

Lapp Farms' 78.19 bushels tops yield contest

In January, 2006, Mel Lapp of Lapp Farms in Chester County, gratefully accepted a plaque from Mike Gerhart, chairman of the Pennsylvania Soybean Board, for second place in the board's annual yield contest.

The Lapp Farms' entry was logged at 76.59 bushels an acre, a whisper behind the Charles Farms' entry of 77.13 bushels an acre which took the first place trophy.

In January 2007, Lapp Farms, you might say, took a victory 'lapp.'

With an entry of 78.19 bushels an acre, the farm, in Cochranville, accepted the winner's trophy from Gerhart at the awards ceremony, a highlight of the 2007 Pennsylvania Corn and Soybean Conference.

Second place honors went to Larry Fry of Pennsdale with a harvest of 76.82 bushels. Third place was captured by Glen Krall of Lebanon with a yield of 75.85 bushels an acre.

For the record, last year's champion, Charles Farms, came in fifth in 2007 with a yield of 73.65 bushels. That was only 3.48 bushels less than the farm's first place victory the year before.

Testifying to the hair's breadth difference between the yields of the top contestants, the Lapp Farms winning yield this year was only 1.6 bushels an acre more than the farm's second place finish in 2006.

Five growers topped 70 bushels an acre in 2006. In addition to the top three and Charles Farms, A. Dale Herr of Lancaster County came in fourth, logging a yield of 73.73 bushels.

The affable John Yocum is retired from Penn State Extension but sits on the Pennsylvania soybean checkoff board and directs the annual yield competition.

He reported that the average mean

yield of all 22 contestants in the 2006 contest was 63.69 bushels an acre.

Most of the farmers in the contest used no-till, drilled the seed, used untreated seed and planted in rows 10 inches or less. That did not mean they had the best yields. The highest yields — average per acre — emerged from conventional tillage, drilled seed, use of a foliar fungicide and rows of between 11 and 20 inches.

In all cases, the previous crop was corn and most farmers — 84 percent — did not seed a cover crop following the soybean harvest. Plant populations averaged, over all entries, 151,000.



Larry Fry of Pennsdale, right, accepted the second place award in the annual yield contest with a harvest of 76.82 bushels. Presenting the award is Mike Gerhart, left.

Checkoff sponsors soy research

The Pennsylvania Soybean Board has invested a total of \$25,676 in checkoff funds in five research projects for the current fiscal year which ends Sept. 30, 2007.

Here is a summary of the funded projects.

- \$4,240 to Dr. Dave Johnson, an associate professor in the Penn State Department of Crop and Soil Sciences and scientist-in-charge of PSU's Southeast Research and Extension Center, to explore the possibility that, under normal Pennsylvania conditions, earlier maturing soybean varieties, planted early, could achieve much of the crop's yield potential prior to the arrival of rust spores later in the season.

Johnson said that many growers in Pennsylvania are interested in both earlier planting and earlier harvest of soybeans and he proposed a two-year project to evaluate early maturing soybeans (0.5 to 1.0 maturity groups) planted earlier than normal and to

compare their performance to full season beans. He also wants to determine if weather — temperature and moisture in particular — at various stages of soybean growth affects performance of varieties of different maturity group.

- \$9,380 to Dr. Erick DeWolf and colleagues to continue an assessment of the impact of white mold on soybean yield and particularly how row spacing and the "microclimate" within the canopy might affect the spread of fungal diseases such as soybean rust.

- \$6,000 to Dr. Greg Roth, PSU agronomist, to direct the annual soybean variety testing program to provide growers with the data on the performance of many soybean varieties on Pennsylvania soils and in Pennsylvania climate. In 2005, there were a total of 111 Roundup Ready full season entries in the two test sites — Lancaster and Centre counties —

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Independence Biofuels tops 1.2 million gallons; readies second terminal

When Independence BioFuels Inc. (IBF) of Middletown, Pa., opened its first biodiesel injection blending facility at Highspire in October of 2005, company officials predicted they would be selling a million gallons a year by the following year.

A year has come and gone and acceptance of the product has exceeded expectations, according to Brian Gerhart, IBF chief operating officer.

"There was a slight dip in use when oil prices came down but the product has quickly recovered," Gerhart said.

"It (biodiesel) has been very well accepted," he added, "with sales reaching 1.2 million gallons in 2006, the second year of operation."

