



# CHECKPOINT

PENNSYLVANIA SOYBEAN BOARD FISCAL YEAR 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



**Our soybean checkoff.**  
*Effective. Efficient. Farmer-Driven.*

# Working for You: The Soybean Checkoff



**The purpose of the soybean checkoff is straightforward:  
to maximize the profit opportunities for all U.S. soybean farmers.**

The Pennsylvania Soybean Board is funded by the national soybean checkoff 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. By law, checkoff funding cannot be used for lobbying or political purposes.

Half of the checkoff funding from soybean growers in Pennsylvania goes to the Pennsylvania Soybean Board, and half goes to the United Soybean Board for national and international programs designed to benefit all U.S. soybean farmers. As stipulated in the federal Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act, the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service has oversight responsibilities for the United Soybean Board and the soy checkoff.

## Directed by famer/leaders

On a national level, the 69 farmer-directors who volunteer their time to serve on the United Soybean Board invest and leverage checkoff funds to meet four key strategic areas that will increase the value of U.S. soy meal and oil, to ensure U.S. soybean farmers and their customers have the freedom and infrastructure to operate, and to meet the needs of U.S. soy's customers.

## Representing Pennsylvania

The seven farmer-leaders who serve on the Pennsylvania Soybean Board are responsible for managing the region's share of funds received from the nationwide Soybean Checkoff program.

The Pennsylvania Soybean Board promotes the growth and development of Pennsylvania's soybean industry. The board membership is composed of soybean producers from across the state. "Each year, we evaluate a variety

of research and other proposals that are presented to the Board by researchers and others," says Pennsylvania Soybean Board Chair and soybean grower Daryl Alger. "We take very seriously our responsibility to invest checkoff funding in projects that will best benefit the state's soybean growers."



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## Pennsylvania Soybean Board 2012 Fiscal Year

*Oct. 1, 2011 through Sept. 30, 2012*

Income	
FY'11-FY'12 Assessments	\$ 1,111,309
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,111,309</b>
Expenses	
50% of FY'11-FY'12 Assessments to United Soybean Board	\$ 555,654.50
Administration, Compliance, Audits	\$ 46,895
Special Projects	\$ 110,000
Communications	\$ 60,429
Promotion	\$ 66,787
Research	\$ 234,050
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,073,815.50</b>
Carryover available for FY'12-FY'13	\$ 37,493.50



# MEET THE BOARD

Seven farmer/leaders serve on the Pennsylvania Soybean Board



**Daryl Alger**  
*Chairman*  
*Lebanon, PA*



**Brian Kreider**  
*Vice-Chairman,*  
*Lebanon, PA*



**Steve Hykes**  
*Secretary/Treasurer,*  
*Greencastle, PA*



**William Beam\***  
*Elverson, PA*



**Michael Gerhart**  
*Ephrata, PA*



**Jim Musser\***  
*Mount Joy, PA*



**John Yocum**  
*Catawissa, PA*



**Del Voight**  
*Penn State Extension*  
*Educator, Ex-Officio*  
*Member*



**Jennifer Reed-Harry**  
*Executive Director*

## Do You Want to Serve on the Pennsylvania Soybean Board?

What does it take to be one of the farmer/leaders of the Pa. Soybean Board? First, you've got to raise soybeans in the state. Next, you've got to have a desire to serve. And finally, you've got to have the passion to volunteer your time and expertise in support of the soybean farmers and the soybean industry.

*If you, or someone you know, is interested in being nominated to serve as a farmer/leader on the Pennsylvania Soybean Board, contact Jennifer Reed-Harry at: **Phone: (717) 651-5922** **Email: [jrharry@pasoybean.org](mailto:jrharry@pasoybean.org)***

*\* Also serves on the United Soybean Board*

## Soybean Value by State 2011

(\$ Million)

Alabama .....110  
Arkansas .....1,491  
Delaware ..... 75

Florida ..... 5  
Georgia ..... 35  
Illinois .....4,955  
Indiana .....2,761  
Iowa .....5,500  
Kansas .....1,154  
Kentucky .....693

Louisiana .....408  
Maryland .....204  
Michigan .....990  
Minnesota .....3,108  
Mississippi .....835  
Missouri .....2,259  
Nebraska .....2,972

New Jersey ..... 37  
New York .....137  
N. Carolina .....469  
N. Dakota .....1,283  
Ohio .....2,566  
Oklahoma ..... 40  
**Pennsylvania .....259**

S. Carolina .....102  
S. Dakota .....1,717  
Tennessee .....480  
Texas ..... 21  
Virginia ..... 247  
W. Virginia ..... 10  
Wisconsin .....861



# 2012 Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest Results

While soybean producers throughout the U.S. struggled with historic drought conditions, 2012 proved to be a very good year for Pennsylvania growers. This year, five Pennsylvania growers topped the 90-bushel an acre mark in the 2012 Pennsylvania Soybean Yield Contest.

