



Ohio
SOYBEAN
ASSOCIATION

LEADER

letter

OHIO SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Established: August 17, 1966

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

September/October 2013



LETTER FROM *the president*



As I write this, harvest is ongoing for the majority of the state and so far so good. According to the USDA, NASS and Great Lakes Region, there were six suitable days during the week ending September 29 for fieldwork in Ohio. It's been a relatively good summer for most parts of the state.

While harvest is in full-swing, so is the hype regarding the government shut down and farm bill. Extension of the 2008 farm bill has expired and many farmers are left with unanswered questions. A good resource and breakdown of programs impacted by the expiration of the farm bill can be found on the American Soybean Association website. Go to www.soygrowers.com.

Speaking of resources, the Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) and the Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) and soybean checkoff recently mailed out a fact sheet and brief video that covers Palmer amaranth. Glyphosate-resistant populations of Palmer amaranth have had a major impact on crop production in the Southern United States. The packet was distributed to OSA

members and Ohio certified crop advisors and suppliers. Palmer amaranth has been an issue affecting soybean farmers around the United States, and I hope the materials are informative and useful so Ohio farmers will continue to see high crop yields and profitability in the future.

OSA recently elected new officers for 2013-2014. The newly elected positions include president, first vice president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. Each individual is held accountable for the implementation of board policies and procedures. I am honored to begin my second term as your OSA president, and thank you for allowing me to serve. See page 3 for a full list of elected officers.

Finally, I encourage everyone to attend the Ohio Grain Farmers Symposium on December 17, 2013, at the Ohio 4-H center located in Columbus, Ohio. We have a very informational day planned with top level speakers who will discuss the most critical topics affecting farmers' bottom line. Visit www.ohiograinsymposium.org to learn more and register today.

Have a safe and successful harvest.

Jerry Bambauer
OSA President
Auglaize County soybean farmer

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LEGISLATIVE

update



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Japan Partnership Team Meets in Ohio

Japan is the third largest export market for U.S. soybeans with 60-70% of the market share belonging to the U.S., although the market volume has tapered in recent years with less crushing. One solution could be high oleic soybean oil, which has the potential to maintain market share by creating more volume, in the Japanese market and elsewhere.

Recently, the 17th annual Japan Partnership Team consisting of 11 members of soybean crushers and importers from Japan Oilseed Processors Association (JOPA) and Japan Oil & Fat Importers & Exporters Association (JOFIEA) visited the U.S. and also made a stop in Ohio.

"This was the first time the Japanese team has visited Ohio where they had opportunity to learn about the commercialization of high oleic soybeans and the potential for high oleic soybeans and oil in Japan," said Bret Davis, Ohio Soybean Association

(OSA) board member and soybean farmer from Delaware County.

The Japanese industry is interested in high oleic soybean oil because the oil has improved functionality, zero trans fats and low saturated fat. But since all high oleic soybeans are genetically modified, this presents a potential issue in Japan, where GMO foods require special labeling.

"Overall, the Japanese team gained a better understanding for high oleic soybean oil and the swift increase in high oleic soybeans that will occur in the U.S. in the next few years," added Davis.

High oleic soybeans were developed in the late 1990's and received approval by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2009 and 2010.



Agronomic Update

Treating Aphids on the R5-R6 Threshold and the Potential for Aphid Resistant Varieties

By Andy Michel, Raman Bansal, M. A. Rouf Mian, and Ron Hammond

Soybean growers were again faced with managing soybean aphids this past growing season. Populations rapidly increased during the month of August, with some fields exceeding the soybean aphid threshold.

The timing made for some difficult decisions on whether to treat or not as most soybeans were in late R5 or R6. Most of us are aware of the 250 aphids per plant threshold. But, this is not the number of aphids when soybean begins to lose yield, rather, this is the population level at which treatment is recommended to *prevent* soybean aphids from reaching injury levels. At the R5 stage, injury levels are 500-700 aphids per plant, but at the R6 stage and later, this number increases to over 1,000 aphids per plant. There were several cases where soybean fields had about 200-300 aphids per plant and in the R5-R6 transition. In this case, waiting it out might be the best approach, especially if you will reach R6 very quickly.

