

THE NORTH DAKOTA **Soybean** GROWER MAGAZINE

VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 2
SEPTEMBER 2012

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DETAILS
INSIDE

INSIDE

Milnor Farmer
Enjoys Policy Work

Double-Cropping
in North Dakota

SCN Likes Hot,
Dry Weather



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2013 NORTHERN SOYBEAN EXPO

“Opportunity Knocks”

February 19, 2013 Fargo Holiday Inn

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **BUFFET BREAKFAST**

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. **OPENING REMARKS**

Monte Peterson, Chairman, ND Soybean Council
Jason Mewes, President, ND Soybean Growers Association

8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **“WELCOME TO THE NEW WORLD OF AGRICULTURE”**

Dr. Lowell Catlett, Regent’s Professor/Dean and Chief Administrative Officer at New Mexico State University’s College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **“STARTLING REALITIES OF THE 21ST CENTURY – WHAT’S REALLY GOING ON?”**

Don Reynolds – Economist

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. **LUNCH** (Doors to lunch room will be closed until 12:00)

Awards Presentations
Retiring Directors – NDSC and NDSGA

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **“PRICE AND REVENUE RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE COMMODITY GRAIN MARKETS”**

Matt Roberts, Ph.D. Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics and an Extension Grain Marketing Specialist at Ohio State University

2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **“EFFECTIVE FARM LABOR MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES”**

Gregory Billikopf, Farm Labor Management Specialist
University of California

4:00 p.m. **CLOSING REMARKS**

Monte Peterson, Chairman, NDSC

NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Jeff Hamre, Executive Director
14602 50th St SE • Leonard, ND 58052
(701) 640-5215 • jhamre@tciteam.com

Jason Mewes, President • Colgate, ND
District 4 • jkm89@hotmail.com

Brent Kohls, Vice President • Mayville, ND
District 5 • bjkohls@yahoo.com

Luke Kuster, Secretary • Grand Forks, ND
District 6 • pepe81182@hotmail.com

Harvey Morken, Treasurer • Casselton, ND
District 3 • morken53@gmail.com

Scott Hendrickson, Past President • Walcott, ND
District 1 • ricriverfarm@wtc-mail.net

Craig Olson • Colfax, ND
District 1 • craig.m.olson@rrt.net

Kasey Lien • Milnor, ND
District 2 • klien04@hotmail.com

Ryan Richard • Horace, ND
District 3 • richie2@hotmail.com

Shane Heck • Cavalier, ND
District 7 • slheck@live.com

Dennis Renner • Mandan, ND
District 8 • dennisrenner@msn.com

Crystal Martodam • Mylo, ND
District 8 • crystal.martodam@ndsu.edu

Bob Runk • Casselton, ND
At Large • kcnur@aol.com

Ed Erickson, Jr. • Milnor, ND
ASA Representative • edson@drtel.net

Eric Broten • Dazey, ND
Young Leader • eric.broten@yahoo.com

Jay Myers • Colfax, ND
Industry Representative • jmyers@rrt.net

NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN COUNCIL

Diana Beitelspacher, Executive Director
dbeitelspacher@ndsoybean.org

Suzanne Wolf, Communications Director
swolf@ndsoybean.org

1411 32nd Street South, Suite 3 • Fargo, ND 58103
(888) 469-6409 • (701) 239-7194

Monte Peterson, Chairman • Valley City, ND
District 5 • mpfarms@wildblue.net

Scott Gauslow, Vice Chairman • Colfax, ND
District 1 • sgauslow@yahoo.com

Tyler Speich, Secretary • Milnor, ND
District 2 • tyler.speich@plantpioneer.com

Jared Hagert • Emerado, ND
District 7 • jchagert@msn.com

Lucas Rode • Adrian, ND
District 6 • lucasrode@yahoo.com

Harvey Pyle • Fargo, ND
District 4 • hap@cableone.net

David Galal • Jamestown, ND
District 6 • dgalal@hotmail.com

Mike Satrom • Galesburg, ND
District 8 • msatrom@icpc.com

Charles Linderman • Carrington, ND
District 9 • chlind@daktel.com

Art Wosick • Minto, ND
District 10 • artwosick@hotmail.com

Dusty Lodoen • Westhope, ND
District 11 • dustylodoen@gmail.com

Mike Appert • Hazelton, ND
District 12 • mappert@bektel.com

Contents

VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 2 • SEPTEMBER 2012



Features

- 6 | **NDSGA Leader Encourages Growers to "Step Up"**
Ed Erickson says we need all 6,000 North Dakota soybean farmers to join the NDSGA.
- 8 | **Congress Recesses Without Passing 2012 Farm Bill**
Increasing the odds that a new farm bill will not be passed before the current bill expires in September.
- 10 | **North Dakota Farmers Double-Crop Soybeans**
A number of North Dakota farmers experiment with practice.
- 11 | **North Dakota Soybean Council**
Achieving their mission everyday.
- 12 | **Soybean Oil Reduces Use of Petroleum in Tires**
Goodyear announces new development.
- 13 | **How to Choose a Soybean Variety for 2013**
Use two-year averages.
- 15 | **Researching White Mold**
Evaluating options for control.
- 16 | **A Season for SCN**
Warm weather and drought conditions favor SCN activity.
- 16 | **Assessing Black Sea Markets**
NDSC directors look at ways to more effectively penetrate markets.
- 18 | **New Astroturf Field is Backe with Soy-Based Polymers**
The NDSU Bison Football team will begin a new season on new turf.
- 19 | **Food Reps Impressed by U.S. Soy Sustainability Practices**
Unilever representatives visit North Dakota to learn about farm technology.
- 21 | **Spider Mites and Soybean Cyst Nematodes**
Scientists discuss current threats.
- 23 | **North Dakota Hosts First REAP Tour**
Participants learn about regional differences/similarities in agriculture.

Departments

- 5 Letters
- 20 Legislative Update
- 26 Soybean Briefs
- 28 Getting to Know the Grower

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NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

As you read this, soybean harvest is fast approaching. This is a great time to reflect on the challenges you faced on the way to producing a crop. It is a great time to look at all the decisions you made along the way and ask what you could have done better. Were you up to the challenges you faced this year?

We all face challenges on our farms each year. It seems that there is no end to the challenges from weather, insects and weeds. As farmers, we are fully prepared to deal with these issues. But, are we prepared to deal with challenges from people?

As we all know, fewer and fewer people have any tie or knowledge about modern agriculture. It seems that the farther one gets from a farm, the less they trust the farmer. For many people, they only know what they hear on television or read in the newspaper. The facts seem to be open to interpretation.

It is imperative that our industry understands that we are under tremendous scrutiny. There are many groups out there that strive to change the ways we operate. They will seize upon any mistakes that we make and use them to push their agenda. Society is keeping a very close watch over how we manage our land and our operations.

It is our job to work for you in Bismarck and in Washington. We must do our best to present the true story of North Dakota Ag to the people that matter most. We will be challenged again this winter in Bismarck. We will be faced with a Legislature that will be more focused on urban areas than ever. It is imperative that we make sure the voice of North Dakota soybean growers is heard.

We will not be successful in getting our message out without your help. We all need to be advocates for agriculture in some way. You must do your best to tell our story because no one else will. You must always remember that your actions and words represent us all, good or bad. If you don't stand up for your farm and your livelihood, who will? Are you up to the challenge?



Jason Mewes,
President
North Dakota Soybean
Growers Association



The North Dakota Soybean Grower is published four times a year by the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, 14602 50th St SE, Leonard, ND 58052, Phone: (701) 640-5215, Website: www.ndsoygrowers.com Email: jhamre@tciteam.com.

Send editorial and advertising materials to Don Wick or Mike Hergert, Ag Information Services, Inc., 1407 24th Avenue So., Suite 235, Grand Forks, ND 58201, don@rrfn.com or mike@rrfn.com. Publication of editorial or advertising material in the North Dakota Soybean Grower magazine does not imply endorsement by the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. Check agronomic advice with local sources and always read and follow product labels.

NDSGA Leader Encourages Growers to “Step Up”

Ed Erickson, Jr. was elected to represent the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association as its national director with the American Soybean Association this past February. Since taking this leadership role, the Milnor farmer has made two trips to Washington, D.C. to lobby on soybean issues.

“I’m still getting my feet wet; there is a lot to learn,” said Erickson.

In addition to ASA



ED ERICKSON, JR.

meetings, Erickson meets with North Dakota’s congressional delegation during those trips to the Capitol city. Erickson’s most recent trip coincided with the House Agriculture Committee markup of the 2012 Farm Bill. The path forward in the House remains a question mark, but Erickson would like to see legislation that includes parts of the Senate-passed bill and the House Agriculture Committee bill.

“If they take the Senate side and the House side and try to find common ground, I think our industry will be okay. I like the shallow-loss part of it, but the Senate wants to tie crop insurance with conservation. ASA doesn’t want to see that tied together.”

Target prices remain part of the Farm Bill discussion, a policy not supported by ASA. The possibility of planting distortions is a concern.

Erickson Wears Many Hats

Ed Erickson, Jr. has been farming full-time since 1986. In the early days, the focus was on spring wheat and sunflowers. Over time, a transition was made to corn and soybeans.

