

**GEORGIA
SOYBEAN
COMMODITY
COMMISSION**



***Farmers
Putting
Soybean
Checkoff
Dollars to
Work for
You***

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**2017 SOYBEAN
EXPO INFO INSIDE!
DON'T MISS IT!**



Georgia Soybean News

WINTER 2016

Mark Freeman joins UGA soybean team



Allow me to introduce myself as the new East Georgia Extension Agronomist based out of Statesboro and Midville, Georgia. I am excited about my new position and looking forward to working with county agents to meet the needs of the soybean growers of East Georgia.

Formerly, I served as the county agent for Pulaski County, where I worked with a number of outstanding soybean growers. These growers were able to push the envelope on both high yielding and high efficiency soybean practices. Soybeans have been, and always will be, a significant commodity for Georgia agriculture and I hope that my efforts can positively affect Georgia growers.

Agents and Soybean growers from East Georgia are interested in ways to maximize production and profits. There has been a lot of interest in recent years on early planted, full season, maturity group IV and V soybeans and maximizing yields through fertility, irrigation, and other cultural practices. In 2016, my counterparts and I in the Crop and Soils Department will continue research conducted in these areas by studying planting date, row spacing, and irrigation scheduling.

Another research area of interest will focus on the “ultra-late” production system. Many growers in Georgia have successfully grown soybeans following silage production and grain harvested corn in late July and early August. This system works well for growers who want to maximize profits on their land by growing two crops in a single year. Research has shown that planting date has the greatest impact on yields in this system, but there are other factors that affect yields. Factors such as plant heights can play a major role in the success of the ultra-late crop’s ability to be harvested by the combine. Several projects will evaluate fertility and foliar plant growth regulators on their abilities to improve harvestability and overall yield.

I am excited to be a part of the Georgia soybean team and hope to see many of you at the Soybean/Small Grain Expo in Perry on February 21, 2017. I can be reached by email at markfree@uga.edu or by contacting your local county extension agent.

Checkoff-funded research looks to boost soybean meal quality

Research is a vital component of soybean production and an important investment for your checkoff dollars. Here are three checkoff-funded research projects that explore the quality and quantity of meal protein so that every soybean you harvest meets the needs of your customers.

Wayne Parrott, Ph.D., University of Georgia, is leading a project using brand-new CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing technology to improve meal protein quality. Genome editing allows researchers to identify and modify genes in soybeans in an attempt to alter seed composition.

“It’s kind of like using word processing software on your computer,” says Parrott. “It’s nice to be able to delete the stuff you’ve typed, or find and replace text or insert text.” Parrott’s research will help create breeding stock that will be used in combination with improved genetics to breed the most desirable traits into the future varieties you select for your farm.

USDA Agricultural Research Service researcher Rouf Mian, Ph.D., is leading a project to overcome the challenges increased meal protein content presents by breaking the negative relationships it has with seed oil content and yield.

Using soybean cultivars from places like Korea, that have the genetics for high meal protein levels, Mian’s project is leveraging findings from previous checkoff-funded research to breed new varieties with high meal protein levels and desirable yield potential. These varieties will be made available to farmers in all maturity groups over the next five years.

The checkoff has partnered with DuPont Pioneer to conduct a proof-of-concept project to explore the potential for development of new varieties with improved meal protein quality and increased meal protein levels in maturity groups 0-I. This project will confirm whether it is genetically possible to increase protein content in these northern soybean lines and ensure that continued checkoff investment in breeding for increased protein is justified.

In the end, it’s about producing the genetics that farmers need to meet customer demand.

“It means more value added along the chain, meaning more money for the farmer and fewer expenses for the farmers that are then feeding that soybean to a chicken or to a hog,” says Parrott. “It’s really about having a better and more useful soybean.”

Source: United Soybean Board; for more information, visit www.unitedsoybean.org.

