

SOYBEAN SCENE

NC SOYBEAN PRODUCERS ASSOC. NEWSLETTER



ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY RULES TRICKLING DOWN TO FARMERS

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

U.S. Rep. David Rouzer (N.C. 7th District) and Rep. Sam Graves of Missouri introduced a Joint Resolution of Disapproval of the latest Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corp of Engineers in late 2022. The new WOTUS rule would expand federal jurisdiction over not only navigable waters but also over wetlands, streams, and ditches. "It will once again place overly burdensome regulations on farm families, small businesses, infrastructure projects, and entire communities – further harming our already struggling economy," said Rep. Rouzer.

Congressman Don Davis (N.C. 1st District) indicated his support for farmers by adding his name to the Joint Resolution expressing disapproval of the WOTUS rule.

"Today, I voted to side with the farmers and agricultural communities of eastern North Carolina," said Congressman Don Davis. "Let me be clear: clean water is important to all - farmers and our agricultural communities depend on it for their livelihoods. What I cannot support is a rule that creates uncertainty for our farmers."

The new WOTUS rule will take effect March 20, 2023, and will expand federal jurisdiction over water, resulting in significant costs to farmers and other land users.

"I encourage our North Carolina delegation to support Congressional Review Act bills in both the House and Senate to overturn the WOTUS rule issued in December," said John Fleming, a farmer from Halifax County and a director on the board of the American Soybean Association. "These WOTUS rules will take farmland out of production, expand federal jurisdiction on our farms, and impede agribusiness in our towns and counties."

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a disappointing Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) for biomass-based diesel for 2023-2025. According to the American Soybean Association, the EPA's proposed target for biomass-based diesel is too low and fails to account for expansion in the soy processing and advanced biofuels industries. The EPA's proposed RVO (the "target" for biodiesel) is 2.95 billion gallons in 2025. Some federal agencies anticipate biomass-based diesel production capacity as high as 5.9 billion gallons in 2025. This discrepancy between the EPA's proposed RVO and the production capacity at plants around the U.S. was the subject of a meeting between the American Soybean Association and the EPA administrator during the week of Feb. 28.

IN RALEIGH

State legislators and legislative staff members attending the North Carolina Ag Products Reception on March 15th sighted



Vicky Clark and Jeff Chandler introduce the mighty SoySquatch to the legislative staff at NC Ag Products Reception.

the SoySquatch for the first time. SoySquatch is a sample of Columbia Forest Products hardwood veneer plywood, proudly made in Old Fort, North Carolina utilizing PureBond® consumer-friendly, soy flour-based adhesive. Thanks to the students at McDowell High School's Innovation Arena for laser cutting our SoySquatch samples!

WINTER PRODUCTION MEETINGS 2022-2023

N.C. Cooperative Extension held crop production meetings throughout the state again this winter. Much of the research-based information presented at these meetings is supported by the soybean checkoff. While many of the meetings are focused at the county level, other meetings are more regional in nature and include a technical expert invited to speak on a topic with impact on a broader area of the state.

One such example of a regional meeting took place in Wilson County on February 10. In North Carolina, we are seeing a shift toward earlier maturing soybean varieties and management of these earlier varieties is different than the practices traditionally used in N.C. Planting date, maturity group, foliar fungicides and other factors should be carefully considered when moving to earlier maturing varieties. Other regions of the country, such as the mid-South, have been working with earlier maturing soybeans for over twenty years. Dr. Jeremy Ross, University of Arkansas, has extensive experience with the management considerations needed for successful production of earlier maturing varieties and was the keynote speaker for the N.C. Coastal Plain Regional Grain Production Meeting.

Other highlights from the winter meetings include updates from N.C. State Extension Specialists working in soybeans on a diverse set of topics including soil fertility, insect pest management, soil microbiology, water stress, resistant weed challenges, and variety selection. Dr. Rachel Vann used an innovative approach with the agronomic update this year. She led the participants in a parody game of Jeopardy, in which participants could choose the categories they wanted to talk about. Dr. Vann would then share research data on that topic in a fun and interactive experience. In a regulatory update, Dr. Charlie Cahoon presented implications the Endangered Species Act has on new pesticide registrations as well as potential impact on review of current pesticide registrations for compliance with the Endangered Species Act. We have become aware of these changes as the result of litigation brought against the EPA related to compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Jeff Chandler, NCSPA Research Coordinator, had this to say about the winter meetings: "I was happy to represent NCSPA at many of the winter meetings, which averaged about 40-50 attendees, and came away impressed with not only the presentations but also the interactions from the audience. These production meetings are great opportunities to gain knowledge needed to maximize the profitability of soybeans in North Carolina."





