

Established: August 17, 1966

Serving the legislative interests of Ohio soybean farmers for 47 years.

December 2013



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LETTER FROM the president



Season's greetings!

As we face a new year, we will also be faced with successes and challenges in the agriculture industry. The passion and commitment Ohio soybean farmers' display on a daily basis

what makes the successes achievable and the challenges worth it.

There were many successes accomplished by the soybean industry in the past year. Inside this issue of the *Ohio Leader Letter*, you will find Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) highlights which includes programs, events and relationships OSA has maintained with other industry stakeholders who together have created positive change.

OSA continues to have a strong relationship with the Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) and soybean checkoff, which administers 50% of the checkoff funds while the other half goes to the United Soybean Board. One example

of this relationship is demonstrated in the area of biodiesel. Both OSA and OSC support the biodiesel industry which increases the demand for soybeans.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed a rule to set the 2014 and 2015 biomass-based diesel Renewable Volume Obligation at 1.28 billion gallons. Any volume requirement below the 1.7 billion gallons to be produced in 2013 will be a setback for the biodiesel industry. American Soybean Association (ASA) Director Mike Cunningham recently joined other biofuels stakeholders in Washington D.C. to testify at a hearing on the EPA's proposed rule, but we need your help too. Inside this issue, you can learn how to help make a difference by submitting your direct comments to the EPA.

In closing, I want to thank you for your membership and hope you and your family have a very happy and safe holiday season.

Jerry Bambauer

OSA President

Auglaize County soybean farmer



LEGISLATIVE

update



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Biodiesel Industry Calls All Hands On Deck to Weigh in on RFS

The biodiesel industry is calling on all supporters who have a stake in the industry to weigh in with the federal government on a recent proposal from the U.S. EPA. The agency has proposed cutting renewable fuels volumes next year under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), including for biodiesel.

The U.S. biodiesel industry is the leading producer of EPA-designated Advanced Biofuel, and the first to break 1 billion gallons of annual production. With commercial-scale refineries across the country, the industry has exceeded RFS requirements in each year of the program and is on pace to do so again this year with anticipated record production of at least 1.7 billion gallons. Biodiesel is a clear RFS success

story and the industry is calling on the EPA to support a modest increase in the proposal that is consistent with actual production.

The EPA's OSA proposed rule for next year would set biodiesel volumes at 1.28 billion gallons while shrinking the overall Advanced Biofuel requirement to 2.2 billion gallons. The biodiesel category is a subset of the overall Advanced category. Additionally, because excess biodiesel production in 2013 can be carried over for compliance into 2014 the 1.28 billion gallon proposal for 2014 could mean an effective market closer to 1 billion gallons – a dramatic reduction from current production levels.

"It is very disappointing that the EPA is

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Producer Communication

Barry McGraw Joins Ohio Soybean Council



The Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) recently welcomed Barry McGraw as the new Director of Product Development & Commercialization. Tom Fontana, former OSC Director of New Use Development will take on a new role as Director of Research & Education.

As Director of Product Development & Commercialization, McGraw will lead OSC's new use program. This includes exploring opportunities for new soy technologies and the commercialization of new products into the marketplace.

McGraw joins OSC after 15 years with Battelle where he worked in program management, engineering and marketing. He played a key role on Battelle's bio-based materials team, working to develop and commercialize soy-based technologies. Four of those technologies have received R&D 100 awards.

McGraw also worked on Battelle's national security team in technology areas such as critical infrastructure, environmental challenges, information systems and defense technology. He

holds an undergraduate degree in plastics engineering from Shawnee State University in Portsmouth.

"We are very proud to welcome Barry to the staff," said John Motter, OSC chairman and Hancock County soybean farmer. "Barry brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team and we look forward to seeing him take our program to the next level."

Beginning in 2005, Fontana served as Director of New Use Development and was responsible for building the portfolio of new use research projects that have had tremendous success over the years. In his new role as Director of Research & Education, Fontana will focus his efforts on managing and growing OSC's production and environmental research projects, as well as education programs.

Tom will continue his role as Director of Programs and Outreach for the Ohio Soybean Council Foundation as well.

"We have an excellent team in place," said Kirk Merritt, OSC executive director. "In these roles, Barry and Tom will significantly strengthen our research and development programs and position OSC for future success."

