash whippers are properly set and maintain correctly a malfunctioning or improper usage can create more problems than the solve

Planter Settings - John Deere Pro Max 40 Planter



John Deere Pro Max 40 Preseason Setup / Maintenance Checklist

- Check plates for wear and warpage make sure plates are stored vertically when not in use
- Make sure double eliminator is not worn out
- Make sure knock turns freely and is not worn out and aligned properly with plate
- Make sure door gasket has no cracks and is not worn out and seals tightly
- Check all brushes for wear
- Check Bearings in each unit to make sure unit doesn't wobble during operation / turns freely

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the John Deere Pro Max 40

- Invest in a double eliminator kit they come from John Deere and cost \$26.96 per row JD Part #AA61046
- Be willing to invest in different plates, a hybrids plantability can vary plant 7%-14% from plate to plate
- The best plates for planting oil sunflower is the A52390 (small sweetcorn) or the sunflower plate

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the John Deere Pro Max 40

- With confections the A52390 (large sweetcorn) plate works best
- With Confections be sure to use John Deere's large curved tub instead of as standard tube
- Pay attention to seed as it leaves the meter, a visual inspection can save a lot of headache down the road

Planter Settings – Case Early Riser



Case Early Riser Preseason Setup / Maintenance checklist

- Check wear on plates if the groove on the face of the plate is no longer visible the plate is shot. If you replace a plate you also will have to replace the cover they are mated parts.
- Check to make sure plate is not warped, store plates vertically when not in use.
- Check all brushes for wear
- Check singulator for wear
- Check that all bearings spin freely, and the unit doesn't wobble

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the Case Early Riser

- Typically, with oils we find that the 2440 plate works best for size 2 and 3 seed
- Typically, with oils we find that the 2423 plate works best for size 4 seed
- Typically, with Confections and some Conoils we find the 2455 plate works best
- In most case's run the double eliminator on 2
- Don't be afraid to run at higher speeds with a Case
- Always make sure you have the correct plate in the planter, with the case it may appear to be planting well but in reality, you are damaging the seed.

Planter Settings – Precision Planting E -Set



Precision Planting E Set Preseason Setup / Maintenance

- Make sure plates are in good working order and also check wear strips
- Make sure bearings turn freely and do not wobble
- Check all brushes
- Make sure singulator is in good working order
- Make sure paper clip is intact Make sure paper clip is in up position
- Use specialty extractor
- Check butterfly drive for spring tension

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the Precision E Set

- When Planting size 4's you can usually add 2%-3% of accuracy to add the specialty hose which helps remove Doubles.
- NEVER use the paper clip in the down position when using coated seed, it will break up the coating and will bring down plantability by 15-30%
- Make sure you are using applicable extractor

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the Precision E Set

- With a E set planter, we typically use the 720030 plate for 4's
- With a E set planter, we typically use the 720031 plate for 3's
- With a E set planter, we typically use the 720032 plate for 2's
- With a E set planter we typically use the 720003 plate for Confection's and some Conoils

Planter Settings – Precision Planting V -Set



Precision Planting V Set Preseason Setup / Maintenance

- Make sure plates are in good working order and are not warped
- Check wear teeth to make sure there are no gears broken
- Add fresh graphite at start of each crop
- Make sure bearings turn freely and do not wobble
- Check all brushes
- Check all seals