“We’re about half corn and half beans and really enjoy it. I wouldn’t mind growing wheat, but they started docking us for every little thing and it torqued me off. A wheat field is really pretty, but I don’t miss it.”

In 1999, Erickson helped start Erickson Manufacturing. The family’s involvement in the equipment manufacturing business dates back to the late 1970’s.

“We like building stuff; we love working in the shop, cutting and grinding,” said Erickson, “We get an idea and just start building it. We started Eagle Ditcher in ’99 and we’re still in business today. Last year, was our best year yet.”



"We should just be able to plant and keep our rotations in place."

Erickson was a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association board for five years, before accepting the ASA director post earlier this year. Erickson appreciates the legislative focus on the ASA board, but says it is a learning experience.

"I went into it and I was pretty raw, but the more

involved I got, the more I appreciated it," said Erickson, "I enjoy doing the legislative work, talking with our Senators and Congressman, and the people in Bismarck."

Erickson commends the North Dakota congressional delegation for its commitment to agriculture and farm policy.

In Erickson's opinion, every farmer in the state should take an active role

in an organization, like the NDSGA and ASA.

"As farmers, we're in a big minority," said Erickson, "We need to scream louder than anyone else. Everybody thinks we're getting rich out here, but we have a lot of risk. People don't realize, especially, in a year like this when it gets dry, but there is a lot of stress in agriculture."

While Erickson is

taking an active role in national policy, he encourages others to also participate in the policy debate.

"We have 6,000 soybean growers in this state and we only have just over 500 members. To do our legislative work and our work in Washington, D.C., we need those 6,000 soybean farmers to step up and become members of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association. If you look at states like Iowa and Indiana, they have a lot of members. Their farmers have stepped up to the plate and that's what we need in North Dakota."

Erickson says there are misconceptions between the growers organization and the checkoff.

"People must realize that checkoff dollars don't go to the membership organization. We need members to do our legislative work; you can't use checkoff dollars for that. I hope people will really look at becoming a member of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association."

The soybean checkoff invests in promotion and research.

"That is so important," said Erickson, "In the last 20 years, every checkoff dollar paid out from everyone's soybean check, including mine, has brought back \$6.40. With international marketing and such, it has been huge."



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Congress Recesses Without Passing 2012 Farm Bill

After approval by the House Agriculture Committee, House leadership failed to give floor time to the 2012 farm bill before the August recess. A late attempt to pass a one-year extension of the current farm bill was pulled just days before the recess began. This increases the odds that a new farm bill will not be passed before the current bill expires on September 30th.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Debbie Stabenow said the House process is unprecedented. "Never before have we seen the House leadership unwilling to bring to the floor a bill that came out of the committee on a bipartisan vote. It's really quite shocking." From what she understands, Stabenow says about half the Republican caucus in the House doesn't think there ought to be a farm bill.

SENATE FARM BILL

The Senate passed its version of the farm bill June 21st on a vote of 64-35. The bill has an overall cost of nearly \$1 trillion, but is estimated to achieve savings of more than \$23 billion.

Two amendments were approved to put new restrictions on crop insur-



THE CURRENT FARM BILL EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30TH, PUTTING PRESSURE ON CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION.

ance premium subsidies. Farmers with an Adjusted Gross Income over \$750,000 would see a 15 percent cut in premium subsidies. Minnesota Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, as well as North Dakota Senator Kent Conrad, were among the 66 senators voting for that amendment. North Dakota Senator John Hoeven voted no. The Senate also approved an amend-

ment tying conservation compliance to crop insurance premium subsidies.

An amendment putting a \$75,000 payment limit on marketing loan benefits and loan deficiency payments was approved. Farmers earning more than a million dollars will also not be allowed to receive conservation payments.

Several amendments were defeated

that ASA strongly opposed, including:

- An amendment that would have made national checkoff programs voluntary
- An amendment that would cut funding for the Market Access Program by \$40 million per year
- An amendment to authorize states to require mandatory labeling of biotech food products

The Senate agreed, on a voice vote, to accept an amendment sponsored by Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Sen. John Hoeven (R-N.D.), which requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to update the rural transportation study every three years and updates an existing provision requiring USDA participation in freight rail policy proceedings of the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

The Klobuchar-Hoeven amendment also updates Section 1655(j) of the Agricultural Marketing Act by replacing "Interstate Commerce Commission", a federal agency that has not existed since 1995, with the "Surface Transportation Board", which currently oversees the freight railroads of the nation.

HOUSE FARM BILL

Four soybean growers from North Dakota were in Washington, D.C. when the House Agriculture Committee approved its version of the 2012 farm bill, on July 11th. North Dakota's lone representative on the American Soybean Association board, Ed Erickson, Jr., from Milnor, and North Dakota Soybean Growers Association board members Craig Olson, from Kindred, Harvey Morken, from Casselton, and Eric Broten from Dazey sat in briefly during the Committee debate.

The House farm bill cuts more than \$35 billion in mandatory funding; repeals or consolidates more than 100 programs; ends direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, and the ACRE and SURE programs, and replaces them with a new policy that will save taxpayers more than \$14 billion dollars.

Farmers will have the option of a shallow-loss

program, like what's in the Senate bill, and a target price program with increased target prices. A provision to cut \$16 billion in food stamps spurred considerable debate, and is expected to spur even more if and when the bill goes to the House floor. The Senate farm bill only cuts \$4.5 billion out of food stamps.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack says Americans deserve a farm and jobs bill that reforms the safety net for producers in times of need, promotes the bio-based economy, conserves our natural resources, strengthens rural communities, promotes job growth, and supports food assistance. Unfortunately, says Vilsack, the bill passed by the House Ag Committee contains deep cuts in SNAP, or food stamps.

House Agriculture Committee ranking member Collin Peterson says the biggest differ-

ence between the House and Senate farm bills is in the commodity title. "You're going to have the option of the new shallow loss program or you could take the counter-cyclical target price program," said Peterson, who says farmers in his district are telling him they'll take the higher crop insurance levels and use the target price as a fallback, in case these price levels aren't maintained.

The morning after the House action, the American Soybean Association strongly urged House Speaker John Boehner to bring the farm bill to the floor for debate and to pass the bill quickly to provide America's farmers with the certainty and stability needed to remain viable.

ASA, which strongly supported the Senate shallow loss proposal, was vague in its reaction to the House farm bill. ASA's key priority in the farm bill discussions has been to develop programs that help farmers manage risk while complementing crop insurance and avoiding planting distortions. While encouraged by the House Agriculture Committee's passage, ASA remains concerned about planting distortions that could occur under a coupled target price program such as that contained in the House bill.

ASA is extremely pleased with the Senate

farm bill. Major provisions supported by ASA include the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) program under which revenue losses exceeding 11 percent will be partially offset at either the farm or county level.

ASA continues to support provisions in both the Senate and House bills that reauthorize and fund the Market Access and Foreign Market Development programs, as well as agricultural research programs. ASA also supports the bills' focus on working lands conservation and a gradual reduction of acres in the Conservation Reserve Program. ASA is pleased to see the reauthorization of the Biobased Market Program and the Biodiesel Education Program, contained in the House bill.

Getting the bill passed quickly is the top priority for most agriculture groups and many agriculture leaders in Congress.

Failure to pass a new farm bill before the current law expires on Sept. 30 would require an extension and push the farm bill debate into the post-election period.

The lack of certainty has led agriculture-focused members to look for alternative paths to the finish line. There have been multiple reports that the bill could progress to an informal conference run by Agriculture Committee leaders in both chambers.





"LIKE I TOLD MY NEIGHBOR, HE GETS TO GO TO MAHNOMEN, WE CAN GAMBLE RIGHT HERE IN STEELE COUNTY," SAID BRAD THYKESON, PORTLAND, NORTH DAKOTA.

North Dakota Farmers Double-Crop Soybeans

When you hear about double-crop soybeans, you normally think about the eastern Midwest where soybeans are planted after the winter wheat harvest. With this year's early wheat harvest in North Dakota, a number of farmers decided to experiment. Portland, North Dakota farmer Brad Thykeson is one of them. "Like I told my neighbor, he gets to go to Mahanomen (the casino)-we can gamble right here in Steele County."

Thykeson rolled the dice on July 12th, planting some double-zero soybeans right into winter wheat stubble with a no-till drill. That was a few days after that area got an inch to an inch-and-a-half rain, so the moist, warm soil allowed the beans to germinate quickly.

The Erickson brothers at Galesburg planted 80 acres of Asgrow Genuity AG00931 RR2Y soybeans on July 10th. Adam said the early winter

wheat harvest, and the high price of soybeans, gave them the opportunity to experiment with double-cropping for the first time. Other growers planted beyond July 15th.

With a second crop, Thykeson says you don't have to have a 30 to 40 bushel soybean yield. He ratcheted his yield goal way down, but the land cost was already factored in on the winter wheat crop.

Erickson, who farms with brothers Nick and

Matt, says with adequate heat their soybeans should be mature in the first week of October, and could produce 30 bushels per acre. "Seed cost us \$50 per acre, so it will only take about four bushels per acre to cover seed costs," says Erickson.

Thykeson thinks his double-crop gamble may be a once in a lifetime. "It's something a guy can try, and I think with the boys and their enthusiasm about farming, I think it's worth a shot."