Production Research

Ten Things You Should Know About SVNV

1. Soybean vein necrosis virus (SVNV) has been detected in 16 states, including Ohio, and the province of Ontario, Canada, according to a recent report funded by the soybean checkoff.
2. Experts say it could potentially reduce yields, especially when plants are stressed.
3. SVNV belongs to the tospovirus group. It's vectored or spread by a group of insects called thrips.
4. Thrips larvae acquire SVNV by feeding on an infected source plant. After pupation, infected adults --- about 1-2 millimeters in length --- spread the virus to additional plants as they feed.
5. Scientists are studying what species of thrips are in the Midwest, which ones acquire and transmit the virus and what plants serves as hosts, among other things.
6. SVNV has likely been in soybeans for some time but was overlooked or misdiagnosed.
7. SVNV symptoms resemble other foliar disease symptoms like brown spot, bacterial blight, early sudden death syndrome and others. Laboratory testing is required for proper identification.
8. SVNV lesions typically spread along or from the edge of a leaf vein and have a brown center and yellow margin. Most lesions typically are one-quarter to one-half inch in size, but can be larger.
9. The veins may appear clear, yellow or dark brown in affected plants, and vein discoloration may be especially noticeable on the underside of the leaf. Symptom distribution is generally not uniform.

10. The virus impairs photosynthesis of soybean plants and development.

What about Ohio? Feng Qu and Anne Dorrance, Department of Plant Pathology, The Ohio State University weighed in on SVNV.

Specifically in Ohio, what have you seen over the last few years regarding SVNV?

We have seen symptoms of SVNV infections every year since 2004. However, most years relatively few symptomatic plants were seen at the edges of the fields. 2012 was an exception: that year we saw SVNV-infected plants in about half of the fields we visited, often spanning up to 15 edge rows. Relative to 2012, 2013 relatively few SVNV-infected soybean plants were observed around the state.

What weather conditions are more or less favorable to SVNV?

This still needs to be examined more carefully. The 2012 experience seems to suggest that warm and dry weather, especially at the time when the seedlings start to grow first three pairs of true leaves, favors the proliferation of soybean thrips, and hence SVNV which is transmitted by thrips.

How will SVNV affect soybean yields?

The characteristic leaf symptoms of SVNV typically were seen at early August, when the plants were near maturity. Other than the leaf discoloration, most plants seemed OK compared to neighboring asymptomatic plants.

Continued from page 1.

proposing cuts to the biodiesel industry for 2014,” said Anne Steckel, vice president of federal affairs at the National Biodiesel Board. “The Obama Administration has pushed so hard for the growth of clean-energy jobs and the biodiesel industry is delivering. There is not a commercial-scale fuel on the planet that beats the environmental benefits that biodiesel delivers. By the EPA’s own calculations, biodiesel reduces greenhouse gas emission by 57 percent to 86 percent. So we will be looking for answers from the EPA and the Administration about why they are doing this as it is not consistent with the Administration’s stated policy.”

Biodiesel supporters can make their voices heard in several ways; by submitting formal comments to the EPA, by contacting their Senators and Representatives and encouraging them to weigh in with the White House and EPA, and by encouraging others to do the same.

To submit formal comments to the EPA, visit www.biodiesel.org and click the Fueling Action Letter Writing Campaign link on the homepage. It only takes a minute to enter in your personal information and submit it electronically. The basic letter calls for a 2014 RFS volume of at least 1.7 billion gallons, but the electronic letter can be modified to personalize your

message. The EPA’s formal comment period is set to close on January 28th.

To reach out to your members of Congress, simply visit the Senate and House websites to find contact information and urge them to weigh in with the EPA about this proposal. Ask them to tell the EPA that they support a reasonable 2014 volume increase for biodiesel of at least 1.7 billion gallons that will continue this RFS success story.

“We have benefitted greatly from the biodiesel industry’s success,” said Amy Sigg Davis, Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) board member and soybean farmer from Warren County. “Now is the time to step up to support the industry’s future growth. I have already submitted my letter. Every soybean farmer in Ohio should submit theirs as soon as possible.”

