

2025 SOYBEAN SUCCESS REPORT

A Look at 2024 Achievements



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Caleb Ragland
ASA PRESIDENT

Advocating for agriculture in D.C. is a lot like raking leaves. You can start early and get a jump, but you're going to have to keep raking along the way—possibly for weeks or even months in some cases. You can wait until all the leaves have fallen, but then it's an even bigger job to get cleaned up. And, sometimes you rake, you rake again, and you get all those leaves gathered and ready to burn or bag, and along comes a big, unforeseen wind that makes you feel the hard work was all for naught.

ASA started advocating on its farm bill priorities in May 2023. We raked our leaves early and often, and here, well into 2025, we are still raking! All of ag was disappointed to see a 5-year reauthorization did not happen again in 2024, but we did get an extension, and leadership is very positive that a 2025 Farm Bill is a priority. The steady drumbeat of advocacy we've maintained since early 2023 has mattered; soy priorities continue to be included in critical discussions.

At ASA, we seldom wait till the back end to rake our leaves; we're a big proponent of being proactive throughout the year. Five years ago, we saw both USMCA and the Phase 1 China agreement signed into law—two key documents that we needed and that have helped stabilize our trade relationships with these three crucial export markets. But just like those pesky leaves, it doesn't matter what happens in one year; issues are always going to pop up again in the years ahead that need tending. Even before the current administration took office and began talking about renewed tariffs, we were working proactively to foresee trade challenges and push for funding of the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development program in the next farm bill. From those efforts, the farm bill that was passed out of the House Agriculture Committee in May 2024 contained a doubling of funding for both MAP and FMD. We cannot put the rake down just yet, but legislators are listening, and we remain hopeful—and diligent. Quick note: Be sure to read the winter issue of *American Soybean*, the theme of which is the 5-year anniversary of USMCA and Phase 1 and where we are with trade today.

If we're going to keep up this theme, there has to be a big bad wolf to huff and puff and try to blow our leaves—and our house—down, right? In our soy narrative, we'll allude to several members of Congress who have come for checkoffs the last couple of years. ASA has worked steadily to protect farmers' ability to invest in the soy checkoff and maintain key research and development opportunities. Our house has withstood the windstorm, with ASA successfully keeping out any attempts to include the OFF Act or checkoff reform in the House farm bill. And we will keep on protecting the checkoff in 2025.

We have seen successes this past year with WRDA, several decisions affecting pesticide use, and throughout the year with transportation and infrastructure and other concerns. We have also seen ups and downs in biofuels, an area where we may need to throw out the rake and go get a tractor. But in all seriousness, our successes come through steady work. There are certainly times where it seems like it's all we can do to keep up with the leaves, which just keep on falling, but rest assured that progress on all those issues affecting soy is being made—slow, steady, but sure progress.

Each of you is a part of the machine that moves us forward. As I continue serving the soy industry as your ASA president, I invite you to pause and enjoy this publication looking back on what we've accomplished and then to look ahead at how you can help in the days and months before us. Let's not wait until fall to rake those advocacy leaves! Let's stay after them throughout the year and look back next year with pride at the piles of wins that, together, we've amassed.

Best Regards,

2024 POLICY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Farm Bill

For well over two years, ASA has pushed to support an on-time, comprehensive, meaningful farm bill that addresses ASA priorities. While that did not happen again in 2024, we have continued to be front and center in the effort to instill in Congress how critical this legislation is to farmers. We were pleased that an extension was passed, and congressional leadership has expressed their intentions to keep the process for a new 5-year farm bill reauthorization moving forward. A new Congress will present the opportunity for ASA to work with new members on farm bill education utilizing past relationships and building new connections.

ASA engaged at a high level on farm bill throughout the year. This included testifying in two committee hearings in the spring, promoting priorities during fly-ins in March and July, as well as in listening sessions and farm visits, issuing farm bill Action Alerts to the board and state affiliates for their grassroots engagement, encouraging submission of priorities in congressional request portals, participating as a steering committee member of AFBF's farm bill campaign and leveraging ASA's chief economist to educate on priorities from a data-driven, non-lobbyist point of view.

ASA changed the narrative on improving farm bill funding by leading a letter calling for sufficient farm bill budgetary resources that was sent to the Hill in March; 400 national, regional, and state organizations signed the letter. House and Senate Ag Committee leaders subsequently requested additional resources from the Budget Committees.

Value Chain Infrastructure

ASA supports efforts that enable the success of the farm economy. We supported legislation to modernize USDA loan limits and speed the credit approval process. And we pushed legislation to encourage adoption and utilization of precision ag tech by farmers, including providing incentives for equipment purchases, enhancing national cyber security in the food and ag sector, and improving interoperability of precision ag equipment.