Herman Manbeck of Womelsdorf, Berks County, was the state's top producer in the annual competition sponsored by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board, with a yield of 97.06 bushels per acre. Ken Mase of Lebanon placed second with 95.72 bu./acre, followed by fellow Lancaster County soybean growers James Hershey of Elizabethtown (94.93 bu./acre), Charles Farms, Inc. of Lancaster (94.88 bu./acre) and Merle Stoltzfus of Lititz (94.54 bu./acre).

According to contest coordinator and Penn State Senior Extension Agent Del Voight, 22 of the 36 participating growers exceeded 80 bu./acre. The mean yield in 2012 was 80.71 bushels per acre.

## Regional winners

The contest recognized not only the statewide grand champion, but also the top growers in each of four regions of Pennsylvania. The state is divided into four regions based on maturity maps to

make the competition more equitable for all growers: North Tier, Central Tier, West Tier, and Southeast Tier.

In addition to the statewide title, Herman Manbeck was the Southeast Region winner, planting Pioneer 93Y84. Lawrence County producer Rick Telesz won top honors in the West Tier with a 77.18 bu./acre yield. He planted FS Hisoy 34A14. Centre County's Carl Gates won the top yield honors in the Central Tier with 67.93 bu./acre. Gates planted Pioneer 93M11. D. Richard Snyder of Lycoming County was the top entrant in the North Tier with 79.23 bu./acre yield with Pioneer 92Y91.

As the top state winner, Manbeck receives a plaque and a 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, held in 2013 in Kissimmee, Florida.

The Soybean Yield Contest was launched by the Pennsylvania Soybean Board in 1992. A summary of the crop production practices from the 2012 contest entrants is available at [www.pasoybean.org](http://www.pasoybean.org). ✓

## How to enter the 2013 Soybean Yield Contest

**Any bona fide farmer who farms in Pennsylvania and grows five acres or more of soybeans within Pennsylvania's boundaries is eligible.**

**To download an application for the 2013 contest, go to [www.pasoybean.org](http://www.pasoybean.org) or send a request for an application to:**

**PA Soybean Yield Contest  
Attn: Del Voight  
2120 Cornwall Road, Suite 1  
Lebanon, PA 17402**



## 2012 Soybean Yield Contest Top Ten

RANK	GROWER	BU/A	COUNTY	BRAND	CULTIVAR
1	Herman Manbeck	97.06	Berks	Pioneer	93Y84
2	Ken Mase	95.72	Lebanon	Asgrow	3832
3	James E. Hershey	94.93	Lancaster	Asgrow	3931
4	Charles Farms, Inc.	94.88	Lancaster	Pioneer	93M11
5	Merle Stoltzfus	94.54	Lancaster	Hubner	34-11
6	Matt Kehr	89.23	Adams	Mycogen	5n385R2
7	Bob Buser	88.75	York	Pioneer	93Y13
8	Darren Grumbine	88.56	Lebanon	Pioneer	93M11
9	Kristen Grumbine	86.92	Lebanon	Pioneer	93M11
10	John Groft	86.60	Lancaster	Hubner	3412

## 2012 Soybean Yield Contest Regional Winners

REGION	GROWER	BU/A	COUNTY	BRAND	CULTIVAR
Southeast	Herman Manbeck	97.06	Berks	Pioneer	93Y84
Central	Carl Gates	67.93	Centre	Pioneer	93M11
North	D. Richard Snyder	79.23	Lycoming	Pioneer	92Y91
West	Rick Telesz	77.18	Lawrence	FS HiSoy	34A14

## Production Practice Summary

YIELD COMPARISONS	% OF ENTRIES	AVERAGE BU./ACRE
Mean Yield		80.71
No-till	67%	81.64
Min-till	31%	77.92
Drill	25%	82.26
Corn planter	75%	80.20
Planted May 10 or earlier	39%	83.43
Planted May 11 - 20	45%	79.93
Planted May 21 - 30	10%	72.26
Rows 10" or less	14%	82.87
Rows 11" to 20"	69%	81.92
Rows 30"	17%	73.89
No foliar fungicide or insecticide applied	50%	77.12
*Foliar fungicide applied	42%	86.67
**Foliar insecticide applied	39%	84.02
Combination of foliar fungicide & insecticide	36%	88.29

\* *Headline, Priaxor, Quilt, Ratchet and Stratego were products cited as being used.*

\*\**Baythroid, Brigade, Endigo, Sniper, Tombstone and Warrior were products cited as being used.*

## Apply now for 'See for Yourself' program

U.S. soybean farmers can see how their checkoff investment works for them.