At one billion gallons of production, the biodiesel industry uses more than 4 billion pounds of U.S. soybean oil, helping to support domestic crush demand. A strong biodiesel demand has linked soybean oil prices to the price of energy, effectively creating a floor for soy oil prices, and according to a 2012 Informa Economics study, the biodiesel industry returned more than \$15 billion to the soybean industry between 2006 and 2012 in increased soy oil revenue.



2013 Industry Dinner Highlights

The Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) recently hosted the 2013 Soybean Industry Dinner at the Marriott Northwest in Columbus, Ohio. The annual event brings industry partners and legislators to highlight both OSC and OSA accomplishments, celebrate the achievements of retiring board members and recognize the winner of the Outstanding Achievement Award.

Retiring OSA Board Members

This year, two OSA board members were recognized for the time and commitment they contributed to the Ohio soybean industry as they will be retiring this month.

Ed Lamalie, of Sandusky County joined the OSA Board of Trustees in 1998. Since then, he has served in a variety of leadership roles. He has been a member of the Membership Committee, Finance Committee and Legislative Committee. He was also part of OSA completing a major update of its strategic plan. Ed grows soybeans, corn and wheat on his farm near Fremont, Ohio.

Rob Joslin, of Shelby County has been on the OSA Board of Trustees since 1998 and has served in many leadership roles. In addition to being a member of numerous committees, Rob has served on the Executive Committee as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice president, President and Chairman. At a national level, Rob has served as a board member of the American Soybean Association (ASA) since 2005. He first served as a Vice President and in 2009 was elected First Vice President. In 2010, Rob represented U.S. soybean farmers as President of ASA and led the organization on policy and international trade access issues. Following his year as President, Rob became Chairman

of the ASA board and continued to be deeply involved in policy issues. Rob currently grows soybeans, corn and wheat on his farm near Sidney, Ohio.

Retiring OSC Board Members

Two OSC board members retired and were recognized for their dedication to OSC and the advancements being made in the soybean industry.

Denny Denlinger, of Montgomery County joined the OSC Board of Trustees in 2011. Since that time he has served on the Domestic Marketing Committee and has been a part of new projects, such as the role OSC plays at the Ohio State Fair. Denny currently grows soybeans, corn and wheat on his farm in Brookville, Ohio.

David Black, of Franklin County has been a part of the OSC Board of Trustees since 2005. He has served on the International Marketing Committee, New Uses Committee and the Domestic Marketing Committee. For the past two years, David has been a leader and served as Chair of the Domestic Marketing Committee. On his farm near Orient, Ohio, David grows soybeans, corn, wheat and hay.

John Motter was also recognized at this year’s industry dinner for serving as OSC Chairman for the past two years. John has been on the Board of Trustees for ten years and served as Secretary and Vice Chairman prior to becoming Chairman. He also chaired the OSC Communications and Production Research Committee and served on the International Marketing and New Uses Committee. John has been committed to advancing all of OSC’s priorities and has enhanced the board

development program and made it a priority to mentor new members of the board.

In addition, John has been active at the national level. He currently is serving his second term as a member of the United Soybean Board (USB), where he has been Vice Chair of the Audit and Evaluation Committee and was recently selected to serve on the Executive Committee. Although John will be stepping down as OSC Chairman, he will still serve on the OSC Board as an ex-officio member.

Outstanding Achievement Award

In addition to recognizing retiring board members, OSC recognizes one individual or organization that has significantly contributed to the goals of OSC and the soybean checkoff, and helped create new opportunities for Ohio soybean farmers. This year's Outstanding Achievement Award went to Dr. Steven Slack. Since 1999, Steve has been at The Ohio State University (OSU) serving as the Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC). Steve began working with OSC when he started as the Director of OARDC. Steve played an instrumental role in putting together the soybean research team at OSU. This research team, one of the best in the country, is comprised of researchers from multiple states that have focused their research on soybean diseases, soybean viruses and soybean rust.



Dr. Steven Slack received the Outstanding Achievement Award at this year's Soybean Industry Dinner. Pictured are Dr. Slack and his colleagues from The Ohio State University.