ASA leaders and staff teamed up with dozens of other commodity farmer-leaders and ag lenders for a unique farm bill advocacy effort, taking time away from the beginning of harvest season to visit approximately 100 House and Senate offices. Pictured: ASA Vice President Caleb Ragland (KY) (left) and other farmers and lenders visit with Rep. Darren Soto (D-FL) to urge swift passage of a 2024 Farm Bill.

Economic and Natural Disaster Assistance

ASA worked alongside several other commodity groups and agricultural advocacy groups to ensure that economic assistance was included with natural disaster aid in the American Relief Act. This provision was a much-needed inclusion, as producers have experienced falling commodity prices, inflation, and historically high input prices. Ultimately, the year-end spending package provided \$10 billion in economic assistance and \$21 billion in natural disaster assistance for farmers.

Biobased

ASA aims to promote federal investments that advance soy-based products. As a steering committee member of the Ag Bioeconomy Coalition, ASA met with House and Senate Agriculture Committee leaders to advance BioPreferred and other Energy Title priorities in farm bill negotiations. When it was determined at the end of 2023 that a farm bill extension was needed, ASA led efforts to alert Ag Committee leadership to the importance of "orphan" Energy Title programs to soybean growers. The Biobased Markets (BioPreferred) Program, Biorefinery Loan Program and Direct Payments for Advanced Biofuels Program all would have lapsed without additional action. The final 2024 farm bill extension included a variety of recissions that allowed these orphan programs to continue under that extension.

(continued on page 4)

2024 POLICY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(continued from page 3)

ASA continues to engage with House and Senate Ag Committees regarding biobased opportunities. We were pleased to see efforts to streamline the BioPreferred Program included in the House Ag Committee's farm bill. Specifically, the bill addressed issues with procurement.

ASA helped organize a congressional briefing in the spring and presented on the importance of biobased opportunities for soy. We continue to work closely with the Ag Bioeconomy Coalition to advocate for biobased policies. Along with support from member organizations of the ABC, ASA endorsed the Biomanufacturing and Jobs Act, which strengthens and updates USDA's BioPreferred program. ASA promoted biobased products on social media on National Biobased Products Day and through a briefing to congressional staff later that month. Speakers included representatives from ASA, Corn Refiners Association, Growth Energy, National Corn Growers Association and others.

Trade

ASA works hard to prioritize market access and address current trade challenges on behalf of America's soybean farmers. This includes ongoing meetings with the House and Senate Agriculture Committees on a range of issues relating to global export markets. ASA continues to support and promote legislation in the House and Senate to double funding for the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development program in the next farm bill. Due to those efforts, the farm bill that was passed out of the House Agriculture Committee in May 2024 contained a doubling of funding for both MAP and FMD.

ASA engaged with House and Senate offices to communicate our opposition to an appropriations policy rider that would have impacted implementation of the USDA Regional Agricultural Promotion Program. ASA continues to promote support for trade promotion resources through RAPP, MAP, and FMD to help expand and diversify trade.

Earlier in the year, we supported USDA investments in international food assistance and export promotion using Commodity Credit Corporation funds. We continue to support policies that prioritize the role of U.S. commodities in international food assistance programs such as Food for



ASA President Josh Gackle (ND) testified before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture regarding the enduring impacts of the trade war with China on U.S. soybean farmers.

Peace. And, we supported an emphasis on market access and strengthening the rules-based trade system at the World Trade Organization, along with reforms to ensure a functioning Appellate Body and dispute settlement system.

In March, ASA President Josh Gackle testified in front of the House Agriculture Committee on the importance of the Chinese market to U.S. agricultural exports and the need to maintain the economic relationship between our two global economies. This testimony came after the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party released its report on competition between the U.S. and China, including 100+ policy and legislative recommendations. Of most concern was a recommendation that Congress modify China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations, a move that would likely result in immediate retaliation against U.S. agricultural products.

In response, ASA led a coalition of agricultural stakeholders in meetings with Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees to express concerns with the language, as any related legislation would have to be considered by these committees. The group shared support for favorable recommendations in the report, such as pursuing new free trade agreements. ASA continues to educate members of Congress about the importance of maintaining PNTR status for China, as a revocation of PNTR could lead to an immediate negative impact on soybean exports.