NC Coastal Plain Regional Grain Production Meeting

February 10, 2023 8 AM-12 PM

Wilson County Agricultural Center
1806 Goldsboro St SW, Wilson, NC 27893

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Jeremy Ross
Soybean Extension Specialist,
University of Arkansas



'Keys to successfully shifting from managing later to earlier maturing soybean varieties'

Additional Speakers Include:
Dr. Rich Bonanno, Associate Dean of CALS
Dr. Rachel Vann, NC State Soybean Extension Specialist
Dr. Dominic Reisig, NC State Extension Entomologist
Dr. Wes Everman, NC State Extension Weed Specialist
Dr. Ron Heiniger, NC State Corn Extension Specialist
Coastal Plain County Extension Agents

CEU Credits (0.5) Available In:
Nutrient Management
Soil & Water Management
Integrated Pest Management
Crop Management
Professional Development
Sustainability

3 hours of pesticide recertification credits in N, O, X, and D available

Breakfast and Lunch Included

Register Here:





or call the Wilson County Extension Office
252-237-4111




Fighting Weeds in DC: What Farmers Need to Know About the Changing Landscape of Pest Management

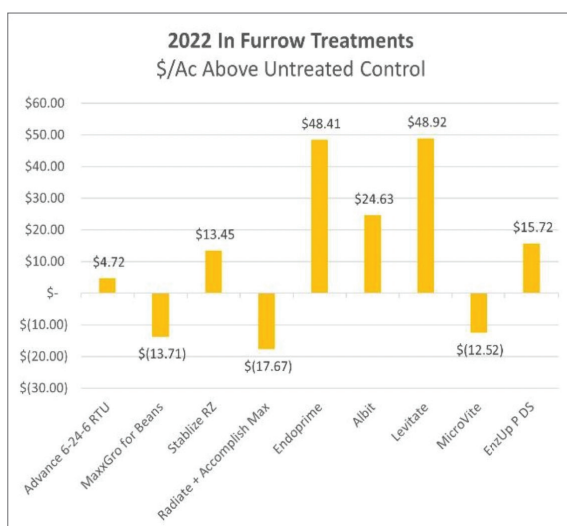


Charlie Cahoon
2023 Grain County Meetings

AT-PLANTING PRODUCT PLACEMENT FOR SOYBEANS

Many N.C. growers have questions about supplemental growth enhancing and biological products applied at planting to maximize yield of soybeans. While it's reasonable to think that additional nutrients may lead to yield increases, that is not necessarily the case. A general rule of thumb is that soybeans are estimated to uptake 5 lb N, 1 lb P and 1.5 lb K per bushel of grain. Based on the 2022 N.C. average yield of 39 bushels per acre (bpa) the average soybean plant in N.C. requires 195 lb N, 39 lb P and 58.5 lb K. You can plug in your own numbers and estimate what your soybean crop will uptake. Soybeans are a legume and if inoculated properly, can provide all their nitrogen needs through fixation in the root nodules from nitrogen gas in the atmosphere. There are varying reports as to whether supplemental N at planting or in season can increase yields. The same could be said for at-planting applications of P and K. In addition to macro nutrients like N, P and K there are numerous growth enhancing and biological products on the market that could potentially have a positive impact on yield and/or ROI.

To help address these questions around at-planting fertility for N.C. soybean producers, the soybean association contracted research trial work to be done in 2022 looking at growth enhancing products at planting. This work was done in replicated small plots at four locations around the coastal plain. In furrow and 2x2 placement trials were both conducted and evaluated at the same four locations. **We do not have enough data currently to know if there is a consistent response to these treatments. Therefore, we are repeating this study again in 2023. Based on one year of data, following are our results presented in terms of \$/Ac above an untreated control:**



Inclusion or exclusion of any particular product is not an endorsement of any product by the soybean association or its employees. There are far too numerous products available for us to reasonably evaluate them all. Therefore, a selection of products believed to be representative of current offerings in the marketplace were included in the trial.

NC STATE UNIVERSITY CROP AND SOIL SCIENCES

We at NC State University Crop and Soil Sciences are interested to learn how the fertilizer prices are impacting your on-farm fertilizer decisions. Please help us by filling out this 5-minutes survey (the link below will work on your smartphone or computer). If you have any questions please contact Luke Gatiboni (luke_gatiboni@ncsu.edu)



SCAN ME
OR USE THE LINK BELOW

https://ncsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vjWbYrI9Y9Z1fE

GROWING THROUGH THE SEASONS: A PAST PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

We asked ten former presidents of the soybean association to share their perspectives about their time as volunteer leaders and about today's challenges confronting soy growers.