Diana Beitelspacher
Executive Director
North Dakota
Soybean Council

ACHIEVING OUR MISSION EVERYDAY

The mission of the North Dakota Soybean Council is “*Effectively invest and leverage North Dakota soybean checkoff resources to maximize the benefits of North Dakota soy.*” We hope this clearly communicates our focus and the impact we strive to have on behalf of North Dakota soybean farmers. As an organization investing your checkoff dollars, our Directors and the NDSC team work hard every day to increase demand, increase yields, open new markets, make our transportation infrastructure more efficient and dependable, provide valuable educational opportunities and increase awareness and understanding of our industry. So how do we achieve our mission?

The answer to this question varies depending on the issue we are addressing. For example, our desire to expand our international marketing reach has led us to establish a marketing committee comprised of Directors and agricultural marketing experts. A key focus is to increase the export of North Dakota soybeans and soy products in a cooperative effort with national industry organizations and through our Grays Harbor and Black Sea initiatives. We are also investing in a tri-state (ND, SD, MN) project designed to elevate the image and value of upper Midwest soybeans to international buyers by demonstrating that soybean essential amino acids is a precise measure of protein quality that delivers better value for soybean buyers and livestock producers. When soybean buyers have a complete and accurate picture of protein quality, soybean producers in this region should expect higher and more equitable returns for their soybeans in the market place.

Our desire to find solutions to some of your greatest production challenges has led us to invest more than \$1 million in production and applied research programs, such as Iron Deficiency Chlorosis, root diseases, soybean cyst nematode management, sclerotinia stem rot and soybean aphids – just to name a few. The valuable relationships we have established with North Dakota State University and other leading research institutions, combined with our funding is leading to important and useful results that benefit you.

This is perhaps the most exciting time for American Agriculture. Our future is bright and the opportunities to make significant contributions to not only the soybean industry, but to the consumers who purchase the many products associated with soybeans, has never been better. I, along with our Directors and employees, am proud to work for you. There is no group of people we could be more honored to serve. Together, we will continue to achieve our mission and work hard to deliver value to you. I wish you a successful and profitable harvest season!



Goodyear Discovers Soybean Oil Can Reduce Use of Petroleum in Tires

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company announced recently a development that could help consumers and the environment by reducing the amount of petroleum-based oil used in tires, while at the same time, extending tread life.

Goodyear researchers at the company's Innovation Center have found in their tests that using soybean oil in tires can potentially increase tread life by 10 percent and reduce the tiremaker's use of petroleum-based oil by up to seven million gallons each year.

In addition, testing at Goodyear's tire plant in Lawton, Oklahoma showed improved mix-

ing capabilities in the manufacturing process. The company found that rubber compounds made with soybean oil blend more easily with the silica used in building tires. This can improve plant efficiency and reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

"Goodyear is committed to caring for the environment and communities, and use of soybean oil is proving to be another way to accomplish this goal," said Jean-Claude Kihn, Goodyear's chief technical officer. "Consumers benefit through improved tread life, Goodyear gains with increased efficiency and energy savings and we all win whenever

there is a positive impact on the environment."

Prototype tires built in Lawton will be tested at Goodyear's Proving Grounds in San Angelo, Texas in the coming months. If indicators remain positive, Goodyear expects consumers will be able to purchase tires made with soybean oil as early as 2015.

The United Soybean Board (USB) is helping fund the Goodyear project with a grant of \$500,000 over two years. Goodyear will display a tire made with soybean oil in August at The Ford Motor Company's research center in Dearborn, Michigan, as part of an event sponsored by the USB.

"On behalf of the United Soybean Board, I congratulate Goodyear for their commitment to sustainability," said Vanessa Kummer, Chair of USB and a soybean farmer from Colfax, ND. "The ongoing discovery of novel applications for soybean oil validates our commitment to the environment, cultivating a renewable feedstock that reduces carbon emissions and provides a natural replacement for petrochemical alternatives. The USB and America's soybean farmers are excited to support Goodyear in this effort to provide consumers with cost-effective, eco-friendly products."

MIKE SATROM APPOINTED TO ND SOYBEAN COUNCIL



MIKE SATROM

At a June 26, 2012 board of directors meeting, the North Dakota Soybean Council appointed Mike Satrom of Galesburg, North Dakota to fill a vacant two-year term on the board as a representative for soybean farmers in Nelson, Steele and Griggs counties.

Satrom, along with his

son, Mark, operates a farm in Steele County raising soybeans, corn, spring wheat and edible beans. A graduate from NDSU, Satrom has also been involved in his community as a Township Officer, Steele County Jobs Development Authority, Page Community Club, Page Ambu-

lance Squad and his local church. He previously sat on the North Dakota Soybean Council Board from 2000-2006. Mike and his wife, Nancy, have three grown children; Mark, Lindsay and Shelby; and three grandchildren, Calvin, Gabrielle and Addison.



How to Choose a Soybean Variety for 2013

By Ted Helms, NDSU Soybean Breeder

The best way to choose a soybean variety for next year's unknown weather conditions is to use the two-year averages that will be reported in the 2012 North Dakota Soybean Performance Bulletin (A-843). The two-year averages will show which varieties performed well in both the wet conditions of 2011 and also in the dry conditions of 2012. Private seed companies can also provide you with the summary of how their different varieties performed across multiple years.

One year of data is just not adequate. For example, when we look at the Richland and Sargent County NDSU 'Southern test' data from 2011, we can see that the 2-year average yield of Roundup Ready soybean varieties varied from a low of 37.6 bu/A for one variety, to a high of 50.9 bu/A for a different variety. Many agronomists believe that choice of variety is one of the most important decisions a farmer can make to increase yield and profit. Averaging across several locations close to your farm provides a better indication of future variety performance

than any single test site. This is because the rainfall amounts vary from location to location, even within the same county.

Will 2013 be a wetter-than-average year or a drier-than-average year? No one knows the answer to that question. We do know that 2011 was a wetter than average year and that 2012 has been a drier than average year. If we knew that 2013 was going to be another dry year, like 2012, then it would make sense to use only the 2012 variety trial data to pick the best soybean varieties for your various field conditions.

I am a proponent of choosing different varieties for different soil types and pest problems. For example, if you have high-pH fields that have shown iron-deficiency chlorosis (IDC), then you can look at our visual IDC ratings. This data provides a comparison of approximately 300 private company varieties in side-by-side comparison on fields where IDC was present in 2012. This allows you to compare the products of different companies because we use the same rating scale to make these comparisons and test all

Continued on next page



THERE ARE GENETIC DIFFERENCES AMONG SOYBEAN VARIETIES FOR TOLERANCE TO IRON-DEFICIENCY CHLOROSIS. VISUAL RATINGS ARE USED TO MEASURE WHICH VARIETIES ARE THE MOST TOLERANT.



THE VARIETY TO THE LEFT IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO IRON-DEFICIENCY CHLOROSIS, WHILE THE VARIETY TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE PICTURE IS SHOWING GOOD TOLERANCE. THESE ARE 4-ROW PLOTS THAT WILL BE EVALUATED FOR YIELD.



of the varieties under the same conditions. Some company varieties show only mild yellowing due to IDC, while other varieties that are only 30 inches away in the field are actually killed by the IDC. Often a soybean variety will turn yellow early in the growing season and later it will green-up. However, if a variety turned bright yellow in June, the yield damage is already there and depending on the extent of the yellow color, you might have lost as much as 80% of the yield in those parts of that field. This data will be published online (<http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/varietytrials/soybean>) and in the 2012 North Dakota Soybean Performance Bulletin

(A-843). The varieties that show little yellow color on IDC susceptible soils will yield the best on those soils. The visual ratings of the amount of yellow color are provided for all varieties that were entered in the NDSU variety tests. We will also provide yield data on how 40 private-company, Roundup Ready varieties performed on sites where IDC was present. It has been proven many times that selection of a variety that is tolerant to IDC is the best strategy to increase yield on these problem areas of your fields.

If you have a heavy soil with a neutral pH, such as a Fargo Clay, then you can use the data from our Saturated Soil test that is

conducted in Fargo, ND to choose a variety. Each year we irrigate to simulate the conditions of a wet year on a Fargo Clay soil. This is not a test of IDC tolerance, as IDC is not present on a neutral-pH soil. This is much more of an evaluation of phytophthora root rot resistance, which is the yield-limiting problem on this type of soil. Varieties with good IDC tolerance are not necessarily the best choice for a Fargo Clay soil. We test 40 Roundup Ready, private-company varieties with six replications of each variety under excessive irrigation. We also test these same 40 varieties without irrigation. If 2013 does turn out to be a wetter than

average year, this data can be used to choose a variety that can recover from stunting caused by phytophthora root rot and excessive soil moisture. By looking at the column that averages the wet and dry treatments, you can choose a variety that does well in both wet and dry years. This data will be published online (www.ag.ndsu.edu/varietytrials/soybean) and in the 2012 North Dakota Soybean Performance Bulletin (A-843). In 2011, the variety with the lowest yield on the water-saturated soil test at Fargo yielded 18.8 bu/A, while the variety with the highest yield resulted in a 36.2 bu/A performance. A scientific study that we conducted



THE VARIETY ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PICTURE HAS GOOD GENETIC RESISTANCE TO SOYBEAN CYST NEMATODE (SCN), WHILE THE VARIETY TO THE RIGHT HAS POOR RESISTANCE TO SCN. THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN ON A SITE THAT IS INFESTED WITH SCN AND YIELD OF 40 DIFFERENT ROUNDUP READY VARIETIES WILL BE REPORTED.



