

Before You Plant Checklist

- Early-season weed control is crucial. Control early-season weeds with soil-applied herbicides to keep fields as free from weeds as possible for the first four to six weeks.
- Utilize seed treatments for below-ground protection of insects and diseases.
- When appropriate, plan for and use a registered in-furrow insecticide at planting to control chewing insects.
- Proper seedbed preparation is required prior to seeding sunflowers.
- Whether using conventional-till or no-till, an even seedbed promotes uniform germination and emergence and good plant stand establishment.
- A minimum three-year rotation to reduce disease and weed pressure is also recommended. Avoid back-to-back rotation with canola, rapeseed, dry edible beans and soybeans, or other crops susceptible to the same diseases as sunflowers. Carefully plan your rotation to control problem weeds and also manage herbicide resistance. Always follow registered uses and label instructions.
- Meet the crop's specific nutrition requirements and fertilize for realistic targets according to geography, soil type and annual precipitation. Remember, overfertilization can do more harm than good, and fertilizer should never be placed in the seed furrow.

