

**GEORGIA
SOYBEAN
COMMODITY
COMMISSION**



*Farmers
Putting
Soybean
Checkoff
Dollars to
Work for
You*

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Georgia Soybean News

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Chairman's Message

- Greg Mims

As I write this message I hope that everyone is having a productive crop season. In our area we are finishing planting and continuing to irrigate what we have already planted. We have had several afternoon showers, but the rain is still very sporadic. Right now it is very important that these new plants get just the right amount of sunlight, water, and fertilizer to create a crop that will produce a great return at harvest time. If you are like me, it seems that we are always on the move to keep things going on the farm. Even though farming is tiring, it sure is rewarding to see the positive end result in the fall.

I hope that each of you will take some time to spend with your families during the summer while the kids are out of school. While out and about, don't forget to practice safety. As the temperatures rise, it is important to keep your body hydrated and dressed appropriately. So don't forget to wear those hats and put on lots of sun screen to protect your body from harmful rays from the sun.

Thanks again for allowing me the opportunity to serve on the Soybean Commission. It is very important that each of you are aware of where your check off dollars are being spent. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns involving your crops. We always value your opinions.

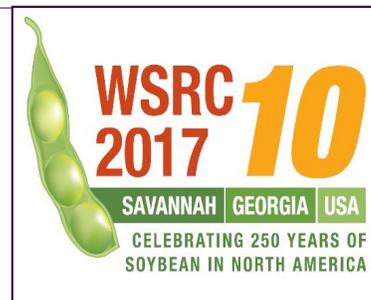


Do you like the great articles and news that you find in Beyond the Bean? Subscribe to Beyond the Bean Extra – the soy checkoff's monthly email newsletter – to find out more about how your investment is being used to bring more value to the soybeans you grow. See more at: <http://unitedsoybean.org/farmer-resources/newsletter/>.

World Soybean Conference Coming to Savannah in 2017

Roger Boerma, former UGA Soybean Breeder & current Executive Director - Georgia Seed Development

The dates of 10-15 September 2017 seem to be rapidly approaching for those of us involved in the planning of World Soybean Research Conference X to be held at the International Trade and Convention Center across the Savannah River from Historic Downtown Savannah, Georgia. The University of Georgia Center for Applied Genetic Technologies is the official conference host and Drs. Scott Jackson, Wayne Parrott, and Zenglu Li are the major conference organizers.



Over 1,000 soybean researchers and stakeholders, including research scientists, industry representatives, consultants, post-doctoral research fellows, graduate students, journalists, farmers, and educators will be in attendance at the conference, which is returning to the United States for the first time in over 20 years.

Attendees will have the opportunity to: i) see the latest research developments in all aspects of soybean research from international experts, ii) hear the latest developments in sales and marketing, production, and uses and innovation of soybeans, iii) explore new techniques and methodologies as well as the latest products in the ever-changing area of soybean research, iv) recruitment opportunities – hundreds of students and postdocs from around the world will attend, and v) meet and network with thousands of colleagues from around the world who represent a variety of disciplines and interests in soybean breeding, biotechnology, animal agriculture, biodiesel, consumer outreach, industrial usage, sustainability and more.

The rationale for holding the WSRC X in Savannah is to celebrate the 250th year since the introduction of soybean into North America. In order to “mark the spot”, so to speak, we have requested approval from the Georgia Historical Society to place a historical marker on Skidaway Island on the site of Henry Yonge’s former Orangedale Plantation. In a previous issue of the Georgia Soybean Commission Newsletter (Volume I, Issue I, Fall 2014), I described the history of how soybeans arrived in North America and specifically their initial planting in 1765 at the Orangedale Plantation on Skidaway Island.

Due to issues of vandalism and other forms of undesirable behavior at the original planned site, we decided to move the location of the historical marker from where I reported in the earlier Newsletter. We have obtained permission from Chatham County officials to locate the marker on Skidaway Island’s McWhorter Road where McWhorter road forks to go to the University of Georgia Skidaway Institute of Oceanography.

The Georgia Historical Society is currently reviewing our formal application for the historical marker. Once we have their approval, we plan to have a marker dedication on the proposed site. Our current plan is to hold a dedication ceremony in late fall of 2015. Please stay tuned for details. I hope to see you at the dedication on Skidaway Island this fall.

Soybeans' growth stage at time of stress can make a big impact on yield

Sometimes, the day a crop is stressed makes all the difference. The effects that fertilization, frost, hail, moisture stress, diseases and pesticide applications have on yield will be determined by the growth stage of the plant at the time these events occur. Proper identification of that growth stage is important.

“Understanding growth and development is key to fine-tuning your crop system,” says agronomist Ken Ferrie. “Knowing the effects of stress based on growth stage of a plant is important in optimizing yield.”

Three factors impact yield: number of pods, number of beans per pod and weight per bean (seed size). Because of these three components, stress on a crop can change yield in different ways at different times.

Growth Stage	Yield Impact
R1-4	Decrease in number of pods
R3-4	Decreased number of seeds per pod (1-, 2- or 3-bean pod)
R4-6	Beans abort in pod
R5.5-6.5	Decrease in size of beans

The largest yield impacts result from changing the number of pods per plant, so if a plant is stressed during the R1-R4 stages, its yield will be affected more than if the plant is stressed during the R5 or R6 stages.

Most environmental stress events, such as heat, frost or hail, are out of a farmer's control. One way to mitigate the weather is to diversify risk by planting beans at different times so they are at different maturities if stress does occur.