THE VARIETY TO THE LEFT SHOWS GOOD TOLERANCE TO WATER-SATURATED, NEUTRAL-PH, FARGO-CLAY SOIL, WHILE THE VARIETY TO THE RIGHT IS MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO THESE CONDITIONS. THESE DIFFERENCES ARE NOT DUE TO IRON-DEFICIENCY CHLOROSIS, BUT ARE LIKELY DUE TO DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GENETIC RESISTANCE TO PHYTOPHTHORA ROOT ROT.



showed that these differences are primarily due to tolerance or resistance to phytophthora root rot. In years of excessive precipitation, those varieties that perform poorly on these neutral-pH soils are varieties that lack major genes for resistance to phytophthora root rot or lack good tolerance to the disease.

If you have a field that is infested with Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) then we have yield data that was measured on

SCN infested sites to help you choose a variety for that situation. This year the yield data will be measured on 40 Roundup Ready, private-company varieties on SCN infested sites near the Dwight, ND exit; near Wyndmere, ND; east of Wolverton, MN; and near Arthur, ND. Varieties that companies list as SCN-resistant can vary from only slightly resistant to highly resistant, so it is important to have this data to compare many different varieties in side-

by-side tests. In 2010, the most recent year that we had a successful SCN test plot, yield on SCN-infested soil varied from a low of 20.3 bu/A for one company variety to a high of 35.3 bu/A for a different variety. This data was the average of three different locations in side-by-side comparisons. The 2012 data will be published online and in the 2012 North Dakota Soybean Performance Bulletin (A-843). As the number of acres that are infested

with SCN increases, this type of data will become increasingly important for variety selection.

Funding for these variety trials is provided in part by grants from the North Dakota Soybean Council. Yield and agronomic data for non-GMO and Liberty Link soybean varieties is also provided. Data is provided for all soybean growing regions of North Dakota, including the Carrington, LaMoure, Oakes, Dazey, Langdon, and Minot areas.

Carrington Plant Pathologist Researches White Mold

The dry 2012 growing season resulted in low incidence of white mold, but research continued at North Dakota State University's Carrington Research Extension Center. NDSU Extension plant pathologist Dr. Michael Wunsch is studying the efficacy and optimal application method of Contans, a biological control product for sclerotinia in soybeans, as well as fungicide efficacy on soybeans. The goal is to develop independent data on the efficacy of all the registered

fungicides for control of sclerotinia on soybeans. Wunsch is also looking at the use of partially resistant soybean varieties to manage the disease, relative to fungicides.

"We're looking to see which of these strategies is better and whether we might be able to obtain a nice synergy by using both together," says Wunsch. "Many companies advertise the sclerotinia susceptibility of their lines and there are sharp differences and so we hope to assess

the relative usefulness of partial host resistance as compared to fungicides."

2012 is the first year of what Wunsch hopes will

be a four-year study of Contans. The fungicide efficacy studies have been ongoing since 2010 and this will probably be

the last year of screening all the registered products. This is the second year of the study of partial host resistance versus fungicides; however, due to a hail storm last year, very little white mold was established.



DR. MICHAEL WUNSCH, NDSU EXTENSION PLANT PATHOLOGIST, IS EVALUATING OPTIONS TO CONTROL WHITE MOLD.



North Dakota Directors Assess Black Sea Markets

North Dakota Soybean Council Chairman Monte Peterson of Valley City, ND and Vice Chair Scott Gauslow of Colfax, ND represented U.S. soybean farmers on a trade mission to the countries of Moldova and Turkey July 15-July 22, 2012. The purpose of the trade mission was to assess the local farms, processors, port

infrastructure and the possibilities of more effective market penetration of U.S. soybean commodity and feed products. The program was part of the USDA's Emerging Market Program (EMP) that utilizes U.S. producers and industry to jump start trade in agriculture with other countries just entering the international

trade arena with the US. The US trade team also engaged in prospecting for new customers; becoming oriented to the differences in business style; and familiarizing themselves with issues and opportunities between U.S. soy exporters and Moldovan and Turkish importers and livestock producers.

In Turkey, Peterson and

Gauslow learned that imports of soybeans and soy meal will double over the next ten years in that country. At the moment, 60% of Turkey's soybean imports come from the U.S. With current U.S. soybean production issues, both men felt the trip was very worthwhile to maintain solid U.S. soybean relations in

A Season for SCN

By Berlin Nelson Jr., Professor and Sam Markell, Extension Plant Pathologist, Dept. of Plant Pathology, NDSU

Warm weather and drought conditions favor soybean cyst nematode (SCN) activity and damage to soybean. This season has had plenty of those conditions and we expect that SCN infested fields planted to suscep-

tible cultivars will likely show more damage and certainly greater reproduction of the nematode. Above ground symptoms of SCN are always enhanced during drought conditions. The most common symptoms are

yellowing and stunting of plants that occur in patches. If you carefully examine the roots the white females can be seen with their head still in the root.

If you believe you might have fields that are infested, but you have never

sampled for egg counts, this fall would be a good time to do that. We know from research that SCN can reproduce to very high levels during a favorable year here in North Dakota. In some fields we have seen a seven-fold



FIGURE 1. SYMPTOMS OF SCN IN AN INFESTED FIELD IN 2012 (PHOTOS BY S. MARKELL)



FIGURE 2. SCN FEMALES ON SOYBEAN ROOTS



that region of the world. "The Council continues to invest in programs designed to help North Dakota diversify its export market for soybeans and soybean meal in the Black Sea region," says Scott Gauslow. "We are hopeful that U.S. soybean meal and soybeans will be available to Eastern European and Middle Eastern countries on a regular basis and will continue our efforts to build relationships with buyers in this region," he adds.



U.S. TRADE TEAM MEMBERS PROVIDE INFORMATION TO POTENTIAL BLACK SEA CUSTOMERS ON THE BENEFITS OF U.S. SOY.

increase in egg numbers by the fall compared to the spring egg counts. There is no specific threshold egg count that we can definitively say will damage a susceptible soybean. Environmental conditions and soil type play an important role in determining how much damage SCN will cause. A general rule of thumb is that less than 500 eggs/100 cubic centimeters of soil in most years will probably have little effect on yield of a susceptible cultivar.

So if you had a field with low egg numbers in the spring and it was planted to a susceptible cultivar, it is possible that there might not be much damage to the crop due to the low egg numbers, but at the end of the season

those egg numbers in the soil might have increased dramatically because females were produced on those roots. The only way you will know those egg counts is to sample your fields and have the soil analyzed for SCN egg numbers.

Remember that susceptible cultivars can lose yield even though they may not show any obvious above ground symptoms of disease. Also, keep in mind that you do not want to drive egg counts too high, even though you are growing resistant soybeans. And resistant cultivars can differ in just how good that resistance is. The strategy for managing SCN is to keep the egg counts low, use crop rotation, grow SCN-

resistant varieties, and sample the soil when you need to know the status of those egg counts. Another reason to keep egg numbers low is that SCN interacts with soil-borne fungal root pathogens and together they can increase damage to the plant.

An important question we get from growers concerns the development of new races of SCN now that resistant cultivars are commonly being grown. Our sampling of fields has shown that the strain of SCN common in North Dakota fields is predominantly HG type 0, or what was previously called race 3. However, we also know that different genetic types are starting to appear in infested fields, but as yet they are not

the dominant types. We expect that will change over time and other HG types will appear and reproduce on the resistant cultivars. That is what has happened in other soybean production areas such as Iowa and Illinois. The only way that growers will know that other strains are showing up in their fields is if they begin to see damage from SCN on resistant cultivars or they detect increases in egg numbers in the soil when growing resistant cultivars. In our soybean disease research program at NDSU, which is supported by the North Dakota Soybean Council, we monitor the population of SCN and try to determine if genetic types other than HG 0 are appearing.



North Dakota State Bison Football Prepares for 2012 on a New AstroTurf Field, Backed with Soy-Based Polymers

In September, the North Dakota State University Bison football team will begin a new season and another national championship run on an all new AstroTurf infilled Magic Carpet II field at the Fargodome.

In 2011, with a strong team, the Bison were 14-1 in their return to national prominence. Their last national championship came at the Division II level in 1990. The Bison put up a record of 14-1 on their way to defeating Sam Houston State University in the championship game in Frisco, Texas.

Officials at North Dakota State hope to capitalize on the momentum by installing a state-of-the-art, fully removable Magic

Carpet II system, including AstroTurf's Game-Day Grass 3D60 infilled turf. The Magic Carpet II system uses a series of air jets in the floor on which the entire AstroTurf field "floats" as it is unrolled from or rolled up onto a huge steel core that lowers into a covered pit. Because the process is fully automatic and takes less than an hour for complete conversion, it helps facilities increase revenue and decrease labor costs by allowing more events. It also keeps field performance and aesthetics at the highest level for years as the field is fully protected rolled up in the pit.