The aphid situation this past season might put more emphasis on using aphid resistant varieties. As discussed in the last issue of the *Ohio Leader Letter*, we planted resistant sentinel plots in various locations around Ohio – a project supported by the Ohio Soybean Council and soybean checkoff. Resistant varieties never reached threshold and had aphid populations that were 20-80% less than susceptible varieties which hovered around the 300 aphids per plant.

Integrating aphid resistant varieties can help make treatment decisions much easier. Soybean growers should discuss options for aphid resistance with their seed dealers to increase demand and availability. We will provide updates for the rest of this year, and aphid predictions for 2014 in the OSU Extension's C.O.R.N. newsletter, and future *Ohio Leader Letter* publications.

PRODUCER EDUCATION & communication



River Tour Offers Glimpse into Ohio Waterways and Infrastructure System

There are twenty locks and dams on the Ohio River and many are operating past their intended capacity. Annually, more than 51.8 million tons of grain are shipped out of the Ohio River. Out of that 51.8 million tons, one barge alone can accommodate 52,500 – 57,000 bushels of soybeans.

On September 6, 300 grain farmers, transportation experts, media representatives and industry representatives got a firsthand look at the Markland Lock and Dam system. This was the 6th annual Ohio River Tour highlighting challenges and opportunities our waterway and river infrastructure system are currently facing.

“Soybean farmers depend on a network of waterways including locks, dams and ports to move soybeans from the U.S. to its markets,” said Pat Knouff, Ohio Soybean

Council (OSC) board member and soybean farmer from Shelby County.

Throughout the nation, there are 171 lock sites with 207 lock chambers. Those locks with more than one chamber allow traffic to continue if the main chamber is temporarily out of service. Of the 37 locks on the Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway, only 3 have more than one chamber. All the locks along the Ohio River have two chambers.

“You can’t overestimate the importance of the river system and we have to do whatever it takes to maintain them,” said Knouff. “The U.S. needs functioning locks and dams or the agriculture industry will be at risk of losing millions in revenue.”

Ohio Soybean Association Elects Officers for 2013-2014

The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) Board of Trustees elected officers for 2013-2014 during the September board meeting. These executive committee positions include the offices of president, first vice president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. The immediate-past president continues to serve on the executive committee as chairman of the board. Individuals in these positions are responsible for the implementation of board policies and procedures, as well as carrying out the roles for their respective office.

Jerry Bambauer of Auglaize County was elected to his second term as president. He was also elected as an Ohio representative to the American Soybean Association (ASA). Jerry grows soybeans, corn and wheat on this farm in New Bremen and manages a swine finishing operation. He holds a degree from The Ohio State University in animal science and agronomy and is a member of the Auglaize County Farm Bureau and the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association.

Elected first vice president and chair of the executive committee was Tom Price of Putnam County. Tom has previously served as vice president, treasurer and secretary. Tom operates T&D Farms in Ft. Jennings where he grows soybeans and corn. He is a member and past officer of the Putnam County Farm Bureau and Putnam Electric Cooperative. Tom is also a past Putnam County Commissioner.

Mike Heffelfinger of Van Wert County was elected to his first term as vice president after serving two terms as

secretary. Mike grows soybeans, corn and wheat on his farm in Van Wert and also feeds hogs in the summer months. Mike is past chairman of the Van Wert Extension Advisory Council and the Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Van Wert County Farm Bureau and a past American Soybean Association (ASA)/DuPont Young Leader.

Jeff Roehm of Highland County was elected to his second term as treasurer. He has previously served on the executive committee as secretary. In addition to his leadership on the OSA Board of Trustees, Jeff is a past ASA/DuPont Young Leader and Highland County Farm Bureau board member. He holds a degree in diesel technology from Northwestern College. Jeff currently grows soybeans, corn and wheat on his farm in Hillsboro.

Elected to his first term on the executive committee as secretary was Adam Graham of Logan County. Adam grows soybeans and corn in North Lewisburg and Marysville. Adam holds a degree in agriculture from Wilmington College.