2017
Georgia/Florida
Soybean & Small Grain EXPO
February 21, 2017



Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter
401 Larry Walker Parkway
Perry, Georgia 31069

The Georgia/Florida Soybean Association and the Georgia Soybean Commodity Commission present the Soybean & Small Grain Expo on February 21, 2017 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry. Registration begins at 8:30am and the Expo will conclude by 3:30pm.

The Expo provides up-to-date market projections and information on the newest production techniques, as well as remarks from University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences leaders. This year, we are featuring:

Dr. Christina Cowger - Fusarium Head Blight Control

Rome Ethredge - Ultra-late Soybean Production

Dr. Adam Rabinowitz - World Outlook for Southern Ag Commodities

Tas Smith - 2018 Farm Bill Update

Jack Spruill - Overview of Grain Bonding & Warehouse Laws

PLUS

Presentations related to soybean and wheat production, the latest UGA CAES Extension recommendations, and an update on research projects funded by the Georgia Soybean Commodity Commission.

Come visit with our exhibitors who will be showcasing the latest in new varieties, technology and integrated pest management products.

***Should you have questions or comments,
contact the Georgia/Florida Soybean Association at 706-542-3793.***



2017 Georgia/Florida Soybean & Small Grain Expo



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 GA Crop Improvement Association
 GA Integrated Cultivar Release System
 GA Soybean Commodity Commission
 Monsanto
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 Valent USA Corporation

REGISTRATION FORM

Advance registration is \$10 per person; \$20 at the door; payable to GA/FL Soybean Association.

REGISTRATION: ___ individual(s) at \$___ each = \$___

Attendees (please include email address):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Form of payment:

Check _____ Cash _____

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Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Return to:
GA / FL Soybean Association
2425 South Milledge Avenue
Athens, Georgia 30605

Four tips to better manage equipment maintenance

A solid plan for machinery maintenance and repairs can help farmers stay on top of equipment service needs, keep long-term maintenance costs down and minimize losses caused by down-time says Mark Hanna, an extension engineer at Iowa State University. He has several tips farmers can follow to better manage their machinery.

Get acquainted with the equipment

Most machinery comes with an operator's manual that provides recommendations for common maintenance intervals based on hours of service. Studying this information, especially with new equipment, can help farmers better understand what needs to be done to keep machinery running properly.

Use a checklist

Develop a plan to ensure all necessary repairs and service work are completed in a timely manner on each piece of machinery. A checklist is a great way to think through everything that needs to be done and can ensure important tasks are not forgotten.

Schedule the work

Properly timed preventative maintenance is one of the best ways to extend the useful life of farm machinery. Developing a maintenance and repair schedule makes it easier to spread work throughout the year and budget for expenses. To-do items can be plotted on a calendar or spreadsheet to help establish timelines. Incorporating regularly scheduled tasks like changing air and oil filters in engines can boost fuel economy by 3 to 4 percent.

Keep good records

An accurate service record is an essential component of a successful maintenance program. Each piece of equipment should have its own logbook that tracks routine maintenance and repairs. A well-kept record of service increases resale value, makes tax and warranty filing smoother and provides farmers with confidence their machinery is safe and ready for field work.



Source: United Soybean Board; for more information, visit www.unitedsoybean.org.

**GEORGIA SOYBEAN
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**Georgia
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Putting Soybean Checkoff Dollars to Work

The soy checkoff empowers U.S. soybean farmers with tools that will help them maximize their profitability. Whether it's a database of high-protein-and-oil soy varieties, the results of soy-checkoff-funded research or interviews with experts, the checkoff spreads the word about cutting-edge tips and tricks you can put to use on your farm.

For more information, check out USB farmers resources online at:

www.unitedsoybean.org/farmer-resources/tools/

www.unitedsoybean.org/farmer-resources/beyond-the-bean/

To view past issues of the Georgia Soybean News, visit

www.georgiacrop.com/resources/newsletters/.