

For Immediate Release Contact: Charles Hall Jan. 19, 2015 (919) 839-5700

**UNION COUNTY FARMER WINS 2014 SOYBEAN YIELD CONTEST**

RALEIGH, NC – Kyle Herring of Union Co. won the annual North Carolina Soybean Yield Contest with an entry of 85.2 bushels per acre. He received the top yield award from Dr. Joe Zublena of North Carolina State University’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, at the Annual Commodity Conference of the North Carolina corn, cotton, small grains and soybean associations, Jan. 15, 2015, in Durham, N.C. The soybean yield contest is administered by North Carolina State University Cooperative Extension and the awards are sponsored by the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association. The winning entries were announced on Jan. 15, 2015.

Herring received a plaque and one expense-paid trip to Commodity Classic, the national conference and trade show for the U.S. corn, sorghum, soybean and wheat industries, in Phoenix, Arizona on Feb. 26 -28, 2015. Union Co. Extension Agent Andrew Baucom was the soybean agent for Herring’s entry. Baucom will receive one expense-paid trip to Commodity Classic for his role in producing the winning yield.

Billy Mercer of Pasquotank Co. was runner-up with a yield of 83.9 bushels per acre. The Pasquotank Co. soybean agent assisting with production was Al Wood.

Justin Stevenson of Pasquotank Co. received the third place award with a yield of 83.8 bushels per acre. The soybean agent is Al Wood.

Area winners in the yield contest were:

(Northern Piedmont) –Johnson Farm Operations of Surry Co., 81.6 bushels per acre; Tim Hambrick was the agent.

(Northern Coastal Plain) – Sanderson Farming of Wayne Co., 79.3 bushels per acre; Tyler Whalely was the agent.

(Southern Coastal Plain) – Quinn Howard of Duplin Co., 67.6 bushels per acre; Curtis Fountain was the agent.

The area yield winners each received a plaque and a $50 cash award from the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association. All soybean growers producing a yield of 70 bushels or more per acre were recognized with a certificate by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. The contest is based on yield from a measured and verified three-acre plot. The state record entry of 92.9 bushels per acre was set in 2006 by Phil and Mike McLain of Iredell County.

**Circle S Ranch of Union County Wins Efficiency Contest**

In the annual Most Efficient Yield Contest, Circle S Ranch of Union Co. placed first in the state with a per bushel cost of $3.61, Travis Starnes received the first place award on behalf of Circle S Ranch from Dr. Joe Zublena at the Annual Commodity Conference on Jan. 15. Circle S Ranch received an expense-paid trip to the Commodity Classic in Phoenix, AZ from Feb. 26-28, 2015.

The Most Efficient Yield Contest rewards producers for achieving the lowest cost of production for soybeans on a per bushel basis. Other area winners in the most efficient yield contest were: (Tidewater) – Billy Mercer of Pasquotank Co., $3.68 per bushel; (Northern Coastal Plain) – Harold Lee & Sons of Johnston Co., $3.79 per bushel; (Southern Coastal Plain) – Quinn Howard of Duplin Co., $3.90 per bushel; and (Northern Piedmont) – Draughn Farms of Surry County, $4.23 per bushel.

For more information, call Charles Hall, Chief Executive Officer of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association at (800) 839-5775.

The North Carolina Soybean Producers Association is a statewide trade association representing all N.C. soybean producers, responsible for research, education and promotion programs to benefit the state’s soybean farmers. The association is the qualified state board responsible for administering national soybean checkoff programs in N.C. The association is the state affiliate of the American Soybean Association (ASA.)

###