In fact, IBF is ready to open a second biodiesel injection blending facility at Sinking Springs, during the first quarter of 2007.

"There are currently more than 40 petroleum distributors in Pennsylvania that offer biodiesel," Gerhart said.

The first of the IBF facilities was partially funded by a \$50,000 grant awarded by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board and a 2004 Harvest Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

The product offered by IBF is a renewable fuel for diesel engines and heating systems that is derived from natural vegetable oils like soy, and meets the ASTM D 6751 standard for fuel.

It is created by a process that removes glycerin and combines with any petroleum product to create a biodiesel blend and it operates seamlessly in diesel vehicles or heating systems without modification to machinery or equipment.

IBF reportedly was the first company on the East Coast and the second in the nation to make a biodiesel blending facility available for petroleum distribution.

Gehringers win B2 at seminar



Kenneth and Diane Gehringer won 500 gallons of B2 in a promotional giveaway held during the Biodiesel Seminar sponsored by the soybean checkoff at Hershey, Pa., in August. About 160 farmers and fuel distributors attended the seminar. The soybean checkoff estimates that if every farmer and rancher in the U.S. used just B2, the demand would consume the oil from all of the soybeans grown in the Mid-Atlantic states — about 50 million bushels.

H.C. Rineer now carries off-road biodiesel, Bioheat

Energy Cooperative members who ask for biodiesel can now receive biodiesel blends through H.C. Rineer & Sons of Strasburg, Pa. H.C. Rineer joined the Energy Cooperative network and began serving the Philadelphia area in late 2005. H.C. Rineer provides a blend of biodiesel and #2 heating oil for use in heating systems as well as for off-road fuel use. Refer a new customer to Rineer and both you and your referral will receive an additional 10 cents per gallon discount during the '06-'07 heating season. Discounts end April 30, 2007. Referral discounts take effect when your referral receives their first delivery. Call H.C. Rineer at (877) 383-5496 for availability and details.

Sprague Energy earns BQ-9000 marketer certification

Sprague Energy has become the first petroleum company in the nation to earn the status of BQ-9000 "certified marketer" from the National Biodiesel Board. The New Hampshire-based energy wholesaler opened the first rack-blended biodiesel terminal in New York, which stores and supplies 40,000 gallons of pure biodiesel for blending in over-the-road applications and #2 heating oil (Bioheat heating oil) in several states, including Pennsylvania.

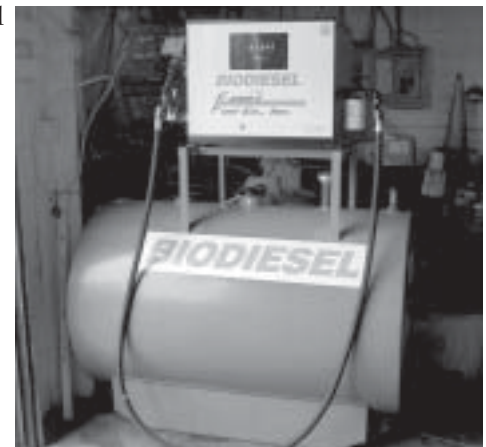
Harrisburg, Great Valley Schools begin biodiesel use

The City of Harrisburg began using biodiesel fuel in November 2006, through an agreement with United Biofuels. The city provides fuel service for the Harrisburg School District, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dauphin County, Borough of Steelton, Community Life team and other authorities and agencies, all of which have made the switch, according to the mayor.

Meanwhile, Great Valley School District also has made the switch to B20 in its 70 school buses. The district is receiving support from the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant program at the Department of Environmental Protection.

Biodiesel: Find it!

Biodiesel is more widely available than ever. In Philadelphia, a new B20 pump opened Feb. 2 at the Center City Shell at 12th and Vine. At right, Export Fuel Company in Export, Pa., carries soy-based biodiesel in this simple but effective retail tank and pump. Check www.biodiesel.org, www.biotruckers.org, www.pasoybean.org or www.ibfuels.com for more locations.



Maryland bean breeder: 'The hype has started'

"The hype has started," said Dr. Bill Kenworthy, University of Maryland professor and Extension soybean breeder at the 2007 Corn, Soybean, and No-Till Crop Conference Jan. 26, at the Holiday Inn in New Cumberland, Pa.