Knowledge of growth stages can come in handy when considering the right time to apply fertilizer or pesticides.

“I know many farmers who say they will spray when their soybeans get to a certain height,” Ferrie says.

“But you can't spray off the height of the plant. To optimize yield, you need to look at its reproductive stage.”



(Source: www.unitedsoybean.org)

Relabeling vegetable oil as soybean oil increases sales

One item found in most pantries across the United States has roots in soybean fields — and consumers don't even know it. Soybean oil has been labeled vegetable oil since the 1960s, so many consumers don't equate this kitchen staple with soy. However, the soy checkoff is working to change that by relabeling soybean oil to connect consumers with its health properties and local origins.



Consumer research shows a knowledge gap – 78 percent of consumers think of soybean oil as healthy, but 90 percent are unaware that most bottles labeled “vegetable oil” in the supermarket contain soybean oil.

The soy checkoff partners with regional grocery chains to move the food industry toward labeling those bottles as soybean oil. According to research conducted by the checkoff, marketing the oil as “100 percent soybean oil” helps bridge the knowledge gap, improving positive perceptions and driving soybean oil purchases by as much as 62 percent in the participating stores.

“Both the local food movement and health perceptions are very important to consumers,” says United Soybean Board Domestic Opportunities Target Area Coordinator Lewis Bainbridge, a soybean farmer from Ethan, South Dakota. “By bringing consumers transparency about soybean oil and its merits, we believed we could increase our market share and win over new customers. The potential of these labels is clear; now we need to continue to expand the program.”

(Source: www.unitedsoybean.org)

Soy contributes greatly to animal agriculture in GA

Soybean meal (SBM) plays an important role in animal agriculture in Georgia, which in turn has a significant impact on the state's economy. In Georgia:

- Animal agriculture in 2013 used 1.92 million tons of SBM: 87% in broiler production, 5% for eggs, and 8% in other production;
- At the state level, animal agriculture in Georgia represents \$16 billion in economic output, \$2.9 billion in household income, and 70,200 jobs. In addition, it yielded an estimated \$766 million in income taxes and the last census (2012) reported \$132 million in property taxes; and
- Over the past decade, the expansion of animal agriculture in Georgia has led to increases of \$2.2 billion in economic output, \$396 million in household wages, 9,100 jobs, and \$104 million in tax revenue.

To view the full report, Animal Agriculture Economic Analysis: Georgia, visit <http://tool.animalag.org/stateDocuments/2014/pdfs/Georgia%202014.pdf>. The report was commissioned by United Soybean Board and funded by your Soy Checkoff.

6 steps to avoid fungicide resistance now

Bob Kemeraït, UGA Extension Plant Pathologist



Fungicide resistance makes it more difficult for growers to manage important crop diseases. Although fungicide resistance may be perceived as less urgent than other day-to-day challenges of growing a crop, this issue has become increasingly important and steps must be taken to delay the onset for as long as possible.

The use of fungicides is becoming increasingly common in production of our agronomic crops like corn, soybeans and even cotton. Most of the fungicides used belong to only a few at-risk classes of chemistry. Important fungicides, e.g., azoxystrobin and tebuconazole, are now available as “generic” products. The availability of generic fungicides often leads to a reduction in cost, which can result in overuse of a product. This increases the risk of fungicide resistance. It is becoming increasingly difficult to bring new fungicides to growers, especially fungicides in new classes. Protecting the efficacy of fungicides in the strobilurin, triazole, SDHI and benzimidazole classes has never been more critical.

Implementing management strategies to reduce the risk for development of fungicide resistance is critical for the future of crop protection, but may be less convenient or more expensive than a grower’s current preferred practices. However, overcoming such immediate concerns is a small price to pay when one considers the immense costs associated with resistance.

Six basic strategies to minimize early development of fungicide resistance:

- (1) Always use at-risk fungicides in combination with chemically unrelated fungicides (different modes of action) which are preferably at low risk to resistance. This can be achieved by alternating applications of fungicides & incorporating tank-mixes of unrelated fungicides into a spray program.
- (2) Restrict the number of fungicide applications and/or total amount applied per season, and to apply fungicides only when necessary.
- (3) Maintain manufacturers’ recommended application rates, even if you believe that satisfactory control can be achieved with lower rates.
- (4) Avoid post-infection use. Fungicides are most effective applied before infection has occurred.
- (5) Practice integrated disease management by deploying tactics such as crop rotation and use of disease-resistant varieties to reduce the immediate need of fungicides.
- (6) Maintain chemical diversity in a disease management program. It is tempting not to do this when less-expensive fungicides within a single class are available; however this can have significant consequences for the future.

(Source: www.southeastfarmpress.com)

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Upcoming Agriculture Industry Events

- | | |
|------------|---|
| July 8 | Striping Irrigation Research Park Field Day, Camilla
For more information, call 229-522-3623. |
| July 9 | Sunbelt Ag Expo Field Day, Moultrie
www.sunbeltexpo.com |
| July 12-14 | Georgia / Alabama Seed Association Annual Meeting |
| July 23-25 | Southern Peanut Growers Conference
www.southernpeanutfarmers.org/spgc.asp |
| July 23-25 | GA Cattlemen's Association Summer Conference
St. Simon's Island; http://tinyurl.com/gcasumconf |
| August 12 | SE GA Research & Education Center Field Day, Midville
For more information call 478-589-7472. |

