

# Delaware SOYBEAN BOARD

## 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

DELAWARE FARMERS PLANT ABOUT 160,000 ACRES OF SOYBEANS ANNUALLY, PRODUCING OVER SEVEN MILLION BUSHELS OF BEANS AND GENERATING APPROXIMATELY \$60 MILLION IN VALUE TO THE STATE.

The Delaware Soybean Board consists of nine farmer-directors and the Secretary of Agriculture. Funded through a one-half of one percent assessment on the net market value of soybeans at their first point of sale, the checkoff works with partners in the value chain to identify and capture opportunities that increase farmer profit potential.

An independent study by Cornell University in 2019 showed that U.S. soybean farmers received an estimated \$12.34 in added value for every dollar they've invested in the checkoff. "Projects selected for funding by the soy checkoff will create opportunities for Delaware growers to become more prosperous," remarked Delaware Soybean Board Chair Cory Atkins. "Ultimately, through research, market development, and education, we are creating a stronger soybean industry."

### YIELD CONTEST

#### *Delaware Farmers Showcase Ability to Reach High Yields*

Soybean growers in the first state again strived for bin-busting harvests, as shown through the Delaware Soybean Yield Contest. **Roger Swartzentruber of Sussex County** (pictured) took top honors in the contest with 79.70 bushels per acre of full season soybeans in the newly added Dryland category. He achieved this yield using Channel3718 seed planted on April 22, 2020.



Other statewide winners were **Jay Baxter of Sussex County** in the Full Season category, and **Tim Rogers of Sussex County** in the Double Crop category. Baxter grew 78.78 bushels per acre using B4139E seed planted on May 14. Rogers grew 69.28 bushels per acre using P48 seed planted on July 3 following wheat. Each statewide winner received \$1,000 in prize money.

County winners for full season soybeans included **Kristi Malin of Sussex County** with 73.68 bushels per acre, **Fred Stites of Kent County** with 71.80 bushels per acre, and **Robbie Emerson of New Castle County** with 56.38 bushels per acre. Winners at the county level for double crop soybeans were **Mel Wyatt of Kent County** with 67.03 bushels per acre and **Joe Calhoun of Sussex County** with 51.28 bushels per acre. There were no double crop entries from New Castle County. County winners were awarded \$250 each.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, winners were recognized through a virtual soybean school, hosted today by University of Delaware Extension Cooperative Extension. Full contest information and results summary can be found at [desoybeans.org/yield-contest](https://desoybeans.org/yield-contest).

### PRODUCTION RESEARCH

The Delaware Soybean Board funded six projects totaling \$38,847, to address strategic needs of Delaware soybean farmers. 2021 Projects:

#### **Cover Crop Selection and Termination Implications for Slugs**

*David Owens and Joseph Deidesheimer, University of Delaware*

#### **Evaluation of Aggressiveness among Diaporthe Species isolated from Mid-Atlantic Soybeans**

*Alyssa Koehler, University of Delaware*

#### **Evaluating Earlier Planting Dates for Increased Soybean Yields**

*Jarrold Miller, Alyssa Koehler, and Corey Whaley, University of Delaware*

#### **Getting the Most Out of Enlist Soybeans for Weed Control in Delaware**

*Mark VanGessel, University of Delaware*

#### **Exchangeable Cation Uptake by Irrigated and Rainfed Soybeans**

*Jarrold Miller, Amy Shober, and Jake Jones, University of Delaware*


#### **Soybean Yield Response to Planting Populations in Delaware**

*Jarrold Miller, Corey Whaley, James Adkins, and Jake Jones, University of Delaware*

Results of these projects are available at [soybeanresearchinfo.com](https://soybeanresearchinfo.com)

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## Priorities

### ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

As the animal industry is the largest market for local soybeans, the Delaware Soybean Board identifies it as a priority to promote animal agriculture. The checkoff program supported groups such as the Delaware Pork Producers Association to support youth Livestock Shows; and participated with the Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative to identify solutions that support both healthy and productive ecosystems and farming and poultry on Delmarva.