Sam Brake, the 22nd president of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association (2003-2004), recalls the many long-lasting acquaintances made with wonderful people across the U.S. during his time leading North Carolina's soybean board. Brake currently manages a grants program supporting bioenergy research. Brake's love of bioenergy started with the soybean board's involvement with soy biodiesel.

Scott Whitford (1991-1992) from Pamlico Co., the 16th president, currently serves as vice-president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau and is actively farming. Bobby Joe Fisher (2009-2010), the 25th president, is in his 33rd year as the chairman of the Nash County Soil and Water Board. Jeff Peed (2014-2016) from Beaufort Co., is diversifying the Peed family farm (Peed raises onions and table stock potatoes in addition to row crops.) Ward Shaw (1993-1994) and Bernard Lennon (2012-2014), both from Columbus Co., have retired from farming.

We asked all ten past presidents about the most significant challenges facing soybean farmers today. This is how they ranked the challenges, and what they had to say.

CHALLENGE	RANK
High cost of fertilizer, seed, and crop nutrients.	1
Overly restrictive state & federal regulations.	2
Lack of consumer awareness of farming & agriculture.	3
Seed varieties lack adequate traits & yield potential.	4
Lack of rural internet connectivity.	5
Cost & effectiveness (or lack of effectiveness) of crop protection products.	6
Loss of farmland to urban growth.	7

The number one challenge, the high costs of seed and crop inputs, was a near universal consensus. The second biggest challenge, overly restrictive regulations, is something the soybean association addresses every single day (think the EPA's Waters of the U.S. rule.) The presidents also mentioned additional challenges including high cost of entry for new farmers, fewer independent equipment dealers, more extreme weather events, the high cost of farm labor, more resistant weed pressure, and the loss of acreage to solar farms.

John Fleming (2016-2017) from Halifax Co. recalls enjoying the work he did to make sure soybean farmers are successful and not ignored by influencers and policy makers. Fleming said the biggest enjoyment was giving back to the industry where he earns his livelihood. All ten presidents echoed this sentiment, recalling that one of the best rewards of their volunteer service was meeting soybean farmers from across North Carolina.

INVESTING IN CORPORATE PARTNER RELATIONS AT COMMODITY CLASSIC

Soybean farmer directors took a few minutes at Commodity Classic '23 to connect with and express their gratitude for our invaluable corporate partners. Those present at Classic included Syngenta, Bayer, BASF, Asgrow, and Corteva.

To all our Corporate Partners we would like to thank you for your investment in North Carolina soybeans and the farmers who grow them.



Michael McPherson connects with specialist Brandy Cullen at Bayer Crop Science booth.



Philip Sloop represents NC Soy at the Corteva Agriscience booth with specialist Brooke Brinkmeier.



Keith Caldwell at the Asgrow booth.

2022 NC SOYBEAN YIELD CONTEST

If there was ever a year to highlight the resiliency of soybeans in North Carolina, it was 2022! Despite hot and dry weather in several key periods from June-September, many growers were surprisingly satisfied with their yields last year. Also due to relatively dry conditions during harvest we had another excellent quality year. We had 34 entries into the 2022 NC Soybean Yield Contest with an average yield of 82.9 bu/a. There were 8 entries in the irrigated category and 26 entries in the non-irrigated category.



OVERALL STATE CHAMPION & 1ST PLACE IRRIGATED

Prize: \$1000 + Plaque

Matthews Family Farms, Davie County – 100.5 bu/ac

1ST PLACE DRYLAND

Prize: \$500 + Plaque

Simmy Williams, Camden County – 98.8 bu/ac

2ND PLACE DRYLAND

Prize: \$200 + Plaque

Boerema Farms, Hyde County – 97.7 bu/ac



2ND PLACE IRRIGATED

Prize: \$200 + Plaque

Justin Boyd of 3B Farms, Beaufort County – 93.7 bu/ac

REGIONAL WINNERS

Highest Yield in Region Regardless of Irrigation Practices

**Producers in the divisions above are ineligible for regional awards, so in regions where state winning entries were produced, the next highest yield is awarded the prize.*

Prize: \$100 + Plaque



N. COASTAL PLAIN:

Whitehurst Enterprises,
Jones County – 80.3 bu/ac



N. PIEDMONT:

Friendship Farms,
Davidson County – 74.4 bu/ac



S. COASTAL PLAIN:

Moore Brothers Ag,
Robeson County – 89.1 bu/ac



S. PIEDMONT:

Tracy and Harrison Jenkins,
Iredell County – 87.7 bu/ac



TIDEWATER:

Garrett Boyd,
Beaufort County – 94.6 bu/ac

2023 NCSOY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Gary Hendrix, *Raeford*

Vice President: Philip Sloop, *Mount Ulla*

Secretary: Trey Liverman, *Columbia*

Treasurer: David Heath, *Dover*

United Soybean Board Director: Derek Potter, *Grantsboro*

United Soybean Board Director: Reginald Strickland, *Mt. Olive*

American Soybean Association Director: Jimmy Thomas, *Timberlake*

American Soybean Association Director: John Fleming, *Halifax*

NC SoyPAC Chair: Michael McPherson, *Mebane*

Executive Committee: Forrest Howell, *Plymouth*

Executive Committee: Reggie Baker, *Monroe*

Executive Committee: Adrian Locklear, *Maxton*

Executive Committee: Keith Caldwell, *Maiden*

Brandon Batten, *Four Oaks*

Nathan Bennett, *Rich Square*

Andy Bland, *Dover*

Colin Brickhouse, *Elizabeth City*

Collins Bullard, *Stedman*

Jamie Carrick, *Albemarle*

Andy Corriher, *China Grove*

Jason Farmer, *Louisburg*

Reid Gelderman, *Pantego*

Phil Gore, *Nakina*

Terry Hoffner, *Cleveland*

Aaron Kirk, *Hillsborough*

Ben Long, *Scotland Neck*

Duncan Malloy, *Lumber Bridge*

Keith Mills, *Trenton*

Cole Phillips, *Kenansville*

Tom Porter, *Rocky Mount*

Thad Sharp, *Sims*

Collin Smithson, *Shawboro*

Wade Stanaland, *Bladenboro*

Jarman Sullivan, *Faison*

Beth Taylor, *Whitakers*

Logan Watson, *Monroe*

Grayson Wells, *Snow Hill*

DR. KATHERINE DRAKE STOWE HONORED FOR SERVING SOYBEAN FARMERS

Dr. Katherine Drake Stowe of Apex, North Carolina received the soybean association's Meritorious Service Award on January 12, 2023, in recognition of her service to the soybean industry. Dr. Stowe is the executive director of the U.S. Soybean Research Collaborative headquartered in Ankeny, Iowa. Dr. Stowe received her Ph.D. from North Carolina State University and serves as president of the NCSU Alumni Association. Dr. Stowe served as the research coordinator for the soybean association from 2016 to 2022 and continues as a national leader in soy checkoff-funded research.



GARY HENDRIX ELECTED SOYBEAN BOARD PRESIDENT

On January 13th, 2023, the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association Board of Directors elected new officers and a new executive committee. Elections were held during the 33rd Annual N.C. Commodities Conference in Durham. Gary Hendrix of Raeford was elected President of the Association. "I am honored to serve as president of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association and look forward to serving the soybean farmers of this great state," said Hendrix.



Philip Sloop of Mount Ulla was elected vice-president. Trey Liverman of Columbia was elected secretary. Former board president David Heath of Dover transitioned into the role of treasurer. The Board elected Keith Caldwell of Maiden, Forrest Howell of Plymouth, Reggie Baker of Monroe, and Adrian Locklear of Maxton to the executive committee.

FARMERS ELECTED TO THE STATE SOYBEAN BOARD

Eight N.C. farmers were elected to serve as directors of the state soybean board during the annual meeting of the association on January 12, 2023.

First-term directors Cole Phillips of Kenansville and Tom Porter of Rocky Mount joined returning directors Nathan Bennett (Rich Square), Colin Brickhouse (Elizabeth City), Adrian Locklear (Maxton), Keith Mills (Trenton), Jarman Sullivan (Faison) and Grayson Wells (Snow Hill.)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR NEW AND
RETURNING DIRECTORS!**

(you)

Who's the No. 1 protein source in chicken feed?
YOU are. That's right. You're winning.

All soybean farmers, including you, are really big in poultry and livestock feed. How? By pooling your resources through your soy checkoff. Learn how your soy checkoff is bringing tangible returns back to you and your operation at unitedsoybean.org/hopper.



Moving Soy Forward.
Moving You Forward.



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NCSPA CORPORATE PARTNERS



Soybean farmer directors took a few minutes at Commodity Classic '23 to express their gratitude for our invaluable corporate partners. Those present at Classic included Syngenta, Bayer, BASF, Asgrow, and Corteva.

**To all of our Corporate Partners we would like to say thank you for your investment in
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