The 'hype' he was referring to is the attendant publicity surrounding efforts to lessen the linolenic acid content of soybeans in order to reduce trans fats and thereby increase the value of the product.

Kenworthy's topic was, "Adding value to our soybeans: Where are we heading with new genetics?"

"Soybean oil is one of the most important edible oils," he said. "The protein in the oil sets the price."

Kenworthy detailed the composition of soybeans and then spoke of some of the new genetics being developed.

With the realization that trans-fats (as well as saturated fats) are linked

Research Report: Field trials check oil, protein

Dr. Douglas D. Archibald of the Department of Crop & Soil Sciences at Penn State has concluded the second year of a project to measure and report total protein and oil contents of soybeans produced in Pennsylvania State field trials over a three-year period.

These soybean trials assessed cultivars and management practices at two locations: Centre County and Lancaster County. Protein and oil content of 171 and 164 soybean specimens were evaluated in 2004 and 2005. The determination of protein and oil added only a small cost and provided the two most important nutritional quality parameters.

Field trial results are posted at <http://cornandsoybeans.psu/soyvarietytests.cfm>) and for 2005 will include interpretation of the field trial data. The data will be useful to seed-suppliers who seek to optimize their products for the local conditions, Archibald said. "Over time growers will learn which companies tend to offer better varieties for these Pennsylvania sites," he added.

to the development of coronary heart disease, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration required as of Jan. 1, 2006, that all food products and dietary supplements bearing a nutritional facts panel that are regulated by FDA and sold in the United States, must list trans-fat content.

"The linolenic acid that is present in soybeans is the fatty acid that is most vulnerable to oxidation," Kenworthy said.

"Oxidation can result in unusual flavor in the food product. To avoid flavor instability, food companies often use hydrogenation to reduce linolenic acid and, unfortunately," Kenworthy said, "hydrogenation increases trans-fat."

The United Soybean Board's checkoff-funded Better Bean Initiative teamed up with Monsanto to develop Vistive soybeans that contain less than 3 percent linolenic, as compared to 8 percent for traditional beans.

"Perdue had hoped to sign up 30,000 acres of Vistive beans for this year and is offering a 60-cent-per-

bushel premium," Kenworthy noted.

Kenworthy's Maryland research is focused on incorporating other traits into the soybean package.

"The Maryland oil project," Kenworthy said, "includes reducing fats, increasing oil stability and reducing the need for hydrogenation."

He said the Maryland protein project targets the reduction of phytic acid translating to low linolenic acid, high oleic acid and low saturates.

Other concerns are to improve digestibility, remove oligosaccharides, which are the sugars that cause excessive gas in the digestive system, and boost metabolizable energy.

Allergy-free beans are another project being looked at in some places, he added.

In answer to a question from the audience, Kenworthy noted that reduction of linolenic acid does not affect livestock feed because it does not impact the protein content.

He called the use of a variety such as Vistive, a way to increase profit and enhance the U.S. position in the marketplace.

Wenger is 'optimistic' about future with soy

Geoff Finch, vice-president of operations at Wenger Feeds, at Rheems, Pa., is optimistic about the future of both the company's soybean processing plant and biodiesel.

Early this year Wenger announced it was looking for 20,000 bushels a week from local growers for its new soybean processing plant. At that time the new plant was running five and a half days a week and hoping to extend operations to seven days per week, which it has now done.

"We were looking for a million bushels a year and we came close," Finch said. "We are near project capacity, and our plan to keep it in-state and give farmers another value-added product is in place."

At the facility, the beans go through a process taking them from cleaner to dryer to hammer mill, to extruder and from there to presses, to cooler, to screening tank, to decanter and to tanks for both oil and expelled soybean meal.

The expelled soybean meal is a premium animal feed ingredient that Wenger currently uses in its feed and the company is using all it is processing, according to Finch. Expelled soybean meal is the primary product of the new plant, but a by-product is a million gallons of soybean oil a year. Wenger is producing and selling food grade oil and oil for biodiesel, which is used in all of the company's trucks.

"We still have to purchase some ingredients from the Midwest for our feed," Finch said, "but we are purchasing much less out-of-state than a few months ago. This means we have benefited both the company and local farmers by creating a new market for locally grown beans and by reducing transportation costs for us. ... Things look good and we have the ability to expand as demand grows."

Biodiesel panel proves popular at conference

A biodiesel update was given in a panel discussion involving a producer, a distributor and a dealer at the 2007 Pennsylvania Corn, Soybean and No-Till Conference.