**This summer, 10 U.S. soybean farmers from across the country will get the chance to see how the United Soybean Board (USB) puts their soy checkoff investment to use.** To find out who those 10 farmers will be, the national soy checkoff has begun accepting applications for its sixth annual See for Yourself program.

See for Yourself offers farmers the chance to see the checkoff in action and evaluate a wide range of checkoff activities. The 2013 See for Yourself session will take place July 21–27, 2013. The Pennsylvania Soybean Board encourages the state's soybean farmers to visit USB's website to apply. The application deadline is April 1, 2013.

Indiana, Pa. soybean grower Andy Fabin was one of the 10 participants selected for last year's tour. "The experience really opened my eyes to industries in our country and abroad that use our beans to make so many different products," Fabin said. "After the experience I feel confident in saying that the USB has found a great balance of research and promotion that ensures farmers get the biggest bang for their checkoff dollar."

Farmer-participants will have the chance to see the activities of their checkoff up close, and draw their own conclusions at the same time. Participants will first meet in St. Louis, headquarters of USB, to receive an overview of the organization and see how the checkoff works on behalf of soybean farmers domestically. The group will then travel to a location abroad to learn about the demand for U.S. soy internationally and to see some of the many uses for soy. Examples of what participants might see include the use of biodiesel at a major airport, the importance of soy to animal agriculture and the use of soy by the food industry. USB will cover all travel, lodging and meal expenses. ✓



## Apply now!

Go to [www.unitedsoybean.org/see-for-yourself-application](http://www.unitedsoybean.org/see-for-yourself-application) and complete the online form. Application deadline is April 1, 2013.

# CHECKOFF FUNDED

## CROP PRODUCTION RESEARCH



### **Establishing a sentinel plot program for detection of insect pests and diseases in Pennsylvanian soybeans**

*Pennsylvania State University*

This project involves scouting 15 fields weekly for insect and pest populations and 30 fields for stink bug damage. This information will be developed in management recommendations to improve soybean yields for Pennsylvania soybean farmers.

### **Common pokeweed management in field crops**

*Pennsylvania State University*

This project involves evaluating the impact of common pokeweed control practices on corn and soybean production systems and their profitability.

### **Understanding interactions among soybeans, beetle vectors, bean pod mottle virus and beneficial root bacteria**

*Pennsylvania State University*

Soybeans are grown in an environment that is impacted by several insects and diseases. The interaction of these insects, diseases and beneficial soil microbes are important in the final seed yields. This project will specifically determine the effect of the brown leaf beetle and Mexican bean beetle on soybean roots and determining the beneficial role of the nationally occurring rizobia.

### **Developing a slug management program for soybeans based on slug feeding preferences**

*Pennsylvania State University*

With many no-till growers, slugs are the most problematic pest they encounter. This project is directed at conducting basic studies to better understand slug biology, their feeding behavior, natural enemy and slug-plant interactions. The specific objectives of this new research project are to:

- Determine the influence of slug feeding on soybean yield
- Determine feeding preferences for slugs among soybeans, various crop species, and common weed species
- Determine the utility of an interrow for limiting slug damage to soybean
- Identify natural enemies of slugs in Pennsylvania soybean fields

### **Cover crop effectiveness study**

*Delaware Valley College*

Lysimeter studies to measure cover crop effectiveness in capturing nitrogen fixed by soybeans for succeeding year corn crop and help prevent nitrate contamination of ground water on medium textured soils.

The objectives of this project are to:

- Determine if cover crops after soybeans improve nitrogen capture by corn and prevents nitrate loss
- Evaluate if cover crop planting date affects nitrogen capture
- Assess whether shallow or deep-rooted cover crops impact nitrogen capture

### **Determining the profitability of using cover crops in soybean cropping systems**

*Pennsylvania State University*

This research project is designed to investigate various cover crop systems. The project will investigate the economic impact of various cover crop scenarios.