The Tradition Continues.
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SOYBEAN PESTS SHOWN TO REDUCE YIELDS

Macrophomina phaseolina : borne fungus that causes charcoal rot, which was in the past considered Recently, charcoal rot has been observed in a n where it can cause severe yield loss under dr resistant varieties, although there may I e recommendations for managing the di he most important yield-re damage under hot, dry c In short, ample ? relationships o r, m re infested with e disease interaction between the th have strongly suggested iat when both are present. T iate optimizing soybean tion and l fields. In addition e studies d onducting additional sur ariety screening of a United Soybean Board nded project an c immediately ben e benefit those in central and northern C e charcoal rot pathogen is moving north eted research will yield measurable ben ng long-term solutions to the disease p an aphids. Our proposed research ob re zing the profit potentials of Ohio soybe growers focusing ebean yield losses related to virus infections and insect infestations.

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We're helping you write a better end to this story.

Your soybean checkoff dollars are funding dramatic new research that will ultimately result in disease and pest resistant soybean traits. These ongoing efforts as well as research into new soybean varieties are helping boost the yields and profits of Ohio's soybean farmers.

This message brought to you by Ohio soybean farmers and their checkoff.





Ohio Soybean Association Year in Review



OSA hosted the annual Harvest Classic golf outing to benefit the Soy Political Action Committee. This year's winners included Roger Tedrick, Jim Scheid, Dave Miller and Rick Weininger.



The Japan Partnership Team consisting of 11 representatives of soybean crushers and importers from Japan Oilseed Processors Association and Japan Oil & Fat Importers & Exporters Association visited Ohio fields growing high oleic soybeans. The Japanese industry is interested in high oleic soybean oil because the oil has improved functionality, zero trans fats and low saturated fat.



OSA successfully lobbied to increase the indemnity fund to protect farmers' interest at grain elevators.

The 2013 Ohio Grain Farmers Symposium had a new location this year. Held at The Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center in Columbus, Ohio and hosted by OSA, and the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association, the event included speakers on a variety of topics including the latest policy developments.



OSA officers for 2012-2013 included: (above from left to right) Jerry Bambauer, president, Bret Davis, chairman, Tom Price, first vice president, Mike Heffelfinger, vice president, Jeff Roehm, treasurer, Adam Graham, secretary.



OSA traveled to the Ohio Capitol and met with Ohio legislative leaders. In meetings with over 20 legislators that sit on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee or the Senate Agriculture Committee, OSA farmer-leaders addressed how to increase economic opportunities for Ohio soybean farmers.



During the 2013 Commodity Classic, ASA held the annual delegate voting session to set its policy direction for 2013-2014. OSA farmer-leaders represented Ohio as delegates.



OSA worked closely with the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and others on Senate Bill 150, the nutrient management and water quality bill. Thanks to this effort, the regulations in the original bill were significantly reduced.



Kerrick Wilson from Preble County

In partnership with Beck's Hybrids, OSA launched the Beck's Young Farm Leader program. Highlighting the hard work, dedication and leadership of young Ohio farmers, one farmer each quarter was recognized. This year's winners included Jeff Adams, Nathan Brown and Kerrick Wilson.

Happy Holidays from the Ohio Soybean Association

South American Harvest Limits Marketing Options in Stored Grain

As we move into the winter months, there is plenty to keep you busy: everything from comparing yield maps to making decisions for next year's crop to repairing equipment and much more.

Another decision you may be faced with is storage. On-farm storage is becoming increasingly popular. For soybeans, this year may not be the best time for that according to Dr. Matthew Roberts, associate professor in the department of Agricultural, Environmental and Developmental Economics at The Ohio State University. "The soybean market is in an inverse right now." Dr. Roberts suggests that if you are storing soybeans on your farm, you



should get them priced between now and January. The South American soybean harvest begins as early as February and will continue through April. During this time, soybean prices will inevitably fall.

Storing grain is always an option to manage risk because of the volatility of prices. It is important to remember to get stored beans priced by January to avoid taking a bigger loss if you wait until after the South American crop is harvested.

Soybean Rewards
Earning a premium just got easier.



Managed by the Ohio Soybean Council and soybean checkoff, the Soybean Rewards Program helps Ohio soybean farmers increase productivity, yield and profitability by providing information and research related to premium opportunities, new varieties, disease and pest management and conservation practices.

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