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## **2020 Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest Winners Announced**

*Twin Lane Farm takes top honors for second consecutive year*

**HARRISBURG, PA (December 8, 2020)** – For the second consecutive year, Twin Lane Farm, from Mount Joy, Lancaster County, was the commonwealth's top producer in the Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board. Their winning yield in the 2020 competition was 100.69 bushels per acre. The mean yield of the contest entrants in 2020 was 80.59 bu./acre, down from the 2019 average of 83.18 bu./acre.

Penn State Extension Educators Del Voight and Andrew Frankenfield coordinate the contest.

"Again, this year we topped the 100 bu./acre mark," says Frankenfield. "Looking back at the growing season, the spring planting window was not ideal. Generally cool and damp weather in April pushed more of the plantings into May than normal. Across the state generally the east had adequate rainfall over the summer and above average yields, but central and western parts of the state had significant dry periods that drastically impacted their yield. As we approached harvest in late September and early October, rain prevented early harvest, but the skies cleared and nearly 75 percent of the entries were harvested within the same week of October 5-10."



*Mike and Bob Shearer of Twin Lane Farm in Mt. Joy, Pa. took top honors in the 2020 Pa. Soybean Yield Contest.*

The contest recognized not only the state-wide grand champion, but also the top growers in each of five regions of Pennsylvania, based on maturity maps:

1st Place State Overall & South-Central Region – Twin Lane Farm (Lancaster County)  
100.69 bu./acre

1st Place Central Region – Jim & Ward Chapin (Columbia County) 90.05 bu./acre

1st Place Southeast Region – Brad Kiefer (Northampton County) 94.07 bu./acre

1st Place Northern Region – Justin Jones (Bradford County) 45.15 bu./acre

1st place Western Region – Henry Sniezek (Lawrence County) 68.45 bu./acre

In addition to the statewide title, Twin Lane Farm was the South-Central Region winner, planting Pioneer P32T26E in 15" rows following corn. The crop was planted using minimum-till techniques on May 4, 2020 at a seeding rate of 151,000 ppa. The field was harvested on October 1, 2020. Twin Lane Farm applied Foli-Pop-K fertilizer, Approach Prima as a fungicide, Province II as a foliar insecticide, Credit Extra, Prowl H20, 2,4-D and Cloak 75DF as pre-herbicides, and Credit Extra and Curio 25DF as post-herbicides.

As the top state winner, Twin Lane Farm will receive an educational trip for two to the Commodity Classic, the annual joint convention of the American Soybean Association, National Corn Growers Association, National Association of Wheat Growers, and the National Grain Sorghum Producers. The regional winners will also receive an educational trip to the Commodity Classic.

The contest was introduced by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board in 1992. Since 1993, the Pennsylvania average soybean yield has increased about ½ bushel per year while the winning contest yield is increasing 1.5 bushels per acre per year. A summary of the crop production practices from the 2020 contest entrants will be available from Penn State Extension educators and at [pasoybean.org](http://pasoybean.org).

#### **About the Pennsylvania Soybean Board**

The [Pennsylvania Soybean Board](http://pasoybean.org) is a farmer-controlled Board responsible for managing Pennsylvania's share of funds received from the nationwide Soybean Checkoff program. The funding is available under an assessment program, approved by Congress in 1990, under which soybean farmers contribute 50 cents of every \$100 they receive for their beans at the first point of sale. Funds are used to develop markets, educate consumers, and research new ways to utilize and produce soybeans more efficiently.

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