



The Northeast Region Soybean Scene

News for Northeast Soybean Professionals from your Soybean Checkoff • Winter 2007

News of Note

Soybean Checkoff Sponsors Aphid Research: *“Evaluation of economic injury level, biological control, and host plant resistance for soybean aphid in NY.”*

Dr. William Cox of Cornell University and fellow researchers reported that, in the second year of cage studies to define an economic injury level (EIL) for New York:

- Populations were higher in 2005 than 2004; populations peaked when plants were R3-R4, and did not exceed 250 aphids per plant economic threshold population.
- In Group 1 varieties, the variety with the highest yield also had the highest aphid population.
- As aphid populations are increasing, differences in varieties are more evident and may be an important factor in choosing varieties in New York.

During the year, the research team participated in a new study, led by Dr. Cox, comparing planting date and seed treatments, including Gaucho, Cruiser and the insecticidal spray Warrior. Dr. Cox found that seed treatments reduced soybean aphid numbers. When treatment was analyzed across planting dates, yields were highest for the seed treatment Gaucho.

Animal Ag’s Got A Steady Appetite for Soy Meal: Animal agriculture accounts for 94 percent of the domestic soybean meal market. To help support this important industry, the United Soybean Board has established www.animalag.org, a site with state-specific facts that can help you understand and quantify animal ag’s contributions in your state.

TAg: On-Farm IPM Program Improves Awareness

Soybean Checkoff Supports Educational Program for New York Producers

Principal investigators Julianne Stavisky, Kenneth Wise, and J. Keith Waldron, all of Cornell University, reported that new pest challenges in soybeans led to the development of an on-farm, season-long IPM education program for 2006.

The model for the program was the Tactical Agriculture, or “TAg” Team Program, a season-long, on-farm, IPM and ICM (Integrated Crop Management) educational program originally designed for use in field corn and alfalfa. Working with colleagues in Oneida and Cayuga counties and Mike Stanyard, NWNY Dairy and Field Crops Team, three teams of producers were invited to participate in the program.

Early May meetings were held to introduce the participants to the TAg program and to administer a pre-test to assess pest and crop knowledge. Participants answered fewer than half of the questions correctly, particularly in the areas of soybean pest identification and management. These results were used to shape the curriculum.

On-farm TAg meetings enabled observations of disease, insect, and weed pest outbreaks, assisted participants with making management decisions, and encouraged producers’ interest in pest identification and management options. As a result of their training, the participants are more prepared to identify and address soybean pest problems and much more aware of steps to take for the potential arrival of soybean rust.

Producers involved in 2005 indicated they will implement IPM on 95 percent of their land — about 3,500 acres in New York. One hundred percent said they would scout for aphids and 90 percent for Asian rust. Ninety percent also said they will use economic thresholds to make decisions to manage soybean pests.

A test was administered at the end of the program. While scores on pre-tests averaged 40.5 percent, at the completion of the program, participants’ scores *doubled* to an average of 81 percent.

Changes in soy production lead to new “Eastern Region”

Any state with an annual average soybean production between three and 15 million bushels is entitled to one seat on the United Soybean Board, the organization which administers the national soybean checkoff program. States with such low production that they are not eligible for one USB seat are joined to form a region which produces at least three million bushels. 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.

Here are production figures for 2005:

- 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 harvested four million bushels on 105,000 acres. However, in USB reapportionment, its five-year average yield dropped below the three million bushel mark. As a result, it lost its USB seat and was plugged into the Eastern Region. (New Jersey retains its independent, qualified state soybean board status, however.) The Eastern Region USB director is a New Jersey farmer, Rick Stern of Cream Ridge. On the other end of the spectrum, New York’s increasing soybean production recently earned it a USB seat. Russell Carpenter of Trumansburg, N.Y., is the New York director.



Russ Carpenter

Northeast Region Soybean Board FY06 Financial Statement

Under the federal soybean checkoff program, authorized by Congress in 1991, farmers contribute 50 cents of every \$100 they receive for their soybean crop at the first point of sale. The checkoff revenues are escrowed into a fund for use in supporting research, education and market development projects. The Northeast Region Soybean Board retains half the funds collected in New York, Connecticut, West Virginia, Florida and other states to conduct these activities within these states. The United Soybean Board receives the other half, to conduct these activities on a national and international level. The NRSB is "housed" with the Pennsylvania Soybean Promotion Board to save administrative expense. For more information about NRSB, please visit: www.pasoybean.org/northeast.html

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

Total FY06 Assessments	\$141,480
Minus 50% to United Soybean Board	\$68,309
Northeast 50%	\$73,171
Interest & FY05 Project Funding Carryover	\$90,053
Miscellaneous Income	\$636
TOTAL REVENUES FY06	\$163,860
DISBURSEMENTS	
Administration, Collection, Compliance and Board Operating Cost	\$6,688
Special Projects	\$2,103
Producer Communication	\$3,640
Promotion	\$16,283
<u>In-state Research</u>	<u>\$13,819</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS FY06	\$42,533
Ongoing Project Funding	\$121,327

NEWS FOR THE NORTHEAST SOYBEAN INDUSTRY FROM YOUR SOYBEAN CHECKOFF BOARD

Northeast Region Soybean Board
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NY tax credit supports bioheat

According to the New York Department of Taxation and Finance, a New York State personal income tax credit is allowed for the purchase of bioheat used for space heating or hot water production for residential purposes within New York State. The credit applies to bioheat purchased on or after July 1, 2006, and before July 1, 2007. The credit amount equals a penny per gallon for each percent of biodiesel included in the bioheat, up to 20 cents per gallon. For additional information, see [Form IT-241, Claim for Clean Heating Fuel Credit](#), its instructions, and [TSB-M-06\(4\)C.\(6\)I](#), or visit http://www.tax.state.ny.us/pit/income_tax_2006/tax_highlights.html.

Rick Stern elected to USB Executive Committee

At age 32, Rick Stern is the youngest director ever to sit on the executive committee of the United Soybean Board. "I am honored, of course," he said. This year, Stern, who represents USB's Eastern Region, is serving as chairman of the USB's Production Committee, one of five main USB committees, and he had high praise for the other nine committee members.

The home farm of Stern Farms, LLC, is 170 acres in Cream Ridge, on the far west side of Monmouth County, N.J., but the operation encompasses some 1,200 acres for soybean, corn, wheat, hay, straw, tomato and pepper production. The farm was founded by his grandfather in 1930. He paid \$4,000 for the land, Stern said, adding "it was his last \$4,000."

In his fourth year as a USB director, Stern also sits on the Analytical Measurements and Market Standards Initiative Leadership Team. He also has served on the Domestic Marketing Committee. Stern holds a bachelor's degree in agronomy from Delaware Valley College.



Rick Stern