### **Development of an On-Farm product evaluation network**

*Pennsylvania State University*

This continuing project will be conducted on farms throughout Pennsylvania. The specific objectives are:

- Develop a on-farm product testing network for soybean production in the state
- Evaluate foliar fungicide responses under high yield environments and as impacted by disease levels and other field conditions
- Evaluate the effectiveness of molybdenum and growth regulators as seed treatments
- Conduct soybean production meetings in several locations in the state in conjunction with soybean network members and the Pennsylvania Soybean Board



# PROJECTS

## Evaluation of soybean germplasm under Pennsylvania conditions

*Pennsylvania State University*

Varieties differ in their response to environmental conditions, soil resources and pest tolerance. Most of the varieties available to Pennsylvania growers were developed in other regions of the U.S.

The objective of the commercial soybean variety testing program is to provide growers with Pennsylvania performance data. Tests will be conducted at two locations with four replications per cultivar. Data on yield, maturity, plant height, lodging, seed quality, seed size and seed composition will be obtained.

## The effects of manure applications on soybeans

*Pennsylvania State University*

This project will evaluate different manures (dairy and swine) on different crops and soil in south-central Pennsylvania.



## RESEARCH IN SUPPORT OF ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

### Improving swine production and profitability through regional control of PRRS

*University of Pennsylvania*

This research addresses vexing problems in swine production and health with an eye towards keeping Pennsylvania swine farmers competitive and opening doors to sustainability, or expanding the number of pigs in Pennsylvania.

### Insuring long term viability of swine farming with husbandry systems designed to meet the changing demands

*University of Pennsylvania*

This project evaluates the impacts of group housing and how this management practice will increase swine production in Pennsylvania, and thereby increase soybean meal use.



### Investigating the potential of improved soybean meal protein value for lactating dairy cows

*Pennsylvania State University*

Dairy is a major consumer of soybean meal. Dairymen are very interested in lower ration costs while maintaining milk production. Some dairymen are also investigating whether the protein level in dairy rations can be lowered. This study will:

- Evaluate the production and economic benefits of including extruded soybean meal in the diet of high-producing dairy cows fed protein rations
- Evaluate the comparative environmental benefits of feeding extruded soybean meal in the diet of high-producing dairy cows



# CHECKOFF FUNDED EDUCATION



PSB board member Michael Gerhart fields questions at the Today's Ag exhibit.

## TODAY'S AGRICULTURE EXHIBIT

For the second year, the Pennsylvania Soybean Board has been one of the supporters of the Today's Agriculture display at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, where thousands of showgoers had the opportunity to take a close-up look at modern agriculture practices.

"The best way to understand today's livestock and crop production is to visit a farm, view the systems, and ask questions," says Chris Herr, Executive Vice President of Penn Ag Industries Association, who developed the display. "It's not practical to bring every Farm Show visitor to all the different commodity farms in Pennsylvania. Instead, we wanted to bring the farm to the public to foster better understanding of modern farming practices with this unique educational exhibit."

Farm Show visitors saw animals in their typical housing environment, including sows and litter, nursery pigs, market pigs, broiler chickens, turkeys, layer hens, feeder steers, dairy cows and calves and veal calves. The corn and soybean crops needed to feed those animals, along with the sophisticated machinery needed to harvest the crops were displayed. Farmers were also on hand to answer questions during the show. ✓

## SOYBEAN GROWERS' FIELD DAY

A field day for Pennsylvania soybean producers, focusing on current production research, was held in August, 2012 at Penn State's Southeast Ag Research and Extension Center (Landisville Farm) in Manheim, Pa. The free event included field tours, seminars and lunch, provided courtesy of the Pennsylvania Beef Council and the Pennsylvania Soybean Board.

The mission of the field day, Penn State Educator Del Voight says, was to give producers an opportunity to view current studies funded through the soybean checkoff and allow producers to interact with Penn State agronomists, researchers, crop management specialists and other growers.

Growers had the opportunity to participate in a rotation of three plot tours including:

- Herbicide efficacy trials, stink bug and slug research results
- Soybean variety trials, featuring glufosinate resistant, glyphosate resistant and conventional varieties, fungicide efficacy trials, and molybdenum impact on soybeans
- Plot comparison comparing plots with the high-input "kitchen sink" approach versus plots with standard input recommendations

Workshops presented current checkoff funded research devoted to supporting the sustainability of animal agriculture, the #1 consumer of soybean meal, and research focusing on improving soybean yield and profitability through crop management practices. ✓



Farmers examine a soybean field at the Penn State Research and Extension Center.