The AstroTurf surface is backed with soy-based polymers, which are

polyurethane polymers manufactured with a portion of the polyol derived from the soybean plant, a renewable resource. Universal Textile Technologies (UTT), which produces the AstroTurf backing, uses soybean oil. It is extracted from soybeans, stabilized by removing gums and waxes, and converted into a polymer. This polymer becomes an integral part of synthetic turf and carpet backing and helps lock the turf and carpet fibers into place.

Craig Bohl, the head football coach of the Bison, said the improvements will give them one of the "top, premium game day facilities in the country." Of the

AstroTurf, he said, "It's truly a great surface."

"This is the beginning piece of what is becoming the largest and best collection of indoor event facilities between Minneapolis and Seattle," said NDSU President Dean Bresciani at the press conference announcing the facility upgrades.

Fargodome officials estimated that more than 125 events take place on the current playing surface, including half a dozen NDSU home football games, over 40 practices, over 20 high school football games, nearly 35 youth football games, as well as winter practices for baseball and softball teams from NDSU and area high schools.



Food Reps Impressed by U.S. Soy Sustainability Practices

SOY CHECKOFF CONVEYS U.S. SOYBEAN FARMERS' COMMITMENT TO STEWARDSHIP

Most U.S. soybean farmers know they employ sustainable farming methods, such as conservation tillage, cover crops and tactics that help minimize nutrient runoff. And now a group of representatives from Unilever Company know it too, after visiting the Vanessa and Paul Kummer farm at Colfax, ND.

On June 4th, the Kummers spent the day showing the Unilever guests a large array of farm management practices used today. Unilever representatives learned about strip tilling, how technology can improve efficiency, methods to remove nutrients from runoff water and more. Other United Soybean Board members were also on hand that day at the Kummer's farm to help answer questions and lend expertise, including Jared Hagert, United Soybean Board member from Emerado, ND and treasurer of the North Dakota Soybean Council.

"Many people don't realize how high of a priority U.S. farmers place



UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD MEMBER JARED HAGERT ANSWERS QUESTIONS REGARDING FARM EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY FOR UNILEVER GUESTS JUNE 4TH.

on being good stewards of our resources," said Vanessa Kummer, Colfax, ND soybean farmer and United Soybean Board Chair. "I think it's important to show people how common these practices are among farmers and how we're always looking to improve even more."

Over the summer, the United Soybean Board (USB) and soy checkoff's

Sustainability Initiative organized an educational series of U.S. farm tours through three states that showed five food industry employees firsthand what U.S. soybean farmers do to keep improving their farm's sustainability performance. Along with Unilever reps visiting the Kummer farm in Colfax, ND, the companies represented included Kellogg's,

Kraft and Sodexo, which together use a total of about 3.5 billion pounds of soybean oil annually.

"As a food company, we're dependent upon the sustainability of farmers and want to promote their efforts," says Sherilyn Brodersen, Kraft Foods' sustainable agriculture lead for the Americas. "There are so many progressive measures farmers have taken, and I'll take that information back to my company, share those stories and help increase consumers' awareness."

The food industry remains by far the biggest user of U.S. soy oil, consuming more than 80 percent of it every year. And the importance the food industry and consumers place on using sustainably-sourced ingredients continues to grow.

Unilever is a multi-national company that owns over 400 brands spanning 14 categories of home, personal care and food products. Unilever is committed to supporting sustainability and minimizing their impact on the environment.

STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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HIRE KNOWING. VOTE WITH CONFIDENCE.

Core State Issues we are working and tracking include:

- Agricultural Research and Extension (SBARE) priorities
- Rural Road and Water Infrastructure
- Rural Property Tax Relief and Reform

SBARE FUNDING PRIORITIES have been assessed and established for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Capital Projects. SBARE Ag Research and Extension priorities usually go directly to the Legislature and Capital projects to the Board of Higher Education. Currently, the Board of Higher Ed has chosen to inject themselves into the legislative-direct process with SBARE's Research and Extension priorities. Their action is NOT ACCEPTABLE and hopefully will be untangled soon.

RURAL ROAD AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE issues remain at the core of our work in Bismarck. The Governor has announced an important statewide Infrastructure Plan. It promises special assistance to ND's Townships and Counties. Plan funding is possible due to our State's strong economic performance across all economic segments, ag to oil and beyond. Our most western neighbors are needing housing and roads; water and sewer; law enforcement and daycare; schools. . . and everything else that makes up our daily living work. Not to worry, our Ag community will not be left out.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF AND REFORM is looking to be more challenging. This is a very important issue for you to raise with incumbents and candidates in every corner of ND. The interim Tax Committee is fielding proposals impacting our ag community. Proposals include one to remove the farm home exemption and provide a general residential home exemption, one to establish a "market based floor" on ag land and more.

Property tax relief offered grows the current Mill-Rate-Buy-Down from 75 mills to 185 mills, adding \$200 million in property tax relief. We are looking for an alternative that provides more. Why not simply reduce property tax rates in all tax categories . . . like when income taxes are reduced?

BE HEARD! VOTE! HIRE WITH CONFIDENCE!

We take a moment to thank Senator Curt Olafson for his great service to ND and our Agriculture Community. He will not be returning next session and his keen judgment and able leadership will be missed.

Scott Rising

ND Soybean Growers Association Legislative Director



SOYBEAN CYST
NEMATODES LIKE
DRY GROWING
CONDITIONS,
SAID DR. SAM
MARKELL, PLANT
PATHOLOGIST, NDSU.

Spider Mites Another Concern

While this summer got too hot for soybean aphids, the weather brought spider mite woes to much of the Midwest. Wet and humid weather promotes growth of pathogens that attack spider mites, so in wet years mites are unlikely to reach high numbers. Spider mites are not insects; they are arachnids and belong to a large family of mites (Tetranychidae) that earned their common name because many of them produce webbing when their populations are high.

Jan Knodel, NDSU Extension entomologist, got a number of calls about spider mites in eastern North Dakota, especially in drought-stressed areas. Spider mites move in from field edges and can cause problems but Knodel advises growers to scout

their entire soybean fields and take an average count.

Spider mite treatment guidelines for soybeans are based more on observable plant damage than on counts, as the mites are hard to see. Spider mite damage usually starts in the lower canopy and progresses to the middle and upper canopy as populations build. A good rule of thumb is to treat when stippling damage (small spots) reaches the middle canopy.

Spider mites feed on plants by piercing the plant tissue and sucking up contents of plant cells. If their numbers are high, spider mites cause leaves to turn yellow and drop from the plants. Spider mites can go through many generations each

Continued on next page



LEFT: SPIDER MITES FEED ON THE UNDERSIDES OF LEAVES AND CAUSE A STIPPLING DAMAGE VISIBLE ON THE UPPER SIDES OF LEAVES. **RIGHT:** LARGE INFESTATIONS OF SPIDER MITES CAUSE THE LEAVES TO TURN BROWN AND DROP FROM THE PLANTS. (PHOTOS: GALEN DIVELY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND)



Some Like It Hot

While this dry growing season has reduced the risk of most soybean diseases, soybean cyst nematodes seem to be a lot worse in dry years. North Dakota State University Extension plant pathologist Dr. Sam Markell says it's a living worm and when you have flooded fields, it doesn't like it. "It likes it relatively dry, and then the plants are already stressed because they don't have as much water and if they've got a parasite living on the roots, it just makes it that much worse. So, I think soybean cyst nematode is definitely something to watch out for this year."

Soybean cyst nematodes have been identified in 12 counties in North Dakota, as far north as Pembina Coun-

ty, bordering Canada. Markell thinks it's not a question of if North Dakota soybean growers will get SCN, it's when. "Soybean cyst is a silent killer," says Markell, "and the reason we say that is you're talking maybe a 15 to 30 percent yield hit before you see any above ground symptoms."

According to Markell, SCN is a manageable disease, if you get on it right away. He recommends growers seriously think about soil sampling for soybean cyst nematodes. "You can send it to a lab like Agvise or NDSU, but it's a different sample than a fertility sample—it's a biological sample. You want to try to pierce the roots, get those cysts and get them into a lab right away."

season, and in hot and dry conditions they can take as little as 10 days to complete development.

Using a 10X hand lens is usually necessary to see the mites. An easier way to find them is to tap leaves above a white sheet of paper and you'll see tiny black dots crawling around on the paper.

Many pyrethroid insecticides can flare up spider mites further by repelling but not killing the mites, and eliminating their natural predators.

Knodel recommends using insecticides with the active ingredient byfen-thrin, or organophos-phates with AI's chlorpy-



JAN KNODEL, NDSU EXTENSION ENTOMOLOGIST, FIELDLED NUMEROUS CALLS ABOUT SPIDER MITES IN THE 2012 GROWING SEASON.

rifos or dimethoate. Hot weather will decrease the residual control of the insecticide, so Knodel recommends using the higher labeled rate.

While insecticides provide good control, Knodel

points out they do not control the egg stage of the mite so growers should re-scout after the eggs hatch. "Soybeans are susceptible to spider mite damage all the way to harvest, depending on the weather,"

says Knodel, "so keep monitoring fields." Sometimes a second treatment may be necessary, and if so, Knodel says growers should rotate with a different mode of action and be aware of the pre-harvest intervals of the various insecticides. Some of them, like Lorsban, have a 28-day pre-harvest interval.

There are several key predators of spider mites that keep their populations in check such as predatory mites, spider mite destroyers and predatory thrips.