Race Miner is CEO and co-owner of Keystone BioFuels Inc. (KBI), of Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania's first commercial biodiesel production facility. He founded the company three years ago and began manufacturing biofuel in March 2006.

"I've overseen the development, technology, and the day-to-day operations," Miner said.

"We grow a lot of beans here. But most of Pennsylvania's beans are exported for processing. There are not a lot of crush facilities in the state. At KBI, we are currently producing four million gallons of biofuel a year and are working toward 12 million gallons by May 2007."

In several states, biodiesel production is subsidized, Miner noted, adding that "we are working to get legislation to put Pennsylvania on an even keel with other states" he said. "We are dedicated to Pennsylvania agriculture and to making biodiesel more affordable. We also want to maintain our leadership position as a producer and distributor of biodiesel in the state."

Next on the panel was Brian Gerhart, CEO of Amerigreen Biofuels

of Middletown, Pa. Amerigreen is a distributor of biodiesel and ethanol.

"We work with producers all over the country buying biodiesel and ethanol to bring back to Pennsylvania," Gerhart said.

"Sending corn and beans out of the state to be processed is an inefficient way to do it," he added.

"We need to be able to blend fuels efficiently to compete. We hope economic incentives soon come to Pennsylvania and we will be able to open blending facilities all over the state."

Amerigreen has more than 40 distributors from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. They train and support their technicians and sales people to work with their distributors to be sure the fuels are properly handled and blended for a quality product, Gerhart said.

Len Zvorsky is the human resource director and safety compliance manager for alternative fuels at Worley and Obetz in Manheim, and was the third member of the panel. Zvorsky said his company made a conscious decision to separate themselves from other petroleum dealers.



Race Miner, Brian Gerhart and Len Zvorsky spoke on the biodiesel panel at the crops conference.

"If we want to be energy independent in this country, we must move full speed ahead," he said.

They looked at alternative fuels and Worley and Obetz is now the leading retailer selling biodiesel and bioheating oil in the state.

"We still sell conventional fuels," Zvorsky said, "but we now have nine fueling locations selling B5 and three of these also sell B85."

The firm is increasing its customer base by word-of-mouth, without advertising.

Worley and Obetz also is encouraging its competitors to "come on board" with alternative fuels because they want to cut this country's dependence on foreign oil, he said.

"Price shouldn't matter if we want to be energy independent," Zvorsky said.

To demonstrate the use of biodiesel, the company purchased a Volkswagen Jetta and has been running it on B100.

Questions were asked about quality standards and winter handling. For example, "I want to know at what point my fuel is going to gel," several people asked.

"Most biodiesel fuel is treated for that today," Zvorsky said. "Soy, unlike some other oils, returns to its original structure after it jells."

"And if the question is 'are quality standards higher for biodiesel fuel than petroleum?', the answer is 'no'. Standards are already high for conventional fuel. But biodiesel has been under so much scrutiny, if the public is going to buy into it, standards must be kept high. "Do your homework. Deal with a distributor you know has a good product. And I mean soy diesel, not feed oil," he added.

Cole: Biofuels market is dynamic, growing

The market for alternative fuels made from corn and soybeans is so dynamic right now that a slide he made for a presentation two weeks ago is outdated, according to Richard Cole, a grain merchant with PACMA, the Perdue Agricultural Commodities Marketing Association.

Cole, addressing the 2007 Corn, Soybean and No-Till Crop Conference, spoke about the direction grain markets and biofuels are headed.

"The U.S. is still the major corn producer in the world," Cole said, "but other countries are going to figure out ways to grow more corn if the price and demand keeps going up. It

will be fun to watch how other countries increase production."

The infrastructure for ethanol hasn't been built in this country yet, Cole said. Will fuel or food win in the corn competition, he asked rhetorically. "My guess is it will be a good fight and food will end up winning," he said. "Personally, I'd rather eat than drive my car."

"Why biofuels?" was his next question. "There are already 87 biodiesel plants in the U.S., and more on the way. There is plenty of vegetable oil out there we can use. The world supply is tremendous, and supply and demand is good."

Research Results: Variety trials suffered during '05 season

Chief researcher Dr. Gregory Roth of Penn State reported that the 14th year of the variety trials supported by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board "was successfully competed in 2005 despite some unfavorable growing conditions during the part of the season."

