

WHAT IS SOYBEAN CHECKOFF?

The federal soybean checkoff requires first purchasers to collect one-half of one percent of the net market value of soybeans sold to support **research, marketing and education**. Half of the funds collected remain in-state, while the other half are administered by the United Soybean Board for projects on a national and international scale. Members of the Delaware Board of Directors are shown below. For more information visit www.desoybeans.org or www.unitedsoybean.org.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

New Castle

Robbie Emerson, Middletown
Bob Uniatowski, Middletown

Kent

Dale Blessing, Vice Chairman,
Harrington
Jonathan Snow, Treasurer,
Smyrna
Brandon Bonk, Dover

Sussex

Cory Atkins, Seaford
Fred West, Frankford
Yolonda Messick, Lincoln
Jay Baxter, Chairman, Georgetown
Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture

FISCAL YEAR 2015

OCTOBER 1, 2014 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

Total FY15 Assessments	\$391,753
50% to United Soybean Board	<u>\$195,398</u>
Delaware Soybean Board	\$196,355
Interest & FY14 Project Funding Carryover	\$337,150
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 8,106</u>
Total Revenues FY15	\$541,611

DISBURSEMENTS

Administration, Collection, Compliance & Board Operating Costs, Elevator Audits	\$ 28,985
Special Projects	\$ 40,465
Communications	\$ 30,903
Promotion	\$ 54,823
In-State Research	<u>\$ 67,166</u>
Total Disbursements FY15	\$222,342
Ongoing Project Funding FY16	\$319,269

REGIONAL CONSORTIUM

Delaware Soybean Board has joined a regional consortium designed to leverage state and national checkoff research dollars to address common issues of concern in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. The new consortium is being incorporated this year with funding from the United Soybean Board. Ellen Davis of West Point, Va., who retired from USDA Rural Development and has a strong background in commodity checkoff work, is the consortium's first executive director.

DOUBLE CROP INITIATIVE

Delaware farmers Dennis Clay and Randy McCloskey joined Cory Whaley, Susanne Zilberfarb and representatives from Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia in January 2015 to discuss a new regional initiative to increase double crop yields. The project is now in its second year, and thanks to USB funding will create a database of double crop research, coordinate on-farm research to discover and validate environmentally responsible practices that increase efficiency and profitability of double crop bean production, and look at practices that lead to earlier small grain harvest without sacrificing small grain yields.

TAKE ACTION

UD Weed Specialist Mark van Gessel updated and customized the region's herbicide "mode of action" chart to make it easier to change up treatments and Take Action against herbicide-resistant weeds. Posters are available at his office, and the national chart may be found at www.takeactiononweeds.com.



YIELD CONTEST

Chris Scuse of Smyrna, John Comegys of Hartley, Kevin Evans of Bridgeville and Kristy Malin of Georgetown were winners in the 2014–2015 annual soybean yield contest. For more information, see the board's website at www.desoybeans.org

SEE FOR YOURSELF

Rick Dickerson of Laurel and nine other soybean farmers from across the United States participated in See for Yourself in August 2015. The program offers farmers the chance to see how your soybeans are used domestically and internationally, speak with the purchasers of U.S. beans and learn more about the checkoff's role in developing and maintaining markets worldwide.

2015-16 RESEARCH

- __Statewide Insect Pest Survey by Bill Cissel and Joanne Whalen
- __Effect of Fertigation on Irrigated Full Season and Double Cropped Soybeans by Cory Whaley, James Adkins and Philip Sylvester
- __Evaluation the Response of Full Season and Double Cropped Soybeans to Various Soil Moisture Levels by Cory Whaley, James Adkins and Philip Sylvester
- __Palmer Amaranth Weed Management for No-Till and Double Cropped Soybeans by Mark VanGessel
- __A Field Evaluation of Soybean Vein Necrosis Virus and its Impact on Soybean Yield and Quality in Delaware by Nate Kleczewski
- __Analyses of Phosphorus Origin in the Chesapeake Bay by Deb Jaisi



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

DSB is a member of several national organizations which leverage our checkoff dollars into projects of national and international scope. Delaware and the Maryland Soybean Board (MSB) have a joint membership in the National Biodiesel Board. Cory Atkins is our NBB director. DSB and MSB also share a seat on the US Farmers & Ranchers Alliance, at the Center for Food Integrity and the Soy Aquaculture Alliance.

ENGAGE TRAINING

A dozen people, including DDA's Dan Shortridge, participated in "Engage" training in Dover in January, designed to help farmers and ag-vocates build interpersonal and social media communications skills.

SOYBEAN LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

Garrett and Chris Blessing and Jonathan Thompson attended the 2016 Soybean Leadership College in Orlando, Fla., Jan. 5-7. For more information about SLC and how to attend, ask a soybean board member.

ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

More than 98 percent of domestic soybean meal is consumed by poultry and livestock, so the soybean checkoff works hard to support this sector. The United Soybean Board's animal agriculture initiative provides grants to states each year, and DSB works with Delmarva Poultry Industry to provide support for programs that educate consumers, install vegetative environmental buffers and more.

FARMLAND MOVIE SCREENING

Bridging the consumer-farm divide is a priority of DSB. In August we hosted a screening of the film "Farmland" for 50 consumers, introduced local soybean farmers and answered questions afterward.