Knodel says North Dakota has not seen an outbreak of spider mites like this since 1988.

HIGHWAY BILL BECOMES LAW

House and Senate conferees agreed to a final conference report on the Surface Transportation Reauthorization bill which will extend highway programs at current funding levels for 28 months, through September 2014. The surface transportation reauthorization conference report was combined into a package with the National Flood Insurance Program reauthorization and legislation on student loans.

The transportation reauthorization agreement includes provisions that the American Soybean Association (ASA) strongly supported, including the exemption of farm trucks from hours-of-service rules as well as other regulations regarding drug testing and requirements for commercial licenses. The exemption applies to all farm vehicles under 26,000 pounds that are hauling commodities, livestock and equipment and are operated by a farmer, rancher or their employee. Heavier trucks would also be exempt if they are within 150 miles of the farm or ranch.

Another provision that was strongly supported by ASA, The Realize America's Maritime Promise (RAMP) Act, was included, but was amended to be a "Sense of Congress" with no enforcement mechanism in the conference agreement.

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North Dakota Hosts First REAP Tour

Participants from southern states attended the 2012 Regional Exchange and Awareness Program (REAP), hosted by the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association July 23-26. The American Soybean Association (ASA) and the United Soybean Board (USB) partnered to sponsor this program, along with support and sponsorship from Bayer CropScience.

The REAP tour is a unique and educational opportunity for ASA members to learn about the regional differences and similarities in agriculture, share ideas between growers and industry, and help soybean producers build strong relationships that will benefit them down the road. This was the first time North Dakota hosted the REAP tour.

Ed Erickson, Jr., from Milnor, North Dakota's representative on the ASA board, first became interested in hosting the tour when he participated in his first REAP tour five years ago. "On my first tour, I went to Kentucky and got to see tobacco fields. That's what's so nice is you get to see different things that you don't see everywhere else." Erickson, whose second REAP experience took him to the mid-Atlantic, says it comes down

to the people that you meet.

Participants in this year's program were treated to a wide variety of experiences, including dinner with North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, discussions about the growing oil industry in the region, and a visit to the farm of USB Chair

Vanessa and Paul Kummer in Colfax.

The agenda also included tours of Antelope Valley Station, a coal-based power plant; Great Plains Synfuels Plant, the only commercial-scale coal gasification plant in the U.S. that manufactures natural gas; Freedom Coal Mine; Cavendish Farms' French

fry plant at Jamestown; the Sinner Bros. & Bresnahan family operation; Tharaldson Ethanol; North Dakota State University greenhouse; Northern Crops Institute; and the Northern Great Plains Research Center.

Virginia farmer Bruce Hall was impressed with

Continued on next page

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North Dakota's diversity. "The landscape really surprised me more than anything, and it's just amazing how the crops and land have changed—it's just a great state and I've thoroughly enjoyed myself." Hall, who was on a REAP tour in Indiana last year, says it's a great opportunity to see diverse areas and meet a lot of different people, and see how things are done. "There's a lot of things you can bring back home and just try a little bit of what everybody else is doing and it may help you be more profitable in the long run, and do a better job farming."

North Carolina farmer Michael McPherson was also impressed with the vastness of North Dakota,



A GROUP OF SOUTHERN SOYBEAN FARMERS TOURED MANY SPOTS IN NORTH DAKOTA, INCLUDING THE PAUL AND VANESSA KUMMER FARM NEAR COLFAX.

and the scale of farming that goes on here, as well as how agriculture is received in this state. "I think it's very highly respected and that's something we don't get in North Carolina, in my region especially. There's a lot of development and people just don't understand why I get upset if all of a sudden there's houses on my soybeans. We need to learn to work together."

Tennessee farmer Alex Forsbach thinks it's very important for farmers to interact and exchange ideas, especially given the extremes from the south to the north. Until he came to North Dakota, Forsbach said he never heard a farmer complain about too much moisture, and wishes he had too much moisture.

Blaine Kummer, whose family hosted one of the stops on the tour, had some interesting conversations with the southern farmers about the timing of harvest and the maturities that are grown. "They combine soybeans last, where up in this area we generally combine soybeans first."

Todd Allen, from Arkansas, said all of his state has weeds that are resistant to glyphosate. As Allen says, "it caught Roundup by surprise, and it's a challenge but we're going to make the best of it and we're going to be



able to survive. We're rotating our crops, changing up our chemical structure, going to much more pre-emergence in our applications to prevent pigweeds."

Kentucky farmer Quint Pottinger will tell his neighbors there's a lot more in North Dakota than you realize. "They were No.1 in a lot of commodities that I had no idea that they even produced." Pottinger told North Dakota soybean growers they couldn't have done the REAP Tour any better. "And if they do it again, they need to do it exactly the way they did it this time because I just learned so much."

James Hereford from northern Alabama referred to North Dakota as "Big Sky" country, and was surprised with how much farmland he saw. "I

thought it'd be a lot more grass land, a lot more cattle land. It's more like a lot of the "I" states."

Hereford also learned that soybeans are harvested before corn here. "We get the corn crop out and if we have to postpone, we can harvest soybeans even after the first of the year."

One of Hereford's biggest concerns as a soybean grower is Asian soybean rust. "It's moving in the area and Auburn University is really watching out for it moving from south to north, and we constantly scout our own fields to see if it's getting ready to come in."

Johnny Watts, from South Carolina, didn't see any similarities between soybean production in North Dakota and back home. "They don't have the weed pressure we

have, entirely different insect pressure, a shorter season- we double-crop beans, so it's entirely different." Watts' major weed problem is Palmer amaranth that is resistant to glyphosate. "We're trying to use different modes of action, and a lot of residual herbicides, but all that stuff's dependent on rainfall at the right time to activate it to make the chemical work." Watts is also starting to see some other weeds that are resistant.

Watts says it's very costly to control glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth, but also costly if you don't control it. "They'll take over a field and shade-out your whole bean crop."

Jeff Hamre, Executive Director of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, said the

challenge with hosting the REAP tour was to try to show all of North Dakota's agricultural diversity in only four days. Says Hamre, "we have a lot to do in North Dakota, and we're really proud of it. A lot of us would like to do this tour ourselves just to show what we are. Commissioner Goehring says it best- we have 47 commodities in North Dakota that we grow. We lead the United States in 18 of them."

Hamre was impressed with how the southern farmers got along. "The farmers in the South are much like we are. They like to talk and listen, and they like to show what they're doing and like to see what other people are doing too, so the camaraderie is just a fantastic thing."

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BRAZIL MAY OUT-PRODUCE THE US

Record-high soybean prices, combined with weakness in its currency are expected to result in a significant increase in soybean acreage in Brazil this fall. Private estimates range from a six to 11 percent boost in acreage. Agroconsult analyst Marcos Rubin says, under normal weather conditions, Brazilian farmers are expected to harvest a record 83.1 million tonnes of soybeans next season, which would be up 25 percent from the 66.4 million tonnes harvested in 2012. Local farmers are expected to plant a record 27.9 million hectares in the coming 2012/13 season with sowing to start September, up from 25 million hectares this past crop. Rubin told Reuters that Agroconsult was working with conservative yield estimates of nearly 49.6 60-kg bags per hectare to calculate the next crop's output. If yields repeat the record levels of the 2010/11 crop, "we could be talking about output of 86.9 million tonnes."

Private consultant Safras and Mercado expects an 8.4 percent increase in soybean acreage in Brazil, and production of 82.3 million tons, up 24 percent from this year.

COMMENT PERIOD OPEN ON DICAMBA-TOLERANT SOYBEANS

The public comment period for Dicamba-Tolerant Soybeans will continue until September 11th, 2012. The USDA is now accepting public comments on Monsanto's petition and these responses will help determine if farmers will have the choice to use this new, sustainable technology that meets an important need in weed control options for US soybean production. Once commercialized, dicamba tolerance will be combined with Roundup Ready 2 Yield to be part of the Roundup Ready Xtend Crop System. This technology is designed to provide greater flexibility, simplicity and crop safety in controlling tough weeds and preserving yield. It is important for USDA to hear from farmers that they want this technology and are prepared to steward the technology. Farmers can develop an online comment at www.roundupreadyplus.com/supportdicamba

EPA RESTRICTS LORSBAN; DENIES PETITION TO CANCEL REGISTRATION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced new restrictions on the use of chlorpyrifos, known as Lorsban, in response to a petition filed by the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pesticide Action Network North America, which asked EPA to revoke all tolerances and cancel all registrations of chlorpyrifos. In a partial response address-

ing the first six of ten petition claims, EPA has found that none of the claims warrants revoking tolerances or canceling registrations for chlorpyrifos at this time.

The American Soybean Association submitted comments on the petition last October, with then-President Alan Kemper writing, "Soybean farmers rely on chlorpyrifos as a safe, effective, and reliable tool for insect control." ASA's comments pointed out that "from 2001-2009, nearly 8,000 individual samples of drinking water were analyzed for chlorpyrifos by USDA's Pesticide Data Program. There was not a single detection of chlorpyrifos or chlorpyrifos-specific breakdown products."