The months of May and June were extremely dry at both the Lancaster County and Centre County locations and seemed to delay emergence and reduce early season growth, he said.

However, in Centre County, "the months of July and August provided some timely rainfall which played a

major role in the high soybean yields we experienced at this site." Not so, in Lancaster County, where yields were somewhat lower due to the lack of rainfall during critical stages of soybean development. The soybean variety trials following small grain at Landisville were especially affected by the lack of rainfall and experienced yields much lower than normal, Roth added.

Four soybean tests were completed in Lancaster County and are summarized as follows: 68 entries averaging 59.5 bu/ac in the full season glyphosate resistant trial, 11 en-

tries averaging 35.3 bu/ac in the full season non-glyphosate resistant trial, 20 entries averaging 22.9 bu/ac in the glyphosate resistant soybean following small grain trial, and 4 entries averaging 21.4 bu/ac in the non-glyphosate resistant soybean following small grain trial.

Two soybean tests were completed in Centre County with 43 entries averaging 69.9 bu/ac in the glyphosate resistant trial and 9 entries averaging 68.0 bu/ac in the non-glyphosate resistant trial.

Average seed quality for the Lancaster County trials was similar in the full season non-glyphosate resistant trial, but slightly reduced in the remaining three trials when compared to 2004. In Centre County, 2005 seed quality was comparable to 2004.

"In conjunction with our Crops Quality Lab, we provided protein and oil analyses for all our soybean entries. We feel that in the future, the importance of protein and oil could play a larger role in determining the value of soybeans grown in Pennsylvania," researchers said.

The 2005 *Pennsylvania Soybean Performance Report* is now available to the public, free of charge from Penn State's Publications Distribution Center and on-line at:

www.cornandsoybeans.psu.edu.

Operation Main Street comes to Pennsylvania

Thanks to the soybean and pork checkoffs, about 20 people from our region graduated from Operation Main Street training and are available to speak on behalf of the pork industry. OMS was conducted in Lancaster in November, 2006, as a way to help support the single largest domestic customer of soybean meal: The animal agriculture industry. To request a speaker, call Barbara Dobson at (800) 711-0747, extension 222.



At the National Biodiesel Conference ...



Mike Gerhart, right, and Susanne Zilberfarb, center, discuss biodiesel in Pennsylvania with Cindy and Bill Mack from XM Satellite Radio's "The Open Road with Bill Mack" on XM 171, at the National Biodiesel Conference in San Antonio, Texas, in early February. (Photo courtesy Chuck Zimmerman.)

Checkoff research ...

Continued from Page 1

and yields were "very high." Also, the tests for 2006 will include two experimental high protein food grade lines from Iowa State University.

- \$1,056 to Dr. Douglas Archibald, PSU ag chemist, to continue to evaluate the soybean varieties in the performance trials for oil and protein content. In 2004 and 2005, Archibald and his associates evaluated and reported the oil and protein content of a total of 335 soybean specimens.

Those two main nutritional quality parameters are important to buyers of soybeans, both for food and for feed. The results may be found at <http://cornandsoybeans.psu.edu/soyvarietytests.cfm>.

- \$5,000 to Glen Cauffman and Joseph Perez to continue their evaluation on the Penn State campus of vegetable and soy-based biodegradable hydraulic fluids now in use in some 100-plus pieces of equipment on the campus.

Perez, a hydraulic specialist who worked with Caterpillar Tractor for 20 years, said thus far, "all indications are, no problems."

Aphid IPM program makes progress with checkoff support

As a result of a series of studies funded by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board, a soybean aphid integrated pest management program is “rapidly coming together,” according to Dr. Dennis Calvin and colleagues in the Department of Entomology at Penn State.

For example, Calvin reports, developmental equations have been calculated for all soybean life stages for use in the creation of a population dynamics model to predict timing of pest occurrence and population buildup. Soybean aphids complete their development from egg to adult most rapidly at 29 C, but have their greatest rate of reproduction at 25 C. In Central Pennsylvania, ideal temperatures occur during late July and early August, which matches the historic timing of when the pest population buildup occurs.

The role of natural enemies in regulation of the pest is great. How-

ever, they are not always able to maintain populations below economic levels. The results of this study suggest that Asian Multi-colored Lady-Bird Beetle is the most important and common predator in the system.