ASA led an association letter to United State Trade Representative Katherine Tai about the need for the Biden administration to pursue an aggressive trade agenda. Recommendations included a return to negotiations for bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements, enforcement of existing trade agreements, and the need for the U.S. to abide by commitments made in international forums such as the World Trade Organization and Codex Alimentarius.

ASA held multiple educational meetings with the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee on the European Union's regulation on deforestation-free products and its potential impact on U.S. soy exports to Europe.

Livestock and Aquaculture

ASA supports efforts to expand soy's presence in livestock and aquaculture markets. The Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture Act was reintroduced in 2024 in the House and Senate. ASA continues to be supportive and educate members of Congress about the importance of the aquaculture market for soybean growers and the potential positive impacts of further domestic market development.

ASA pushed for swift passage of the Beagle Brigade Act. The Beagle Brigade authorized the National Detector Dog Training Center, which extensively trains detector dogs and their U.S. Customs and Border Protection handlers to sniff out prohibited agricultural items that could carry foreign plant or animal pests and diseases into our country, such as African Swine Fever. In a major win, the Beagle Brigade Act was signed into law by President Biden on December 23, 2024.

ASA continues to share concerns about the impact of the Supreme Court ruling on Proposition 12 with our partners in the livestock sector. ASA has not endorsed a legislative fix but continues to monitor developments closely.

In ASA's letter of support for Chairman Thompson's farm bill, ASA mentioned support for provisions important to livestock producers, such as additional funding for USDA's animal disease vaccine bank.

ASA continues to engage with livestock groups around protection of checkoff programs in the farm bill reauthorization and appropriations legislation. ASA, American Farm Bureau Federation, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and National Milk Producers Federation serve as members of the ad hoc checkoff coalition steering committee.

Checkoff

ASA continues to educate policymakers about the benefits of the soy checkoff and the need to protect checkoffs from harmful legislative attack that may arise in additional appropriations activity or farm bill reauthorization. ASA has pushed hard to protect farmers' ability to invest in the checkoff to maintain research and development opportunities. ASA successfully kept out any attempts to include the OFF Act or checkoff reform in the House farm bill and will continue to lead efforts to protect the checkoff moving forward.

Biofuels

ASA works diligently to promote policies that support increased domestic crush, such as larger soy-based RFS volumes and ag feedstock eligibility for various renewable efforts. This is an ongoing effort, with ASA actively monitoring and raising concerns about legislation that would impact RVOs for biomass-based diesel.

ASA faced an early threat in Congress with the introduction of a year-round E-15 bill that would have approved several small refinery exemption waivers. By the end of negotiations with petroleum companies, SRE waivers totaling an estimated 400 million RINs in lost volume for biomass-based diesel were included in the legislation. ASA rightly pointed out that year-round E-15 should not come at the expense of BBD and actively sought to open lines of communications with NCGA and BBD and ethanol stakeholders throughout the year. Ultimately, the negotiated E-15 was dropped from year-end omnibus spending legislation at the end of December.

ASA placed a heavy focus on the final implementation of the 40B sustainable aviation fuel tax credit and promulgating regulations for the 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit in 2024, which included engagement with Congress, USDA, Department of Energy, Treasury Department, White House and more. Starting in January, ASA met with key senior staff at USDA to communicate the importance of soy in renewable fuels markets and better understand the role climate smart agriculture practices will play in farm-level scoring for both 40B and 45Z. In May, Treasury released final guidance for the 40B credit, which allowed soy-based fuels to qualify at a better score than the RFS baseline and incentivized climate smart agriculture practices, though

(continued on page 6)



ASA CEO Stephen Censky and ASA Executive Director of Government Affairs Christy Seyfert met with then Senate Ag Committee Ranking Member John Boozman (R-AR) and Senate Ag Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) in September. Pictured from left: Seyfert, Boozman and Censky.

2024 POLICY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(continued from page 5)

narrow in scope. ASA had significant engagement with Congress and several agencies prior to the release of this final guidance and actively advocated on the 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit, which replaces 40B and the Biodiesel Blenders Tax Credit in 2025. ASA collaborated with internal and external stakeholders and set 45Z guidance as its primary messaging point during the July fly-in. Additionally, ASA met with USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack and John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the President on Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation, along with other high-level meetings, to articulate the importance of expanded climate smart agriculture practices to provide farmers with additional opportunities to add value to their crops and to warn against the negative impact of unsubstantiated imported used cooking oil on domestic soybean oil markets. In response, USDA set an ambitious schedule for public comment and rulemaking on guidelines for the quantification of climate smart practices used in the production of agricultural biofuel feedstocks.



