



SOY NEWS

Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board Welcomes New Members, Elects New Officers

The Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board met August 9, 2002 at the Pine Tree Branch Experiment Station in Pine Tree, Arkansas.

The Board took the opportunity to tour soybean research test plots at the station. The Board welcomed three newly appointed members attending their first meeting. Mr. F.H. Lyons, Jr. of Altheimer, Mr. Drew Oliver of Proctor, and Mr. John Cooper of Parkin were appointed to the Board at the beginning of the 2002-2003 fiscal year which began on July 1.

Veneman Announces Soybean Promotion Board Appointments

Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman has announced 19 appointments and three alternate appointments to the United Soybean Board. All appointees will serve 3-year terms beginning December 2002.

"The board administers soybean promotion and research programs to enhance domestic and foreign markets for soybeans and soybean products," said Veneman. "I am pleased that these individuals have agreed to provide their time and expertise to serve on this board."

Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board member Todd Allen of West Memphis was appointed to his second term on the USB. Other Arkansas representatives on the board are Jerry Ford of Lake Village, David Feilke of Stuttgart.

Also during the meeting the Board elected officers for the new fiscal year. Mr. Jerry Ford of Lake Village was elected Chairman. Mr. Ford also represents Arkansas on the United Soybean Board where he serves as

Secretary, and Chairman of the USB Audit and Evaluation Committee. Mr. John Cooper of Parkin was elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Thad Freeland of Tillar was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Date Set for Arkansas Soybean Research Conference

The annual Arkansas Soybean Research Conference has been scheduled for December 17, 2002 at the Brinkley Convention Center in Brinkley, Arkansas. The Conference is sponsored annually by the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board and the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. The Conference provides producers the opportunity to hear reports and gather information from soybean research projects being funded by the checkoff program. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend on December 17.

USB Finalizes New Programs for Fiscal Year 2003

The United Soybean Board convened for its July board meeting in St. Louis, July 11-15, where the board approved several FY03 initiatives to improve U.S. soybean farmers' profitability. Projects include activities to expand the U.S. market for biodiesel and other soy-based products, to increase the value of U.S. soybeans globally by focusing on farmers' quality in variety selection, and to analyze competitive factors that could help U.S. soybean farmers compete on a

global basis. The board also launched a framework for the Technology Utilization Center, a virtual center designed to combine soybean traits and technology from the public and private sectors to improve the composition of U.S. soybeans. The TUC will help USB achieve the goals of the Better Bean Initiative, which was established to build demand of U.S. soybeans by improving their composition. The USB budget for FY03 totals approximately \$32 million.

Farmers Partner with USDA to Improve U.S. Soybeans

U.S. soybean farmers have teamed up with government scientists to accelerate research in developing healthier and more environmentally friendly soybean varieties. USB farmer-leaders signed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) formalizing a research partnership that

will help U.S. soybean farmers better meet the needs of global customers. In signing a formal Memorandum of Understanding, USB and USDA-ARS agree to support and facilitate collaborative research and development partnerships involving industry, universities, other federal research agencies and research organizations.

Each party will contribute to the checkoff-funded Better Bean Initiative (BBI) through joint funding of projects, project coordination and information sharing. The BBI mission is to better position U.S. soybeans to meet the needs of oil and protein end users and enhance economic value for soybean producers and industry partners.

Support of USDA's International Food Assistance Efforts

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making the nation's first purchase of U.S. textured soy protein (TSP) for use in U.S. humanitarian assistance programs. Five hundred metric tons of TSP was requested by Food For The

Poor, Inc., for distribution in Guyana, where protein deficiency is common in both children and adults. Nutritional, pricing and other information about TSP were provided to USDA through the soybean checkoff-funded World Initia-

tive for Soy in Human Health (WISHH) program funded by state and national soybean checkoff dollars and implemented by the American Soybean Association. Previously, small quantities of TSP, which contains 50-70 percent protein, were well received in Guyana's local diets. Introducing soy protein products to food aid programs is one of the top goals of WISHH, which routinely leverages soybean checkoff funds by cooperating with humanitarian groups and government agencies. At its August meeting the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board approved funding for a contribution to the WISHH program in the amount of \$3,000.

2002-2003 ARKANSAS SOYBEAN PROMOTION BOARD:

***Mr. Jerry Ford**, Lake Village, Chairman
Mr. John Cooper, Parkin, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Thad Freeland, Tillar, Secretary/Treasurer
***Mr. Todd Allen**, West Memphis; **Mr. F. H. Lyons**, Altheimer;
Mr. Andrew Oliver, Proctor; **Mr. Roger Pohlner**, Fisher;
Mr. Robert Stobaugh, Atkins; **Mr. David Walt**, Dumas

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

Administrator: Mr. 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.

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