As the immediate-past president of OSA, Bret Davis assumed the position of chairman. In addition to president, Bret has also served in the roles of vice president, treasurer and secretary. He currently serves as an Ohio representative to ASA. Bret farms near Delaware where he grows soybeans and corn. He is active in his community and member of the Delaware County Farm Bureau and past member of the Delaware County Fair Livestock Advisory Board.

Taiwan Signs Agreement to Purchase \$1.5 Billion of U.S. Soy

The United States Soybean Export Council (USSEC) hosted a Taiwan Goodwill Mission to the United States on September 9-11 in Washington, D.C. Every two years, the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) organizes a Taiwan Agriculture Goodwill Mission to the U.S. that includes a signing of letters of intent for purchasing U.S. commodities.

The letter of intent was entered into between the Taiwan Vegetable Oil Manufacturers' Association (TOVA) and USSEC. TVOA expressed its intent to purchase between 2.5 – 2.8 million metric tons (MMT) of U.S. soy in 2014 and 2015, estimated to be valued between U.S. \$1.5 billion and U.S. \$1.68 billion. Letters of intent are not binding sales contracts but are traditionally honored by longtime trading partners such as Taiwan and the U.S. Taiwan has purchased the quantities committed to in these letters of intent since 1997. The value of the sales is estimated, as the final terms of the deals are negotiated by private grain companies.

While staying in the U.S., part of the group visited Ohio where they met with Ohio farmers and Ohio commodity groups including the Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) and Ohio Soybean Council (OSC).

“This was the first time the group has visited Ohio so it was a great opportunity to strengthen the relationship between Ohio soybean producers and our customers in Taiwan,” said Jerry Bambauer, OSA board member and soybean farmer from Auglaize County. “The group of soy food companies were interested in the U.S. because of our quality and quantity of soybeans.”

In 2012, Taiwan was the seventh largest market for U.S. agricultural products, the sixth largest market for U.S. soy, and one of the world's largest consumers of U.S. agricultural products on a per capita basis. Taiwan has consistently imported over \$3.5 billion of U.S. farm products annually.

2013 Harvest Classic

The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) recently hosted the 2013 Harvest Classic golf outing at Oakhaven Golf Course in Delaware, Ohio. The annual outing is held as a fundraiser for the OSA Political Action Committee (PAC). The OSA PAC provides the opportunity for individuals interested in the future of the soybean industry to contribute to the support of worthy candidates for federal and state office who believe, and have demonstrated their belief in, the priorities of soybean farmers.

Congratulations to this year's winners which included Roger Tedrick, Jim Scheid, Dave Miller and Rick Weininger.

Thank you to our 2013 Harvest Classic Sponsors!

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72% OF AMERICANS UNAWARE OF FOOD SOURCES

According to a July 2011 study by the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance (USFRA) – a grass-roots organization of farm and ranch families dedicated to leading a conversation that connects Americans to their food is grown and raised – about farming among



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Nathan Brown of Highland County Named Beck's Young Farm Leader

Nathan Brown was recently chosen as the second of the 2013 Beck's Young Farm Leaders. The Beck's Young Farm Leader Program was designed to showcase the hard work, dedication and leadership of young Ohio farmers.

"Congratulations to Nathan Brown for being recognized as one of the 2013 Beck's Young Farm Leaders," said Jerry Bambauer, Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) president and soybean farmer from Auglaize County. "OSA believes that building a network of young agricultural leaders is a key component to ensure the Ohio soybean industry continues to advance and grow in years to come. Nathan is a strong leader and will continue to represent the entire agriculture industry."

For Nathan, it all started at age 12 in Hillsboro, Ohio when he started working on his neighbor's operation. In 2002, he was given the opportunity to farm 25 acres where he planted soybeans. Since then, his operation has grown and now consists of 380 acres of soybeans, 440 acres of corn, 65 acres of wheat, 40 acres of mixed hay, and a 20 head cow calf operation.

Nathan is involved with several local and state agriculture organizations and is interested in gaining more leadership roles. His wife, Jennifer, works for the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development. Jennifer has always supported Nathan and continues to serve as an advocate for the agriculture industry.