Clockwise: ASA Executive Director of Government Affairs Christy Seyfert; ASA President Josh Gackle (ND); ASA Chairman Daryl Cates (IL); ASA Vice President Caleb Ragland (KY); and ASA CEO Stephen Censky visit Capitol Hill during ASA's annual summer board meeting.

ASA focused significant energy in California, engaging with CARB as it developed amendments to the LCFS, capping off a multi-year process. After years of advocacy and education by ASA and assurances that they would not negatively impact soy-based biofuels, CARB issued a draft proposal just two months before the final vote that included several disappointing changes. Specifically, the updated amendments to the LCFS included an agricultural feedstock cap, sustainability reporting requirements for agricultural feedstocks, and did not update outdated scoring used to calculate the carbon intensity of soy. ASA submitted

testimony during the final public hearing, but ultimately did not manage to remove the late proposals targeting agricultural feedstocks from the approved amendments. However, through the relationships that ASA built in California, and through coalition efforts in partnership with NOPA, Clean Fuels Alliance America, Farm Bureau, Canadian Oilseed Processors and others, CARB Chair Liane Randolph included language in a resolution attached to the amendment vote that directs CARB staff to work with the agriculture and biofuel industries to develop sustainability reporting requirements and to update carbon intensity modeling.

Though missing its statutory deadline in November, EPA began its process for drafting Renewable Volume Obligations for 2026 and future years. ASA held conversations with EPA career staff and coordinated with Clean Fuels Alliance America to develop unified RVO requests with biofuels industry partners. ASA also engaged with corn and ethanol interests to determine if all biofuels supporters can develop shared goals for the RVO process ahead of 2025.

ASA submitted comments to the Department of Energy as part of a request for information on locomotive technology, initiated at the request of the administration as part of a plan to lower GHG emissions in the transportation sector. ASA wrote in support of technologies that utilize renewable diesel and noted that testing for higher blends usage is ongoing.

ASA engaged with Congress, EPA and the California Air Resources Board on California In-Use Locomotive regulation, which seeks to phase out locomotives powered with internal combustion engines. While this is a state-level policy,

EPA must approve it, and its impact could be significant outside of the state. ASA sees this regulation as a threat as locomotives are a growing biofuels market, but the regulation will likely also cause disruption and cost increases throughout the rail network.

Infrastructure

ASA supports an efficient transportation and infrastructure system, including waterways, rail, trucking and pathways for increased exports.

Throughout 2024, ASA monitored implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and supported grant applications for projects through the Bioproduct Pilot Program at USDA that ASA championed as part of this legislation. ASA also participated in congressional



ASA directors George Goblish (MN) (left) and Jordan Scott (SD) (right) attended the BNSF Ag Rail Business Council meeting in Fort Worth, Texas.

briefings to highlight the benefits of soy-based bioproducts in infrastructure projects. Through the Ag Bioeconomy Coalition, ASA led efforts to educate members of Congress about the importance of bioproducts for infrastructure use and had early conversations with congressional members about opportunities to expand the use of these bioproducts in the 2026 surface transportation reauthorization.

Throughout the year, ASA advocated heavily on its top priority for the Water Resources Development Act: improving the cost-share ratio for inland waterways projects. This advocacy included meetings with majority and minority staff at the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, as well as significant grassroots engagement from farmers. In December, the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 was signed into law. Biennial WRDA legislation is required to improve the nation's ports and harbors, inland waterway navigation, flood and storm protection, and other aspects of the nation's water resources infrastructure. Importantly, the final WRDA 2024 bill included a permanent adjustment to the inland waterways cost-share allocation for construction and major rehabilitation projects to 75% general revenue and 25% Inland Waterways Trust

Fund from the current 65%/35% ratio—a top priority for U.S. soybean farmers and all of agriculture. Improving cost-share allocations leads to enormous long-term benefits for inland waterways construction projects. By allowing for greater annual funding, large-scale water infrastructure projects can be completed on a shorter schedule, which in turn lowers overall costs and potential cost overruns.

ASA engaged with the National Economic Council and USDA during the ongoing labor negotiations and brief work stoppage at East and Gulf Coast ports. ASA worked with USSEC and the Soy Transportation Coalition to identify the scope of impact to U.S. soy and highlighted those datapoints in meetings with the administration. ASA joined several letters urging resolution to the labor negotiations and coordinated with other agriculture shipping stakeholders.

