Ohio SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION

LEADER letter

OHIO SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Established: August 17, 1966

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

March/April 2013

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LETTER FROM *the president*

Greetings and welcome to the spring season. As I write this, we've gotten more snow which is unusual for Ohio this time of year. Although, any amount of moisture is appreciated especially as we move into planting season.

OSA has been busy the last couple months as several OSA board members, including myself, recently traveled to Washington, D.C. where we met with numerous legislators on Capitol Hill and discussed areas of concern on behalf of Ohio soybean farmers. We explained the importance of the soybean industry in the United States and in the state of Ohio while getting an inside look on Capitol Hill. While the farm bill remains a top priority, OSA will return to Capitol Hill during the second week of July.

Another event that recently took place was the 2013 Commodity Classic in Kissimmee, Florida. While attending Commodity Classic this year, Ohio delegates participated in the development of the American Soybean Association's policy direction for the upcoming year. Highlights from Commodity Classic and priority areas for the upcoming year can be found on page 5.

In this issue you will also find information on a new program that OSA launched in partnership with Beck's Hybrids. The new program offers Ohio Soybean farmers the opportunity to apply or nominate someone who has showcased leadership on and off the farm in the state of Ohio. Farmer leadership is common in Ohio and those dedicated to the agriculture industry should be recognized.

As always, thank you for your membership to the Ohio Soybean Association.

Jerry Bambauer
OSA President
Auglaize County soybean farmer

LEGISLATIVE *update*

Brought to you by Seed Consultants.

Citing the Need to Find Common Ground, ASA Revises Position on Farm Bill

In an effort to resolve long-standing differences on new farm legislation and address higher projected costs, the American Soybean Association (ASA) recently announced that it will support a 2013 Farm Bill which includes updating and extending the current Counter-Cyclical Program (CCP). ASA will continue to support the Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) included in both the House and Senate versions of last year's farm bills as a complement to federal crop insurance. ASA will also support offering a choice between "higher options" for these two programs, recognizing that producers in different growing regions have different priorities for protecting farm income. ASA notes that its support of a target price based program is contingent on the decoupling of payments from current year planting decisions.

ASA President Danny Murphy stated, "ASA strongly supported the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) program in the Senate bill last year as an effective risk management tool designed to work with crop insurance. However, because of ARC's higher cost and the need to find additional savings in the farm bill, we have decided to support updating and extending the CCP program included in current law."

Murphy added that "the decoupled CCP allows producers to respond to market signals rather than government programs in making their planting decisions, which has been a key priority for ASA during the farm bill debate. It also provides a safety net against several years of low prices, which has been important to supporters of the House bill."

Murphy added that "the SCO will provide revenue protection at the county level and is more defensible because, like crop insurance, it requires farmers to pay part of the cost of the premium."

Producer Communication

OSCF Congratulates Scholarship Winners

The Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) and soybean checkoff have long supported educational programs that promote the long-term health of the Ohio soybean industry. In 2007, in an effort to encourage undergraduate students to pursue careers in agriculture, as well as support ongoing graduate-level research, OSC created the Ohio Soybean Council Foundation (OSCF). The OSCF gives away deserving scholarships to those who are making a difference in the agriculture sector in Ohio, specifically in the soybean industry.

The Ohio Soybean Council Foundation (OSCF) is pleased to announce the scholarship recipients of the OSCF Scholarship Program for the 2013-2014 academic year.

"It is a privilege to be a part of the scholarship selection committee," said David Black, OSC board member and soybean farmer from Franklin County. "We received a record number of applications this year and I have no doubt that the scholarship recipients will continue to contribute to the success of the Ohio soybean industry."

