

TENNESSEE SOYBEAN NEWS



WELCOME TO THE SPRING ISSUE OF *TENNESSEE SOYBEAN NEWS.*

Your soybean checkoff has created this newsletter to keep you informed about what's happening at the state and national levels. Covering the latest issues in the soybean industry, *Tennessee Soybean News* is just one more way your checkoff is working for you.

Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board

Chairman

Eddie Sanders, Franklin

Vice Chairman

Karl Forsbach, Savannah

Treasurer

David Nichols, Ridgely

Secretary

Sam Keller, Walland

Past Chairman

Kenneth Moore, Dresden

Glynn Giffin, Union City
Dewey Gilliam, South Pittsburg
Larry Paul Harris, Wildersville
Amos Huey, Kenton
David Womack, Shelbyville

Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board

Parks Wells, Executive Director
100 Executive Drive
Jackson, Tennessee 38305
(731) 668-2850 phone
(731) 668-2772 fax
www.tnsoybeans.org

TSPB-FUNDED RESEARCH HELPS YIELD BUMPER CROP FOR STATE

The 2009 harvest will go down as a great year for Tennessee soybean farmers. The average yield for soybeans in the state was 45 bushels an acre, which bests the national average and easily outdistances the 34-bushels-per-acre state average in 2008 and 19-bushels-per-acre state average from 2007.

"We had good growing conditions despite challenges from wet weather, but a dry November allowed a timely harvest in most areas," says Eddie Sanders, Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board (TSPB) chairman. "Pests presented less of a problem this year than they have in the past."

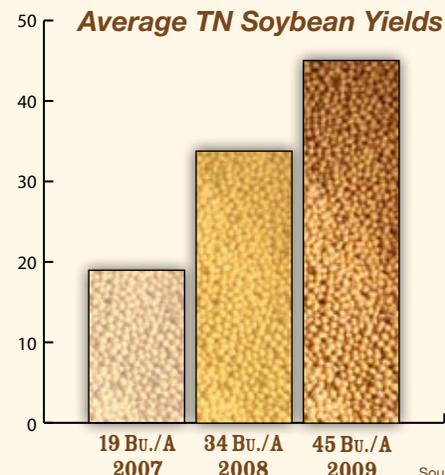
The growing conditions and lack of challenges this year helped Tennessee harvest 68 million bushels in 2009. That good fortune was aided in part by variety trials and production research funded by TSPB. Recent research projects have studied new soybean varieties, soybean cyst nematodes, Asian soybean rust and other diseases and pests.

"The Board always tries to stay on top of new varieties and technology," says Sanders. "We look at cutting-edge technology, so hopefully implementing that technology will lead to yield increases each year."

While not every year will lead to ideal growing conditions, TSPB will be prepared for challenges when they come. Production research monitors potential challenges to provide Tennessee farmers with the best information to address challenges when they occur.

"Soybean rust remains a challenge that could catch us if we don't stay on top of it," says Sanders. "That's why we continue to fund research to combat soybean rust and sentinel plots for early detection and to monitor the spread. This year we had rust throughout the state, but it was late enough to do little or no damage. However, that may not always be the case, so we continue to fund projects to combat soybean rust."

Average TN Soybean Yields



TSPB OFFICES MOVING ON UP

The Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board (TSPB) moved into a new office at 100 Executive Drive, Jackson, Tenn., in early March. TSPB purchased the new building in late 2009, after renting space for its previous office. The larger building will improve functionality for the TSPB.

"The board felt the economy and market made this an opportune time to get into our own building," says Eddie Sanders, TSPB chairman. "The new location includes warehouse space and more office space, which we had previously been renting."

SOYBEAN FARMERS FEED THE WORLD

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations predicts the world population will require a 50 percent increase in food production by 2030. The soybean checkoff remains committed to meeting the future needs of our country and the world.

“Soybeans and soybean meal provide a versatile protein for diets in developing countries at an economical cost,” says Eddie Sanders, TSPB chairman. “Soybean farmers need to be able to use new technologies to ensure soybean production remains high and soy continues to be an affordable protein source.”

Biotech Tools Help Farmers, Consumers

The continued use of biotechnology represents an example of the technology soybean farmers will need to help feed the world. Soybean checkoff farmer-leaders recognize the importance of gaining acceptance and support of biotech as part of the effort to gain market access for U.S. soy in all countries. The soybean checkoff aims to provide facts about how biotech can positively impact issues people care about, such as world hunger, high food prices and an improved environment.

The soybean research pipeline currently holds as many as 12 key soybean biotech events that could be part of new, commercialized U.S. soybean varieties within the next five to seven years. These traits carry a variety of benefits for humans, animal agriculture, the environment and farmers, all of which can help feed a growing world. Biotechnology advances will not only increase overall soybean production but also improve the health attributes of U.S. soybeans.



Promoting Biotech to Consumers

The soybean checkoff recently partnered with the World Food Prize, which aims to fight world hunger and recognize advances in feeding the world. The checkoff will sponsor a biotech kiosk at the World Food Prize



Hall of Laureates in Des Moines, Iowa. The kiosk will show consumers who visit the hall the benefits of biotechnology.

Sustainable Soybean Farming

To meet present needs and continue to supply the world with safe, nutritious soybeans, while improving the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, the soybean checkoff helps U.S. soybean farmers promote sustainability.

Checkoff farmer-leaders are increasingly aware of the need to preserve biodiversity; the possible challenges of climate change; and the potential degradation of soil, streams and rivers. The soybean checkoff remains committed to helping improve the environmental footprint of the entire U.S. soybean industry, and to raising awareness among farmers on why sustainability is important and profitable.

Economics Help Sell U.S. Soy

One advantage enabling U.S. soybean farmers to feed the world comes in the form of a relatively weak dollar compared with other currencies.

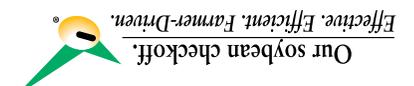
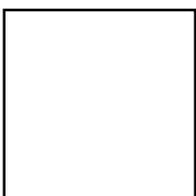
“A weak U.S. dollar allows other countries to buy a higher volume of soybeans or soybean meal,” says Sanders. “The higher buying power makes more soy available to other countries.”

All of these factors help make up the complex picture of feeding a growing global population. U.S. soybean farmers can play an important role in feeding the world now and in the future, and the national and state checkoffs will continue to work to make sure soybean farmers have the tools they need to continue to be a leading protein provider to the world.

© 2010 United Soybean Board (38423-5 TN 3/10)

TENNESSEE SOYBEAN NEWS

LOOK INSIDE FOR THE LATEST NEWS FROM
THE TENNESSEE SOYBEAN PROMOTION BOARD.



1000 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63102