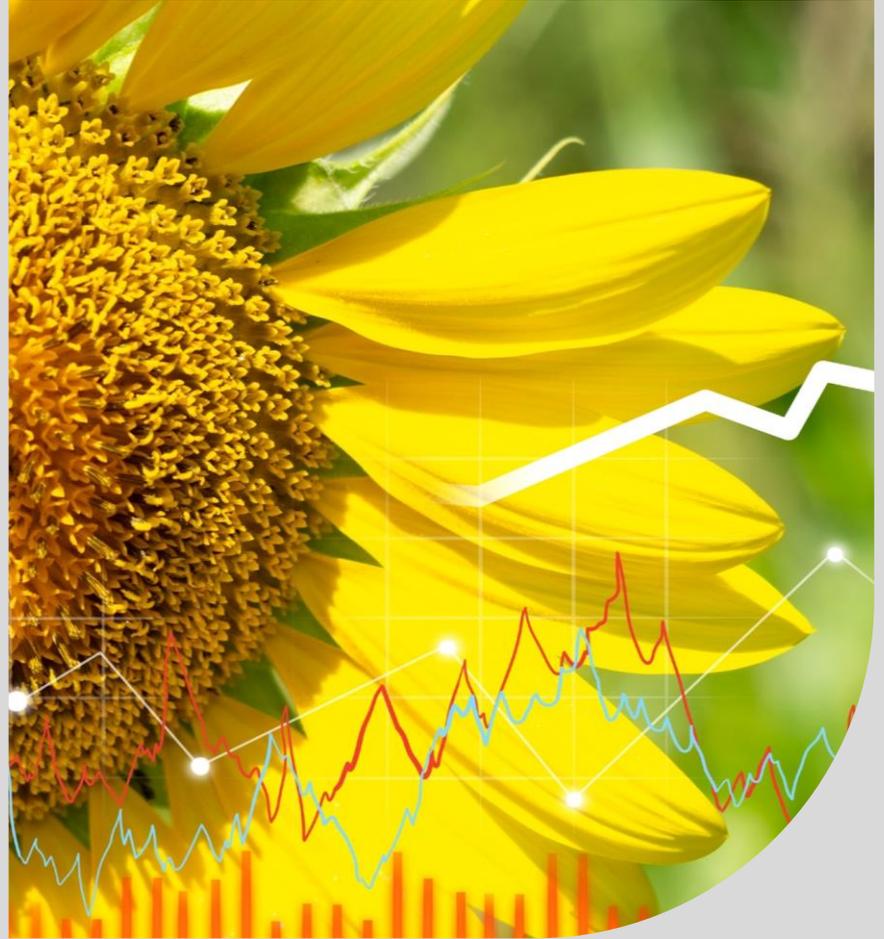
Precision Planting V Set Preseason Setup / Maintenance

- Make sure you have proper singulator is in good working order
- Test run meter in yard or meter stand stand, the monitor will tell you amps on each unit, the monitor box will show yellow and warn of failure
- Use specialty extractor

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the Precision V Set

- With a V set planter, we typically use the 730081 plate for 4's
- With a V set planter, we typically use the 730081 plate for 3's
- With a V set planter, we typically use the 720083 plate for 2's
- Make sure you are using corn singulator

Planter Settings – White Air



White air Preseason Setup / Maintenance Checklist

- Check plates for wear and warpage make sure plates are stored vertically when not in use
- Use appropriate shims – use a micrometer to check the distance between the shaft and the housing sometimes you can have up a 1/8 in difference even in a new unit
- Check all brushes for wear
- Check Bearings in each unit to make sure unit doesn't wobble during operation / turns freely

Tips, Tricks and Watchouts for the White Air

- Invest in the sunflower plates – when using 4's sometimes you will need to use the popcorn disk
- Invest in sunflower brush – Part # 700730684
- Sometimes it is helpful to unbolt the rear bolt on the brush and move it down a 1/4 to 1/3 of inch
- Move brush up to eliminate doubles
- Move brush down to eliminate skips
- Air pressure runs anywhere from .9 – 1.2
- Only run up to 8# of air in the center fill tank to much air pressure will overpower the row units

Planter Settings – John Deere Finger



John Deere Finger Planter Preseason Setup / Maintenance Checklist

Visually inspect meter for worn, damaged or missing parts

Make sure you have proper fingers in your planter sunflower fingers for 3's and 4's and corn fingers for 2's and sometimes 3's

Disassemble meter and check bearing

Check finger assembly for rust, wear or broken parts

Bead blast housing and straighten if needed

Coat inside Belt housing with graphite

John Deere Finger Planter Preseason Setup / Maintenance Checklist

Re-install and / or replace belt, idler, bushing and drive sprocket

Align belt

Replace brush

Install finger assembly and torque nut for proper operation

Re-install and or replace housing cover

Lubricate and install lock

Paint or mark row housing on unit

Tips and Tricks for the John Deere Finger Planter

Spend the money and purchase sunflower fingers and the sunflower hub assembly this allows you to switch between size 3 and 4 seed with ease and it also will improve planting size 2's as well

This assembly costs \$121.01 per unit – Part AA3162

Planter Settings – Tips Beyond the Planter



Planter tips for Planting Sunflower

- Take Advantage of your off-season and spend some time running your meters
- Make sure you are willing to get out and dig seeds to check placement
- Be willing to switch plates / baffle settings and eliminator settings to make planter perform at its maximum potential

Planters tips for Planting Sunflower

- If you are having lots of multiples lower your vacuum
- If you are having lots of skips increase your vacuum
- If you have your vacuum set properly your skips and multiples should be close to equal
- Be flexible with your speed, some meters run better at high speeds
- Use a lubricant! we prefer to use dust

Planters tips for Planting Sunflower

- Sometimes it helps to run your planter boxes $\frac{1}{2}$ full to help flowability and reduce bridging
- Sometimes it helps to plant opposite the way you work the field to keep seed from bridging.
- Keep an open mind!

THANK YOU

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