### CONSUMER EDUCATION

Through the Delaware State Fair, social media, and media campaigns, connections were made with consumers to improve trust in food and farming.

### EMERGING MARKETS

Sales for biofuels are increasing due to work of the National Biodiesel Board. The World Initiative for Soy in Human Health has increased exports to Africa, Asia and Latin America. Support for these activities has expanded soybean sales and positively impacts the price of soybeans.

### BOARD MEMBERS

CHAIR Cory Atkins, Seaford

VICE CHAIR Mike Clay, Middletown

TREASURER Fred West, Frankford

*New Castle County*

Robbie Emerson, Middletown

*Kent County*

Kellie Blessing, Harrington

Brett Coverdale, Harrington

Chad Dempsey, Dover

*Sussex County*

Rick Dickerson, Laurel

Tim Rogers, Frankford

EX OFFICIO Secretary of Agriculture

Michael Scuse

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Danielle Bauer Farace

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR

Sandy Davis

DDA REPRESENTATIVE Ese Jessa

USB REPRESENTATIVE Cory Atkins

USB ALTERNATE Robbie Emerson

## EMERGING MARKETS

### *Biodiesel: Sustainability for Environment and Soy Farmers*

When the Delaware Soybean Board met to review their funding proposals for 2021, biodiesel remained a top priority. Biodiesel, a renewable, cleaner-burning diesel replacement, produced from a diverse mix of feedstocks, including soybean oil. According to the United Soybean Board, over the last decade, biodiesel demand for soybean oil increased by 300% with soy oil accounting for about 9 billion pounds of biodiesel feedstock annually.

The impact of biodiesel demand to the price of soybeans was an increase in cash price by 13%, or roughly \$1.10 per bushel. Which is why the Delaware Soybean Board approved \$5,000 towards membership to the National Biodiesel Board again this year. The group works to create sustainable biodiesel and renewable diesel industry growth through education, communication, governmental affairs, technical and quality assurance programs.

In a study conducted by the Agricultural Retailers Association, it was found that proposals to ban internal combustion engine vehicles could decrease soybean consumption by 470 million bushels, resulting in prices falling up to 44%. While we will likely continue to see more electric vehicles on our roadways, it is doubtful that all parts of the transportation sector would be able to make transition in the timeline outlined by these proposals.

Learn more about emission reductions, biodiesel's contribution to a healthier environment, the relationship between food and fuel by visiting the National Biodiesel Board's Sustainability platform:

<https://biodieselsustainability.org/>.

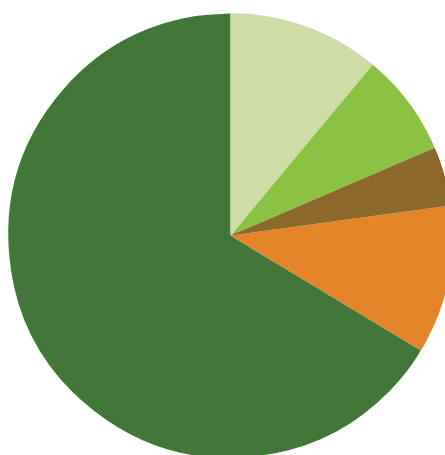
## FY21

### *Checkoff Funds*

During the fiscal year of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, the Delaware Soybean Board collected \$492,843.68 in assessments.

One half of these funds were disbursed to the United Soybean Board. The balance is managed by the Delaware Soybean Board and invested in local research, communication, promotion and special projects. Program implementation expenses cover collection, compliance, elevator audits and Board operations.

An audited report is available upon request.



- PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: \$31,448.77
- RESEARCH & PRODUCTION: \$21,332.00
- MARKET BUILDING & CONSUMER EDUCATION: \$12,242.45
- FARMER ENGAGEMENT: \$30,812.73
- UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD: \$189,087.14