"As a first generation farmer, I have had help along the way. But over the years, I have gained a better appreciation for what I have. If it wasn't for my wife, I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing and am very thankful for that," said Nathan.

While farmers wear many hats, Nathan and Jennifer also remain busy with their twin boys, Luke and Coy, who recently turned two, as well as their 11 month year old daughter, Ella.

"Nathan is a great example of the type of young leader that this program is looking to recognize. He has started small and at a young age and wants to be involved in the industry," said Bruce Kettler, director of public relations at Beck's Hybrids. "He and his wife are setting a great example for their young family and for others in their community. When he says that it is important for young farmers to get involved in sharing agriculture's story, he shows it by getting involved himself."

Nathan plays a role in the community as a Township Trustee as well as Vice President of the Highland County Farm Bureau. Nathan and Jennifer have also been selected to serve on the Ohio Farm Bureau Young Agricultural Professionals Committee.

Serving his local community is very important to Nathan because he wants to be a leader in his industry and a positive role model for his children. Nathan serves as co-chair of both the Public Policy Committee and Farm Rescue Committee for the Highland Farm Bureau.

Nathan played a pivotal role in the creation of the First Responders of Highland County which prepares local firefighters to perform bin-type rescues. As of now, the group has put together two trailers with rescue equipment and 36 local firefighters have been trained to perform bin-type rescues.

"We have raised over \$44,000 in money and equipment and we are still in the process of raising more funds," said Nathan.

As far as what the future holds, Nathan would like to explore new markets in addition to getting involved with programs that promote and support agriculture.



Nathan Brown was chosen as one of three Beck's Young Farm Leaders. Pictured above is Nathans family including his wife, Jennifer, and their three children, Luke, Coy and Ella.

"I would like to increase our acreage and ensure that if my children want to farm, they have the opportunity to do so and are not regulated out of business by an outside group," said Nathan. "Educating non-farmers on how their food is produced is critical to the livelihood of livestock producers which feed large quantities of the soybeans produced in this country."

Nathan is a current member of OSA and the American Soybean Association and believes in the importance of promoting effective policies and legislation to ensure a growing and profitable soybean industry.

"I believe more young farmers need to step-in and advocate for American agriculture," said Nathan.

"With over 20 million American jobs rooted in U.S. agriculture, we cannot ignore the effect agriculture and soybean production has on the U.S. and people around the world."

This is the first year of the Beck's Young Farm Leader Program with one farmer each quarter chosen by a selection committee consisting of OSA and Beck's Hybrids representatives. One of the Beck's Young Farm Leaders will be selected as the 2013 Beck's Young Farm Leader of the Year and receive a trip for two (\$2,000 value) to the 2014 Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas. Beck's Young Farm Leaders may also be chosen to attend OSA and/or Beck's Hybrids leadership training programs, board meetings, events and other relevant activities. The fourth and final quarter applications are due November 1, 2013. Learn more and apply online at www.soyohio.org/becksyoungfarmlider.

Cover Crops—to use or not to use?

Now that harvest time is here, it is time to start thinking about planting cover crops. Laura Lindsey, Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University reminds growers that cover crops can have benefits, but they can also have some drawbacks. "It is important that growers first consider the outcome they are wanting to achieve with the cover crop."

Harold Watters, Field Specialist, Agronomic Systems with OSU Extension warns growers looking to plant cover crops after soybeans, that they may not have many options. However, grasses like wheat, cereal

rye and oats are all possibilities. Oats are risky after soybeans,

but are good because of winterkill and provide good forage in the fall for grazing. If farmers are looking to plant ryegrass, Watters suggests they have another use for the ryegrass,

such as forage for livestock.

Annual ryegrass flown into standing soybeans may cause some difficulty for farmers controlling the plant growth in the spring. Watters suggests, "Do it on a small scale if you do not have any experience with cover crops."

Cover crops are an option for farmers, but they should consult experts or those with cover crop experience before deciding to plant them.



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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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- Taiwan Signs Agreement to Purchase \$1.5 Billion of U.S. Soy
- Nathan Brown of Highland County Named Beck's Young Farm Leader
- Japan Partnership Team Meets in Ohio

IN THIS
issue

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