2013-2014 Undergraduate Scholarship Winners

Name	School	Hometown	Major	Award
Stephanie Verhoff	The Ohio State University	Columbus Grove	Sustainable Plant Systems	$5,000 **Bhima Vijayendran Scholarship*
Stacie Seger	The Ohio State University	Fort Loramie	Agricultural Communication	$3,000 **Farmer, Lumpe + McClelland Scholarship*
Emily Limes	The Ohio State University	Bowling Green	Agribusiness and Applied Economics	$3,000
Mike Hannewald	The Ohio State University	Waterville	Sustainable Plant Systems	$3,000
Shelby Mann	Wilmington College	Jackson Center	Agronomy	$3,000
John Schoenhals	The Ohio State University	Archbold	Plant Pathology	$3,000

2013-2014 Graduate Scholarship Winners

- **Rhiannon Schneider** ($5,000) of Grafton, Ohio is pursuing a master's degree in crop breeding and genetics at The Ohio State University. She currently performs research in the soybean breeding and soybean pathology labs. Rhiannon is conducting research to increase soybean yields through the improvement of gene resistance to pests, diseases, and other environmental factors.
- **Nicholas Callow** ($5,000) of Girard, Ohio is pursuing a doctorate of engineering in chemical engineering at the University of Akron. He is a graduate assistant conducting research to produce low cost enzymes for use in making high-value soy products. The utilization of these enzymes, through the application of cost improving pellet technology, will improve and diversify the soybean industry.

OSA Visits Capitol Hill

There were a few calloused hands on Capitol Hill on March 12th. The volunteer board members of the Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) put in a long day of work promoting the interests of Ohio soybean farmers. OSA met with sixteen of Ohio's eighteen member delegation to discuss how farm policy affects the day to day operations of their business.

"Meeting with our legislators was a great way to build relationships as we discussed a variety of topics including transportation, the free trade agreement, soybean imports and most importantly, the farm bill," said Allen Armstrong, OSA board member and soybean farmer from Clark County.

OSA's number one priority is the passage of a new five-year farm bill, which strengthens the farm safety net. The crop insurance program is the centerpiece of OSA and the American Soybean Association (ASA) farm bill policy. It also ensures that the marketplace will drive farmers planting decisions, not government policy.

OSA also talked to Ohio elected officials about the importance of continuing to support the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and the Biodiesel Tax Credit. The RFS and the tax credit have helped change the demand dynamics for the crushed soybean product; soybean oil is driving the market and has helped the livestock industry by making soybean meal less expensive.

Ohio Soybean Association Launches Beck's Young Farm Leader Program

Apply Today

BECK'S HYBRIDS
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE. PLANT BECK'S.™

The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) and Beck's Hybrids share the belief that building a grassroots network of young agricultural leaders is important to the continued success of the soybean industry and all of Ohio agriculture. For this reason, OSA and Beck's have partnered to create the Beck's Young Farm Leader Program to showcase the hard work, dedication and leadership of young Ohio farmers.

Identifying those who are the agriculture leaders of tomorrow is what the program is all about. Interested in applying? There are only a few qualifications:

- Growers must be between the ages of 21-45.
- Any soybean grower may apply for the Young Leader program; however selected participants are required to have a current Ohio Soybean Association membership to take part in the program.
- Applicants should demonstrate an interest in pursuing leadership roles within the soybean industry.
- Applicants are not required to grow Beck's Hybrids products to be eligible to win.

One farmer each quarter will be recognized in a story published in several Ohio agriculture publications highlighting the individual's leadership roles, both on and off the farm, and how he or she has built a foundation for farming success.

At the end of the year, one of the Young Leaders will be selected as the 2013 Beck's Young Farm Leader of the year. But it doesn't stop there.

The 2013 Beck's Young Farm Leader of the Year will receive a trip for two ($2,000 value) to the 2014 Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas.

Young leaders may also be chosen to attend OSA and Beck's Hybrids leadership training programs, board meetings, events and/or any other relevant activities.

Visit www.soyohio.org/becksyoungfarmleader to apply today!