Damage-loss studies suggest that the current economic threshold of 250 aphids per plant is close to calculated economic thresholds, but the threshold would vary from about 125 to 329 aphids per plant under most situations. However, no one has measured losses from the aphid below 250 aphid per plant. New studies, under the current contract, to evaluate the impact of planting date and spray timing, suggest that the economic thresholds will be dependent on planting date.

So, Calvin reports, the data is now available to construct a phenology model to predict the timing of soybeans aphid population buildup.

Damage-loss studies have provided information to develop the first round of economic thresholds to help guide decisions about control. Supporting these control decisions is knowledge about the role that natural enemies play in helping to regulate aphid populations in Pennsylvania. Information on proper scouting procedures has been developed at the University of Minnesota. Thus, the two keys to implement an IPM program are in place: Sound economic thresholds and statistically validated scouting methods. The models will be used to help time scouting and control activities.

The next steps needed to improve the IPM program are to gain knowledge on migration of aphids into soybean fields to initialize the development models and continue to investigate the influence of planting date and timing of soybean aphid management.

Cover crop roots: Can they be ‘tillage tools’ for soybean production?

Researchers Sjoerd W. Duiker and David H. Johnson reported that cover crops ryegrass, rye, barley, hairy vetch, crimson clover, and rape all were established at three planting dates — middle of September, end of September, middle of October — in the fall of 2004 in Rock Springs and Landisville.

Soybeans were planted into the plots in early June 2005, after the cover crops had been killed by a burndown treatment of glyphosate. The soybean plots were harvested to determine the effect of the cover crops on soybean yield.

The Pennsylvania Soybean Board funded studies over the past three years have shown the potential to successfully establish cover crops at different dates in the fall for scheduled termination dates in the spring.

The potential for fall-established cover crops is much greater in Landisville than in Rock Springs. All seven cover crops could be successfully used in Landisville if established by the middle of September and terminated by early June. The

cover crop crimson clover did surprisingly well and looks like a very promising leguminous cover crop for the southern part of Pennsylvania in addition to hairy vetch.

At the middle of October, only the small grains and annual ryegrass showed potential in Landisville.

In Rock Springs, the small grains and annual ryegrass showed potential, but the other cover crops could not be used successfully by the middle of September. By the middle

of October, only rye and wheat were successful in Rock Springs.

Biomass accumulation in the spring was monitored for each cover crop.

Interestingly, soybean yields were low in Landisville due to limited rain, and only varied by establishment date of cover crops. However, the researchers discovered that hairy vetch was not completely killed by glyphosate, and hence became a weed, reducing yields.

Penn State bio-based hydraulic fluid tests continue

Penn State has used both biodegradable hydraulic fluid and biodiesel fuel in some 200 pieces of farm equipment for two years. The goal, according to Glen Cauffman of PSU’s Farm Services, is to provide information regarding the performance of both in various pieces of equipment, compared to their petroleum equivalents. Periodic analysis is performed to establish the performance of the fluid in the units under test, including metals, water, and particle content; sulfation; nitration; acid number and more. Support from the Pennsylvania Soybean Board is enabling a systematic sampling and analysis of selected vehicles. Cauffman reports that “preliminary analysis results indicate no problems with the system under test. Petroleum samples taken at the time of changeover to biodegradable hydraulic fluid were analyzed for comparative purposes. To date metals and particle content are low. There is no indication of oxidation stability problems and friction and wear data of used samples are the same as new samples.”

Pa. soy production compares well to region

Across the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast, farmers in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia continue to be the largest producers of soybeans. But that does not mean that farmers in states with less production are ignored by the United Soybean Board (USB).

Here's how it works.

Any state with an annual average soybean production of between 3 and 15 million bushels is entitled to one seat on USB, the agency which administers the national soybean checkoff program. States with an annual average production of between 15 and 70 million bushels get two seats on the board.

The average is obtained by using production in the five previous crops, but eliminating the highest and lowest crop years. States with meager production which are not eligible for

even one USB seat are joined to form a region, in which those states' total production reaches 3 million bushels and thus earns a directorship.

It is in that way that New Jersey, West Virginia, and the New England states were joined to form the Northeast Region, also now known as the Eastern Region with the recent addition of Florida. USB reapportions its membership every three years.

Here are production figures for 2005 — the most recent year available — listed in this order: Total production, average yield in bushels per acre, and total acres harvested.

