



# LEADER letter

OHIO SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Established: August 17, 1966

Serving the legislative interests of Ohio soybean farmers for 46 years.

June 2013

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## LETTER FROM the president



As I write this at the beginning of June, the Ohio Crop Progress Report showed 89% of soybeans have been planted. Not bad! Overall, the weather conditions in Ohio have been favorable for the 2013 planting season.

Often in my president's letter I focus on a variety of agricultural topics and announcements that affect your bottom line. This month, I really want to emphasize and focus on the importance of agricultural programs that highlight and promote the young leaders in our industry. The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) and Beck's Hybrids recently launched the Beck's Young Farm Leader Program to recognize Ohio soybean farmers who will soon be the face of the agriculture industry. In this issue of the *Ohio Leader Letter*, you will read about our second quarter winner, Jeff Adams of Champaign County. This is a great chance for Ohio soybean farmers to become more involved and we are now accepting third quarter applications.

Another great opportunity that soybean farmers can take part in is the ASA/DuPont Young Leader program. The program is now in its 30th year and recognizes farmer leaders who are shaping the agriculture industry. The ASA/DuPont Young Leader program offers farmers the opportunity to strengthen and build leadership skills while meeting other farmer leaders from around the country.

Inside this issue of the *Ohio Leader Letter*, you can read about both programs and all they have to offer.

Lastly, I hope you will consider entering this year's Soybean Yield and Quality Contest by August 31. As a reminder, you can choose to enter one or more of four categories including: conventional tillage, no-till, non-GMO soybeans - conventional tillage and non-GMO soybeans - no-till.

Thank you for your membership to OSA. I wish you the best of luck as another crop gets its start.

**Jerry Bambauer**  
OSA President  
Auglaize County soybean farmer



## LEGISLATIVE update



Brought to you by Seed Consultants.

## OSA Works to Increase Economic Opportunities

On June 19th the Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) traveled to the Ohio Capitol and met with Ohio legislative leaders. Representative Dave Hall (R-Millersburg), Chairman of the Ohio House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee stopped by and spoke to OSA board leaders about the importance of communicating a clear and concise message to members of the Ohio General Assembly. Chairman Hall also commended the Ohio Soybean Council for their investment in edge of the field testing that will help farmers address nutrient management issues.

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. Among many issues, water

quality and nutrient management are the top priority. OSA leaders continue to encourage legislators to utilize sound science as the first consideration to any potential law changes.

OSA is also preparing for summer activity in Washington, D.C. The Senate has passed a farm bill and the House of Representatives is expected to pass a farm bill by the end of June. OSA is partnering with the American Soybean Association (ASA) to ensure market distorting policies are left out of the farm bill. ASA is concerned that proposals passed by the House Committee on Agriculture could potentially create planting preferences that are not reflective of market demands. The House Ag Committee version of the bill does not provide funding to key biodiesel programs; OSA will be working with key Ohio legislators to try to include funding for these programs.