

FROM THE GROWERS WHO TAKE THE  
UTMOST CARE OF OUR FOUNDATION  
SEED, TO THE INDIVIDUALS WHO  
HAND-TEST THE RAW PRODUCT,  
WE FOLLOW A STRINGENT, QUALITY-  
DRIVEN PROCESS. OUR PROCESS  
AND DEDICATION LED LATHAM®  
HI-TECH SEEDS TO HAVE A 10%  
HIGHER GERMINATION THAN OUR  
COMPETITORS IN 2012.

## FROM OUR PLANT TO PLANTING

### OUR GROWERS

Some of our growers have been planting Latham® foundation seed since Willard Latham founded the business 65 years ago. Our long-standing relationship with growers proves the pride and dedication they have to upholding that quality.



### 1 SAMPLING

Before our growers bring their seed to the plant, they bring in a sample that is checked for moisture and appearance.



### 2 HARVEST

We recommend that seed beans are combined at 14.5% to protect seeds from breaking or damaging easily. Harvesting at just the right time is incredibly important because moisture can drop a few points in one day.



### 3 QUALITY INSPECTION

Every load of beans that arrives at the plant receives a quality check by our team members, including a hand probe. A sample is taken, and moisture and appearance are checked a second time. Our associates make a decision regarding whether or not the beans meet our quality standards. Following inspection, loads are directed to an assigned grain bin.

### 4 STORAGE

About 90% of Latham Hi-Tech Soybean seeds are stored in grain bins at our plant in Alexander, Iowa. This allows us complete control of our soybeans from the time they leave a grower's field to the time they are shipped to farmers in the spring. This complete dedication to quality control sets us apart from other seed companies.

### 5 COMING INTO THE PLANT

As harvest winds down, plant associates begin the conditioning process. Soybean varieties are taken individually to the plant for conditioning, where they are emptied from the bin, loaded into a grain wagon, weighed and enter the conditioning plant.

### 6 CONDITIONING PROCESS

During the first step of the conditioning process, soybeans enter an air screen cleaner and scalper screen to remove sticks and pods. The beans also pass through a sifter screen to remove small soybeans and split soybeans, while fans remove dust and dirt.



The second step of the conditioning process sorts beans by shape and form. A special easy-handling elevator takes beans up through two surge bins, and releases them into a spiral separator. The high quality round beans move down the spirals, advancing them to the next phase, while misshapen beans are moved aside for disposal.



The final step of the conditioning process is determined by bulk density. The seed is emptied onto one of two gravity tables, where it's met by oscillating air blasts. Heavy, good beans move uphill and move to the next phase of the conditioning process, while lighter material and small beans are discarded.



### 7 BAGGING

After conditioning, beans are taken to bagging bins. A robotic stacking system allows our team members the opportunity to pay more attention to the seed quality process.