Under the new label requirements, maximum aerial application rates are being significantly reduced from about 6 pounds per acre to about 2 pounds per acre. Other new mitigation measures include buffer zones for ground and aerial applications around sensitive sites such as residential lawns, homes, sidewalks, outdoor recreational areas and all property associated with buildings typically occupied by people. Chlorpyrifos is one of the most widely used crop protection products in the world; farmers across the country use chlorpyrifos to control grasshoppers, spider mites, aphids and other pests.

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2013 YOUNG LEADER PROGRAM

What is the Young Leader Program?

The key objective of the Young Leader Program is to awaken the "Leader" within each participant and provide the tools necessary to represent the ideals of soybean growers domestically and internationally.

Attendees will:

- Expand their knowledge of the Ag Industry.
- Strengthen their skills in order to represent soybean farmers on their respective state Board of Directors and/or National Board of Directors with the American Soybean Association.
- Network with other soybean producers from across the country.

Young Leaders from 26 soybean producing states and Canada are chosen to participate in this program, which is a partnership between the American Soybean Association and Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont Business.



Young Leaders meet with Representative Kristi Noem (R-SD) in Washington, D.C. Noem graduated from the Young Leaders program in 2003.



Young Leader Class of 2012

Who is a Young Leader?

Young Leaders are soybean growers of any age, married or single, who are interested in developing their leadership skills. There is no age limit, however, growers and their spouses must be at least 21 years of age to participate. Spouses are included in all aspects of the program, and the knowledge gained is beneficial in any setting - whether on the farm or off.



What are the Benefits of this Program?

- Young Leaders become valuable, active members of agricultural organizations and volunteer groups at state and local levels.
- Many graduates of the program become officers of their State or National Soybean Association Board of Directors.
- Other graduates become recruiters, key committee members, or membership directors.
- Spouses learn more about the farm operation and industry issues that affect soybean growers.
- Participants learn about their personal leadership style and how to achieve a greater level of success in their business or volunteer organizations.
- Networking and camaraderie developed with other producers from 26 states and Canada helps build friendships that last a lifetime.

Select Young Leaders have the opportunity to take their training further, when they learn to lobby on Capitol Hill at the ASA Legislative Forum, and participate in special meetings and tours at DuPont headquarters in July, 2013.

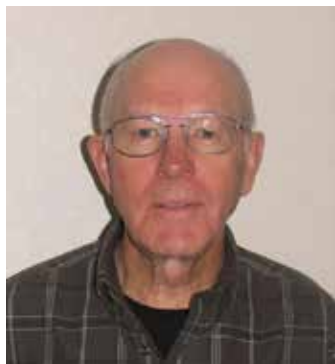


Nathan & Stacy Dorn of Hickman, Nebraska graduating from leadership training with Randy Minton, Director of the Northeast Business Unit for Pioneer, and Steve Wellman (L), ASA President.

DUPONT YOUNG LEADER PROGRAM

APPLY TODAY

DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM AT WWW.SOYGROWERS.COM/DYL



CHARLES LINDERMAN
CARRINGTON, ND

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FARM. We live in town in Carrington. Our farm place is about eight miles out of town. We grow spring wheat. Sometimes, we grow some durum. We've been growing more and more soybeans every year and a

little bit of corn. Most of our soybeans are food-grade for SB & B Foods out of Casselton.

WHY DO YOU LIKE WORKING WITH THE FOOD-GRADE SOYBEANS? I like the challenge of doing the food-grade. You have to keep everything nice and clean, like the combine, bins and trucks. You have to make sure you don't get them contaminated with other varieties or GMO soybeans. These go to Japan and they don't want GMO. Whether that is right or wrong, that's what they want and we get a premium for providing what they want.

WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF FARMING?

There's a lot of reasons I like being a farmer. I guess the single operation I like the most is getting on the combine and harvesting the crop. I also like the idea of being independent and making my own decision, planning my own day and doing what I think I should be doing. I like being outdoors and working in the soil. Last, but not least, being a farmer you get to have a lot of really neat toys to play with.

YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN

COUNCIL. WHY DID YOU SEEK THAT

ROLE? I was on the Council years ago. When I saw redistricting coming up, I thought we should get someone we know on there to represent us. I guess the people I talked to said I should do it, so here I am. I enjoy it. That's another thing I like about farming. If there's some issue or some organization that I think I should be involved in, I can do it. I'm on the local co-op board. I'm the county Farmers Union president and I'm on the Soybean Council. That's part of the satisfaction I get out of farming. I get to help in



SCOTT HENDRICKSON
WALCOTT, ND

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FARM. I'm the fourth generation on the farm. We have a homestead certificate dated 1883, but they were here before that, you can say we've been here a long time. I took over from my dad in 1987. I actually

started farming in '85 on my own and then my dad retired in '85. I grow wheat, corn and soybeans; no sugarbeets. We live south of Fargo in Richland County, right along the Wild Rice River. I went to the North Dakota State School of Science for two years and I went to five winter quarters at NDSU in ag econ.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS PLANTED SOYBEANS? I have. My dad always had around 80 acres of beans, even in the '70s. I've grown beans my whole career. This year, I have 1,300 acres of beans, 700 acres of corn and 300

acres of wheat.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PIECE OF EQUIPMENT? I'd say my White planter has made me more money than anything. That's my favorite piece of equipment. Since I bought that, I haven't had a bad stand since. I've had it since 1996. Once I get something, I keep it. I'm not one that trades a lot. I like to plant crops more than anything.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN? I love to hunt and fish.

IF YOU COULD GO ON A VACATION, WHERE WOULD YOU GO? Our family just came

back recently from Wisconsin Dells. We took the kids down there. I've been married since 2000 and we had children in 2003. We have twin girls, who are nine. My wife and I go to northwest Ontario every September for a week of fishing. That's something we love to do.

YOU'VE SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION. WHY SHOULD PRODUCERS GET INVOLVED IN NDSGA? I wish more people would get involved. I think we're doing a big service for the soybean farmers opening markets

North Dakotans Among 2012 Young Leaders

the discussion of the issues that impact us. I feel more like I'm making things happen, rather than just having things happen to me.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN? Whenever I get time, which isn't very often, I like to travel. We have three kids and some grandkids that live out of state and we travel to see them when we can. I also like to read. In the winter, I get more time to read and I like to read about current events, US history and things like that. I don't have a whole lot of hobbies. I guess farming is my work and my hobby.

and such. Some people just assume it would happen without the checkoff and the grower's organization, but it certainly wouldn't happen as fast as it has. The checkoff and the Growers Association have done a lot to grow our markets. I'm also a supporter of the humanitarian effort, World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH), in feeding hungry people. I would tell soybean growers to join and help us out. We spend a lot of time in Bismarck and Washington on behalf of our growers and it is important that we're there.

Dazey, North Dakota soybean growers Eric and Alicia Broten were among eleven members of the 2012 class of ASA/DuPont Young Leaders who participated in the final phase of leadership development training in mid-July.

The group participated in the ASA Legislative Forum and Capitol Hill visits in Washington, D.C. before traveling to DuPont headquarters in Wilmington, DE to participate in meetings with DuPont executives and tours of the Stine-Haskel Research Center, DuPont Pioneer's Experimental Research Station. They also toured the original DuPont home and learned about the history of the company.

Eric Broten's selection as a 2012 Young Leader automatically earned him a position on the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association Board of Directors, so he was familiar with most of the other board members who were in Washington for the ASA Legislative Forum. Sitting in on that Forum helped Broten familiarize himself with ASA's legislative priorities before making visits to congressional offices on



ERIC BROTEN, DAZEY, NORTH DAKOTA, IS PART OF THE ASA/DUPONT YOUNG LEADERS. APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2013 YOUNG LEADER PROGRAM.

Capitol Hill.

Broten was one of four North Dakota soybean growers who met with North Dakota Congressman Rick Berg. "For me, the first time being in D.C. and get to go into Berg's office, it was really an amazing thing to be part of." Berg personally walked the North Dakota growers to the House Agriculture Committee hearing during the markup of the 2012 farm bill. According to Broten, "to say that we were there while that was going on, and it really opens your eyes to the process. You can go from being on your farm one day to be in D.C. and if nobody does that, it won't get done. I always

assume somebody will do it, but somebody's gotta be the one that actually steps up and does that."

Broten encourages soybean producers to become members of the North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, and to talk to their board members.

"They're farmers themselves, they know just what you're doing, I mean, it's all gotta start from a farmer," says Broten. "If there's something that isn't right, somebody's gotta be the first to say it to start the ball rolling to get something changed."

Members of the 2012 class were chosen for this final phase of training by DuPont Pioneer through an additional application process and their desire to move ahead to higher leadership positions at the state level. Phase one consisted of a visit to Pioneer's headquarters in Johnston, Iowa, and Phase two was attendance at Commodity Classic in Nashville.

Applications are now being accepted to participate in the 2013 Young Leader Program. See page 31 of this issue of the *SoybeanGrower*.

Achieve Maximum Yield Potential

PLAN, PLANT, PROTECT PERFORM

BY JERAD LIEBERG, TERRITORY AGRONOMIST, ASGROW DEKALB

Fall is upon us, and this time of year is a time to reflect on last years' plans and decisions and apply what we learned to the next growing season. It should be every grower's goal to achieve maximum yield potential, and as you make seed buying decisions there are factors that need to be kept top of mind.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIETY

Growers should choose the right maturity group

for their region. Planting early maturity soybeans to facilitate early harvest may be sacrificing yield, while planting later maturity varieties may increase yield potential by lengthening the reproductive growth stage. Additionally, growers should select the best genetics and traits to deliver maximum yield potential for their farming operation. Knowing the characteristics and history of a particular field will aid in identifying the best genetics and traits for each situation.

