

Sunflower Planter Recommendations

- Notes:
1. Always consult your planter operator manual and your local planter dealer for best settings. The following recommendations are starting points only.

Each particular seed lot, planter condition, and field speed may require different adjustments. Differences of shape, size, and weight of seed between seed lots of the same seed size designation may require different seed plates or planter adjustments. Test your planter meter and your seed on a good planter test stand before planting to determine best settings at your field speed.

2. Most planter operator manuals recommend either **graphite** or **talc** be mixed with the seed to provide improved seed flow and/or lubrication to the planter meter components.

This is especially important for planting sunflowers. See your operator manual or planter dealer for the recommended material and rate.

Planter Model	Component or Adjustment	Oil Seed Size			Confection Seed (long, narrow, XL) (~3000 seeds/lb)
		Size #4 (~7500 seeds/lb)	Size #3 (~6500 seeds/lb)	Size #2 (~5500 seeds/lb)	
John Deere MaxEmerge Vacuum Seed Meter (Use Long Meter Brush)	Seed plate:	H136478	A52390	A52390	A52391
	Vacuum (in. H ₂ O):	3	6	5	12
	Baffle position:	Down	Up	Up	Up
	Knockout wheel or wiper:	Wiper	Knockout AA37348	Knockout AA37348	Knockout AA37348
	Double eliminator (AA61046):	None, or moved up	Block half of hole	Block half of hole	Block half of hole
	Seedtube:	Standard	Standard	Standard	A56786 (wide)
Precision Planting eSet in John Deere MaxEmerge Vacuum Seed Meter (Use Extractor: #720117)	Seed plate:	7200031	7200031	7200032	720003
	Vacuum (in. H ₂ O):	7 - 8	7 - 12	12 - 13	12
	Singulator part #:	720230	720230	720230	720273
	Deflector position :	Up (with hose)	Up (with hose)	Up	Up
	Seedtube:	Standard	Standard	Standard	A56786 (wide)
Kinze EdgeVac VacuumSeed Meter (Use Singulator Setting 5 and EdgeVac Seed Tubes)	Seed disc:	GD18098	GD18098	GD18098	GD18098
	Vacuum (in. H ₂ O):	20	20	20	20
	Cleanout brush::	GA12154	GA12154	GA12154	GA12154
	Note: The Kinze ASD bulk seed system works well with #2, 3, & 4 oil seeds but at present is not recommended for confection seed. Recommend 8-15 inches H ₂ O ASD pressure.				
John Deere Pro-Series Vacuum Seed Meter (Use Singulator setting 1.5 and # AA37348 Knockout wheel)	Seed plate:	A52390	A52390	A52390	A52391
	Vacuum (in. H ₂ O):	5	8	12	12
	Seedtube:	Standard	Standard	Standard	A56786 (wide)
	Note: For the long, narrow confection seed only: 1.) If bridging occurs just above the CCS tank manifold, try adjusting the CCS tank pressure from 10 inches of water to as low as 6 inches of water. 2.) If plugging occurs in the mini-hopper elbow, try reducing the CCS tank pressure. If that does not help, see your local Deere dealer for information on how to modify the mini-hopper elbow. 3.) Low seed populations or low field speeds may cause the hydraulic drive to operate at rotational speeds too low to maintain accurate seed spacing. See your local Deere dealer for information on how to correctly convert your 40 cell seed plate to 20 cells. 4.) If seed bridging occurs within the seed meter, try the 50 hole edible bean plate A52904 which will have more agitation but you will need to change transmission settings, double eliminator (AA69106), and knockout wheel (AA38844).				
CaseIH, ASM 1200 Series Vacuum Seed Meter (Use Baffle Position 2)	Seed plate:	2423	2423 (or 2440)	2440	2440 (or 2455)
	Singulator setting:	3	3 (2)	2	2
	Vacuum (in. H ₂ O):	25	25 (18)	20	25 (18)
White 5000, 6000, & 8000 Series Positive Air Seed Meter	Seed plate:	852437, or 700730352	852437, or 700730352	852435	852435, 852434, or 852436
	Air pressure (in. H ₂ O):	1 - 1 ¼	1 - 1 ¼	1 - 1½	1 - 2
	Seed gate position:	⅓	⅓	⅓	Remove gate
	Tickler brush:	700730684	700730684	Standard or 700730684	Standard or 700730684
	Note: Seed plate selection, tickler brush, and air pressure are very sensitive to sunflower seed shape. Test your meter and your seed on a planter test stand before planting.				
John Deere Corn Finger Pickup Seed Meter	Small or large finger:	Small	Small (or large)	Large	Large
	Backing plate:	Standard	Standard	Standard	Large hole
	Seedtube:	Standard	Standard	Standard	A26184 (wide)
	Note:This finger pickup mechanism may not provide good sunflower seed singulation or accurate seed spacing, especially with confection seed. Performance is very dependent on field speed and individual seed size and shape.				
Precision Planting ‘PrecisionMeter’ Options in John Deere or Kinze Finger Pickup Seed Meters	Precision Finger Set:	Sunflower Finger Set 343067	Sunflower Finger Set 343067	Standard Finger Set 343029	Not Recommended for XL Confection Seed
	PopMax Backing Plate:	Sunflower 342111 With Insert “C”	Sunflower 342111 With Insert “C”	Standard 342103 With insert “A”	
	Brush:	Brushless Block Blank 343091	Brushless Block Blank 343091	Adjustable Brush (Included in 343103)	
	Note:This finger pickup is not a recommended way to plant sunflower seeds, and will often not provide good sunflower seed singulation or accurate seed spacing.				
Kinze Finger Pickup Seed Meter (Use Standard Seed Tube)	Small or large finger:	Small (GR1897)	Small (GR1897)	Small (GR1897)	Not recommended for confection seed
	Backing plate:	Large hole (GR0664)	Large hole (GR0664)	Large hole (GR0664)	
	Lift CAM:	GB0111 or GB0410	GB0111 or GB0410	GB0111 or GB0410	
	Note:The Kinze ASD bulk seed system works well with #2, 3, & 4 oil seeds but at present is not recommended for confection seed. Recommend 8-15 inches H ₂ O ASD pressure				

The source for these recommendations for initial setup of seed meters for planting sunflowers is a combination of planter operator manuals, sunflower industry recommendations, direct contact with the planter manufacturers, and planter testing at the University of Nebraska.