Program Timeline:

May 1, 2013 2nd Quarter applications due
August 1, 2013 3rd Quarter applications due
November 1, 2013 4th Quarter applications due

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If investments in transport repair isn't the only thing impacts will rise as well. A Transportation, for every estimated 30,000 jobs are infrastru ost th suppi ir will b drive th It will cost due to incre dollars billion by 2040. High agricultural and other overseas, the shipper transportation possible cost. W transportat as more buyers a By inv syster become the U.S. t Agricultur ...on, the cost of ...ve economic ...t ... and corn. With the world's growing population, demand for food is going to explode over the next 20 to 30 years; a demand Ohio's farmers want to help meet.

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

We're investing your soybean checkoff dollars to build awareness among businesses and organizations about deteriorating transportation infrastructure like Ohio's lock and dam system. These systems are vital to your ability to transport your soybean crop and affect profitability and international demand.

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

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2013 Commodity Classic Highlights

Several Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) farmer-leaders attended the 2013 Commodity Classic last month. The annual event held in Kissimmee, Florida, hit record attendance numbers at 6,214, including a record number of 3,324 corn, soybean, wheat and sorghum growers. There were also 1,078 first-time non-exhibitor attendees, another record set.

This year's show also experienced the highest number of exhibitors. The 1,010-booth trade show was sold out with a waiting list of interested parties ready to take advantage of cancelations.

OSA president, Jerry Bambauer and soybean farmer from Auglaize County welcomed attendees at the Buckeye Breakfast held on February 28, 2013.

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack

Before a standing-room-only house, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack made his fourth straight appearance before general session attendees. As sequester has become a reality in Washington, Vilsack encouraged farmers to continue pushing Congress for a five-year farm bill and reach out to strategic partners that rely on farming for the health of their industry.

Buckeye Breakfast

OSA and the Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association (OCWGA) held its annual Buckeye Breakfast for all Ohio attendees of Commodity Classic. Both OSA and OCWGA presidents spoke to the group of 200 people about the importance of membership to each organization.

Ohio Delegates Take Part in Setting Policy Direction for ASA

The American Soybean Association (ASA) held the annual delegate voting session to set its policy direction for 2013-2014. Members of the voting delegates of the American Soybean Association (ASA) reaffirmed the associations commitment to a comprehensive long-term farm bill, as well as additional critical soybean industry priorities including export and trade, regulation, sustainability, transportation and biotechnology.

Jeff and Caitlyn Heimerl from Pataskala, Ohio represented Ohio in the ASA/DuPont Young Leaders Program and attended Commodity Classic.

ASA DuPont Young Leaders

The 2013 ASA/DuPont Young leaders participated in Part 2 of their leadership development training February 26-March 2 in conjunction with Commodity Classic. Jeff and Caitlyn Heimerl, Ohio Young Leaders attended and heard presentations on leadership motivation, the future of agriculture and how to improve soybean and corn yields, networked with state leaders, and participated in Commodity Classic events. They rounded out their week of personal growth by receiving awards for their outstanding leadership during the ASA Awards Banquet on March 1.

OSA farmer-leaders attended the ASA annual delegate voting session to set its policy direction for 2013-2014.

Glyphosate Resistant Weeds on the Rise

A recent survey by Stratus Agri-Marketing showed that in 2012, 61.2 million acres of land were infested with glyphosate resistant weeds. Glyphosate resistant weeds are not only spreading geographically at an alarming rate, but multiple species are becoming resistant.

To stay ahead of the game, it is important to begin implementing resistance management programs early. There are three main ways to manage resistance; diversifying weed management, using non-chemical weed preventatives, and correct label usage of herbicides.

Another key management tool is awareness. Luckily in Ohio, awareness of weed resistance is at an all time high, according to Monsanto representative Keith Buckingham. Ohio has been promoting and using residuals in a more consistent manner than other states have. Buckingham recommends reaching out to your ag retailer, extension representative, or consultant to ask how you can do even more to avoid resistance. With continuing education and collaboration throughout the industry, farmers can effectively combat weed resistance.

Soybean Rewards
Earning a premium just got easier.

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Ohio Soybean Council

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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