Decisions on variety selection should be based on the best genetic and trait package available for the desired maturity group, as factors such as standability, IDC, diseases, and nematode tolerance, can all play an important role in achieving maximum yield potential.

OPTIMIZE FERTILITY

Fertility is one of the most overlooked areas of high-yield soybean production. If nutrients are limited, water transport, photosynthesis, and

production of protein, oil, and carbohydrates do not occur at proper rates. This can lead to a decrease in growth and yield production. One bushel of soybeans removes up to 3.8 lbs N, 0.84 lbs P2O5 and 1.3 lbs K2O3. Make sure that your yield goals are appropriate for the amount of nutrients your crop will be using. Soil testing can indicate whether a field or area of a field requires additional fertilizer, and when soil test values are below a critical value, a crop often responds to additional fertilizer. The farther below the critical value the soil test is, the more likely a yield response is.

MAXIMIZE CANOPY DEVELOPMENT

By managing soybeans for early canopy development, the following can occur:

- Canopy photosynthesis increases
- Number of main stem nodes and biomass increases
- Potential for earlier flowering, and therefore longer reproductive period
- Soil moisture is con-

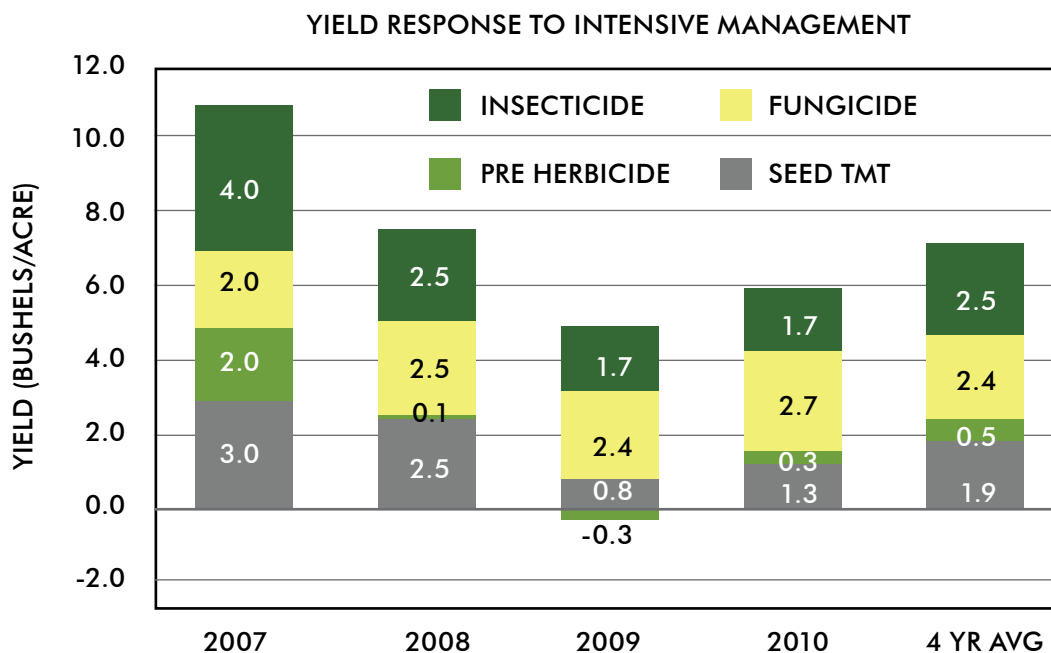


FIGURE 1: Yield contribution of each of the four management components by year. Source: 2007-2010 Monsanto data¹.

served for critical reproductive periods.

Growers can promote earlier canopy and increase light interception in the following ways:

PLANTING EARLY.

Extensive research by Monsanto has shown improved yield responses with earlier planting dates, with highest response in a window of May 6th-May 18th. (2010)

NARROW ROWS.

Studies in 2009 & 2010 revealed that soybeans planted in less than 30" rows may help to increase crop yield potential as results reported numerically higher yields.

APPROPRIATE SEEDING RATE. Soybeans have the ability to adjust and compensate for different plant populations, therefore, seeding rate may not be as critical

as with other crops such as corn. In the past, higher seeding rates were recommended to help offset high weed pressure. However, when planting into cool and wet soils, high residue situations, or if germination is below 90%, use a higher seeding rate.

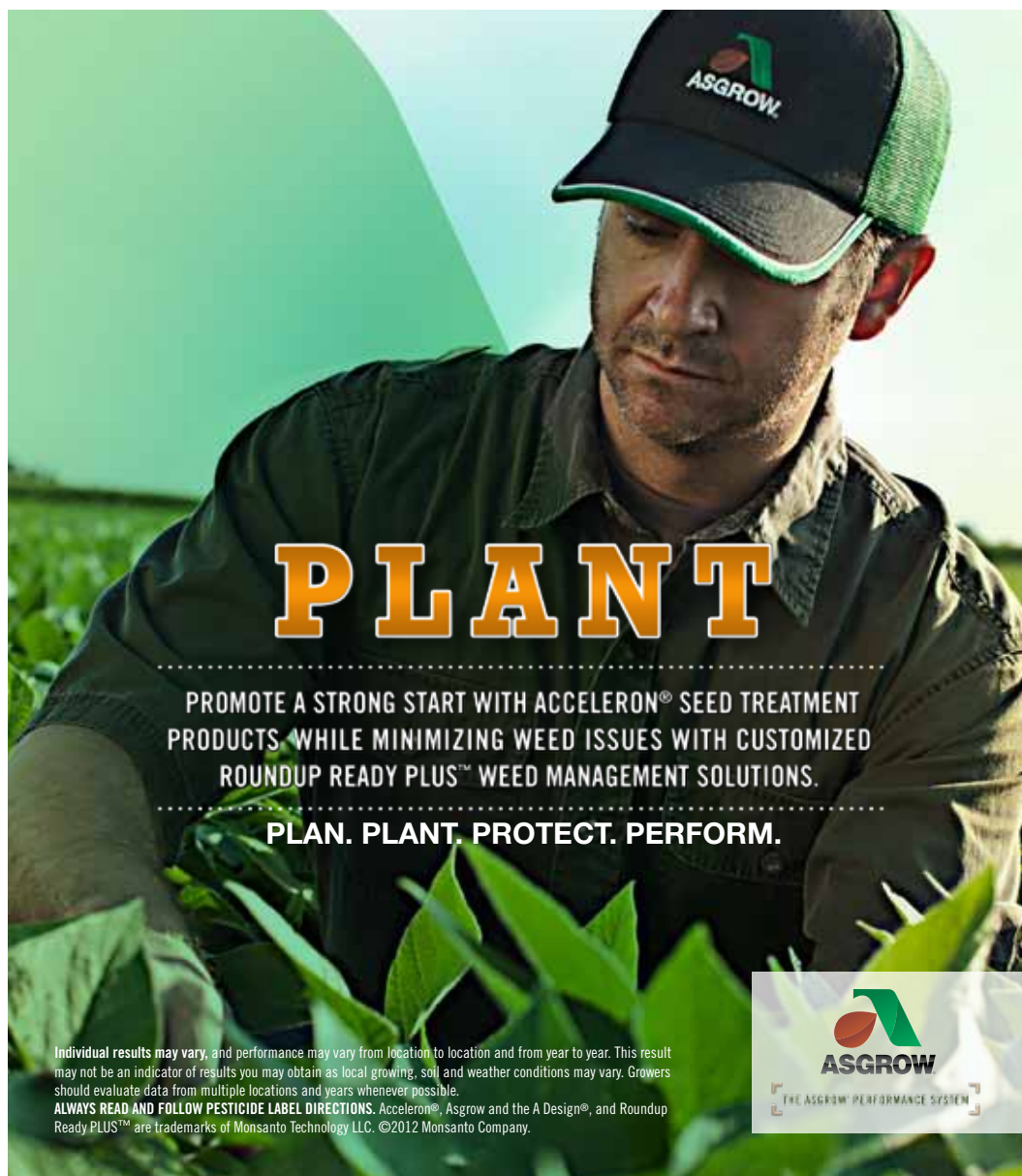
USING ACCELERON® SEED TREATMENT PRODUCTS. A three year summary (2008-

2010) of field data with varying levels of insect and disease pressure indicated soybeans treated with Acceleron® insecticide/fungicide seed treatment products had performance gain wins 73% of the time compared to untreated soybeans. In addition, data from the same trials indicated that Acceleron® seed treatment products improved soybean stand and vigor.

MINIMIZE STRESS

Monsanto has conducted stress mitigation trials for the past four years, giving a total of 66 site-years. The individual and collective responses of insecticide, fungicide, residual herbicide, and seed treatment were examined. Four years of data demonstrated an average yield increase of 7.3 bu/acre when soybeans received intensive management. While yield improvements due to individual management components may vary, there is a consistent positive response to the entire management system.

In summary, selecting the appropriate varieties and applying sound agronomic management practices in order to capitalize on the opportunities available in each growing season are critical in achieving maximum yield potential.



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