

SOY NEWS



Arkansas Leadership in the United Soybean Board

Arkansas fills three board member positions on the United Soybean Board (USB), and is currently represented by Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board members Jerry Ford, Todd Allen, and David Feilke. Jerry Ford was recently elected Secretary of the USB, and holds one of four officer positions in the organization. Mr. Ford also currently serves as Chairman of the USB Audit and Evaluation Committee, which oversees compliance issues related to the national soybean checkoff. Todd Allen serves on the USB New Uses Committee, which coordinates research activities related to the development of new products made from soy, and David Feilke serves on the USB Production Committee, which coordinates production related research activities.

Better Bean Will Help U.S. Farmers

With increased competition from other oilseeds and soybean-producing countries, the farmer-driven soybean checkoff instituted the Better Bean Initiative (BBI) three years ago to improve the composition of U.S. soybeans and meet the changing needs of domestic and international customers. Last fall, researchers on the checkoff project harvested limited quantities of a new soybean variety that produces healthier soybean oil. The new BBI soybean variety has the potential to significantly reduce the level of saturated fat and trans fatty acids in processed soybean oil. The oil from the harvested soybeans will undergo functional testing this year by U.S. food companies.

Research is also under way to improve the nutritional content of U.S. soybean meal, which would enable livestock and poultry producers to increase animal digestibility, reduce nutrients from animal waste and improve the value of their products. This, in turn, could retain markets and open up new opportunities for U.S. soybean farmers to capture more value for their commodity. Improving nutritional content will also change the way U.S. soybeans are marketed internationally. Rather than selling a commodity soybean, U.S. farmers will be able to market their soybean based on nutritional traits.

Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board Funds Research

The Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board met on March 11 to review ongoing soybean research activities, consider proposals for new funding, and allocate research funds for the current fiscal year. The Board considered proposals for funding compiled by the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and approved a total of \$849,115 to fund research projects. The Board also requested a study of biodiesel potential in Arkansas, which will be incorporated into a broader economic analysis project. The following is a list of the research projects funded and the amount awarded to each project:

Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board Research Project Allocations 2001-2002

IMPROVING SOYBEAN PROFITABILITY

Integration of Resistant Soybeans with a Biological Control Agent for Suppression of the Soybean Cyst Nematode	\$41,982
Helping Arkansas Rice Farmers Exploit Market Opportunities by Improved Use of Soybean, Wheat, and Corn in Rice Rotations	\$37,828
Effects of Tillage, Row Spacing, and Genotype on Severity of Charcoal Rot in Soybean	\$26,945
Developing Cost Effective Weed Management Systems	\$90,000
Weed Interference and Weed Management	\$46,432
Breeding Early Maturing Varieties with High Yield Potential and Multiple Disease Resistance	\$69,375
Field Screening of New Cultivars for Performance Under High Disease Pressure from Major Diseases and Nematodes	\$61,800
Screening for Resistance to Phomopsis Seed Infection In Soybean Cultivars and Germplasm to Improve Seed Quality	\$20,600
Effect of Fungicide Seed Treatment on Soybean Establishment and Yield	\$51,500
Identifying Causal Pathogens and Insect Vectors of Green Bean Syndrome in Arkansas	\$25,235
Improving Yield and Yield Stability for Irrigated Soybean	\$58,675
Economic Analysis of Soybean Production Practices	\$12,359
Stink Bugs in Arkansas Soybean Management Systems In Arkansas	\$27,400

BASE PROGRAMS

Soybean Drought Tolerance Research	\$59,740
Soybean Adaptation to Restrictive Soil Environments	\$26,471
Soybean Research Verification Program	\$96,612
Improving Technology Transfer for Profitable and Sustainable Soybean Production	\$46,000
Improving the Genetic Diversity and Adaptation of Arkansas Soybean	\$50,161

TOTAL **\$849,115**

Checkoff Dollars At Work



Checkoff-Developed Guide Helps Farmers Identify Problems, Protect Profitability

Each Year, pests and diseases cost U.S. soybean farmers millions of dollars in lost yields. Now, farmers looking to increase their productivity and profitability have a new tool to help identify and solve soybean crop problems. The checkoff-funded "U.S. Soybean Diagnostic Guide" is a comprehensive, pictorial guide packed with data, photos and information on more than 100 stresses affecting soybean roots, stems, leaves, flowers pods and seeds.

The Guide is available in three formats – and interactive CD-ROM, a Web site and a printed handbook – by visiting the USB Web site at [www.unitedsoy-](http://www.unitedsoybean.org)

[bean.org](http://www.unitedsoybean.org) or calling a special, toll-free hotline at 888-712-3707. The hotline is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (CT) and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CT). This is the first soybean diagnostic guide to be made

available in CD-ROM and online formats. Content for the guide was collected from a science advisory committee of soybean specialists representing the nation's diverse soybean production conditions and environments.

Soybean Checkoff Commercializes 18 New Products in 2001

Soy-based products represent an ongoing opportunity to decrease our dependence on foreign markets, contribute to our nation's ongoing effort to improve the environment and utilize a domestically grown renewable

resource. In 2001, the soybean checkoff contributed to the development and commercialization of 18 new industrial soy products. USB's New Uses Committee is responsible for efficiently directing soybean checkoff investments in the research, development and commercialization of new products to increase the demand and utilization of U.S. soybeans. The list of new products includes a soy-based polyol used in rigid and flexible plastics, a solvent used in several industrial cleaning products, a foamed plywood glue, and a two-cycle enging oil. To learn more about these and other soy-based products, visit the USB Web site at www.unitedsoybean.org

2001-2002 ARKANSAS SOYBEAN PROMOTION BOARD:

Mr. David Walt, Dumas, Chairman

***Mr. Jerry Ford**, Lake Village, Vice-Chairman

***Mr. David Feilke**, Stuttgart, Secretary/Treasurer

***Mr. Todd Allen**, West Memphis; **Mr. Thad Freeland**, Tillar; **Mr. Dick Howard**, Clarkedale; **Mr. Roger Pohlner**, Fisher; **Dr. Art Simpson**, Marked Tree; **Mr. Robert Stobaugh**, Atkins

*Note: * denotes a representative to the United Soybean Board*

Staffing provided by Warren Carter, Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation.

For questions about any information in this newsletter or for more information on board-funded programs, please contact any of the above board members, call 501-228-1238, or write Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board, P. O. Box 31, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Visit our Website @ www.arsspb.org