Pennsylvania: 20 million bushels, 46 bushels, 430,000 acres.

Maryland: 21 million bushels, 43 bushels, 500,000 acres.

Virginia: 21 million bushels, 46 bushels, 540,000 acres.

Delaware: 9 million bushels, 42

bushels, 210,000 acres.

New York: 7 million bushels, 39 bushels, 175,000 acres.

West Virginia: 800,000 bushels, 46 bushels, 19,000 acres.

Florida: 600,000 bushels, 34 bushels, 19,000 acres.

In 2005, **New Jersey** reported total production of 4 million bushels. However, in reapportionment, its yield dropped below 3 million bushels. As a result, it lost its USB seat and was plugged into the Eastern Region. However, it was able to keep its state soybean board office.

Notably in this regard, the Eastern Region USB director is a New Jersey farmer, Rick Stern of Cream Ridge.

New York's increasing soybean production has recently earned it a USB seat. Russell Carpenter of Trumansburg, N.Y., is the New York director. He and Stern meet with the Pennsylvania Soybean Board.



Carpenter

Also in the most recent reapportionment considerations, the Pennsylvania board earned a second seat on the USB. That vacancy is in the nomination stage and will become effective in 2008. Mike Gerhart, chairman of the Pennsylvania board, is the current Pennsylvania director.

Pennsylvania Soybean Board Financial Statement

The farmer directors of the Pennsylvania Soybean Board administer the soybean checkoff program in the Commonwealth. Half of the checkoff assessments are sent to the United Soybean Board for national and international research, marketing and education. The half that stays in Pennsylvania works for you through soybean production research, marketing of biodiesel and other new uses of soybeans, support for animal agriculture markets, and education on issues such as soybean rust. The PSB's executive director is Sandra L. Davis. Although the Pennsylvania Soybean Board is an independent qualified state soybean board (QSSB), the board shares Mrs. Davis' leadership and office with two other QSSBs in order to minimize overhead and maximize program funding.

Fiscal Year 2006 - October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

Total FY06 Assessments	\$291,485
50% to United Soybean Board	145,497
Pennsylvania Soybean Board	145,988
Interest and FY05 Project Funding Carryover	283,919
Miscellaneous	687
Total Revenues FY06	430,594

DISBURSEMENTS

Administration, Collection, Compliance & Board Operating Costs	23,372
Special Projects	13,871
Producer Communication	38,574
Promotion	40,001
In-State Research	25,048
Total Disbursements FY06	140,866

Ongoing Project Funding FY07 \$289,728

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Under the soybean checkoff program, authorized by Congress in 1991, soybean farmers contribute 50 cents of every \$100 they receive for their soybean crop at the first point of sale to the checkoff.

Pennsylvania Soybean Board

Mike Gerhart
Chairman
Ephrata

John Yocum
Vice Chairman
Landisville

William Beam
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Brian Kreider
Lebanon

Seven little words, one big message

There is a rule of thumb in the billboard business: Hold the message to a maximum of seven words. That's the limit a highway motorist can visualize, and read, and hopefully remember as he (or she) speeds past. The message on big new billboard between exits to Morgantown and Downingtown on the Pennsylvania Turnpike is right on the money. (See artwork, below.)

The billboard sits on the westbound lane, on farmland owned by William Beam of Elverson. Beam is a member of the Pennsylvania Soybean Board. The promotion of soy-based biodiesel is at or near the top of the soybean board's list of priorities because domestic use of soybeans as biodiesel has the potential to substantially increase the farm gate price which farmers receive for their crop.

Bill Beam and his colleagues on the board want to do whatever they can to keep that going, so when Bill learned what his former billboard company was charging for its advertising space, as compared to what he was getting on his land lease on prime turnpike territory, he decided to renegotiate. The billboard company balked. Beam turned to Clear Channel, which not only met his price but agreed to give him the space on one side for a year. Down came the old billboard. Last November, up went a new one. It's become known as "Bill's Board." With the space donated, the United Soybean Board's advertising contractor came up with the design.

Clear Channel executives like the design and message so much, they have said that when Beam's freebee year is up on the turnpike location, they might move the message to another of their boards should a vacancy occur.

"They liked the message," said Beam. "I guess they'd like to give it as much exposure as possible."



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Salisbury, MD 21803

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POSTAGE
PAID
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