Regulatory

A major priority of ASA is to protect pesticides from legislative, regulatory and legal threats. Over the past year, ASA has been successful in this goal. ASA has led efforts to push back on EPA Endangered Species Act regulatory proposals, including the draft Herbicide Strategy and Vulnerable Species Pilot Project, which could lead to significant, unnecessary restrictions on pesticide uses. By leading numerous coalition letters and meeting with agencies and lawmakers, ASA was successful in getting significant revisions to these proposals to make them much more workable for agriculture.

ASA is continuing to lead efforts to push for further improvements, such as overhauling EPA's ESA risk assessment process, which would result in using real-world



ASA President Josh Gackle (ND) testifies at a Senate Appropriations Committee subcommittee field hearing titled, "Perspectives on the Future of Agriculture Research and Technology."

(continued on page 8)

2024 POLICY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(continued from page 7)

science and data to only apply mitigations where they are truly necessary and supported by science. ASA advocacy has resulted in language being included in the FY25 House Interior appropriations bill directing EPA to make these and other improvements that can lead to regulatory improvements and efficiency, such as allowing third-parties to conduct draft risk assessments outside of EPA.

While growers do not yet have a 2025 growing season solution for post-emergent dicamba access, ASA's swift advocacy efforts following the February 2024 vacatur of three dicamba labels led to EPA issuing a quality existing stocks order, ensuring growers could continue using available dicamba supplies for the 2024 growing season. ASA is continuing to work to ensure growers have a solution for post-emergent dicamba access for 2025 and beyond.

ASA has also been leading legislative efforts to reaffirm and clarify language in FIFRA that states cannot impose labels contradictory to EPA findings. Court misinterpretations of this provision have led to the risk of a state patchwork of labels, which could be false and misleading, that would disrupt commerce and grower access to pesticides. ASA built a coalition of more than 360 groups that successfully included bipartisan language in the House Farm Bill and FY25 Interior appropriations bills. Efforts continue to see this reaffirmation language codified into law.

USDA's Office of Pest Management Policy is also a key advocate for engaging with other federal agencies to ensure growers can continue to access pest management tools. While appropriations levels have not yet been finalized for FY25, ASA's efforts led to a \$300,000 increase for OPMP in the House FY25 Agriculture appropriations bill, and a \$650,000 increase in the Senate FY25 bill. At a time when other federal spending is being cut, this all but ensures OPMP will see an increase for FY25, better enabling the program to advocate for U.S. agriculture.

Regarding ASA's goals of expanding grower access to genetic innovations in agriculture, great strides have been made over the past year. First, ASA helped build coalition and bipartisan congressional support for language exempting gene edited plant incorporated protectants (PIP) from FIFRA. EPA supported this language, and it was included in the House Farm Bill with bipartisan support. ASA's efforts also



ASA Director Brad Doyle (AR) (left) participated in the "Climate-Smart Solutions for Smallholders: Taking Stock of Progress and Future Opportunities in Agriculture" panel at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29).

led to a long-awaited announcement by FDA that it did not believe consultation was necessary for new, gene edited plant varieties, declaring those plants to be of a similar risk to their conventionally bred equivalents.

While only a fleeting victory, ASA's efforts also led to USDA significantly expanding its exemptions for gene edited plants in November 2024 under its SECURE Rule. Regrettably, the SECURE Rule was then vacated by a federal court in December 2024, undoing this improvement. ASA is currently working with other stakeholders to develop legislative and regulatory strategies for modernizing USDA's regulations following this setback.

ASA also was successful in publishing an article in the academic journal *Frontiers in Plant Science* explaining the potential value in plant molecular farming varieties to U.S. soybean growers should they be grown under meaningful identity preserved systems. Especially in times of downturn for the farm economy, these biotech varieties could offer a significant value-add for farmers while creating new markets and end uses for soybeans.

2025 POLICY PRIORITIES



ASA Key Policy Priorities for 2025

Farm Economy: ASA supports a strong farm economy and tools that enable and enhance crop production.

- **New Farm Bill:** Support a comprehensive, meaningful farm bill that addresses ASA priorities.
- **Tax:** Protect and preserve tax provisions critical to agricultural economic sustainability and farm inheritance.
- **Regulatory:** Promote a regulatory system that facilitates innovation for biotechnology, gene editing and pesticidal tools; protect against legislative, regulatory and litigation threats to pesticides.

Markets: ASA supports global and domestic market opportunities and farmer-funded, farmer-led checkoffs.

- **Trade:** Protect and create market access opportunities and address current challenges.
- **Biofuels:** Protect and promote policies that increase domestic investment, production and crush.
- **Food, Feed, and Biobased Uses:** Promote access and investments to advance soy-based food, feed and other products.
- **Checkoff:** Protect ability for farmers to invest in the checkoff to maintain research and development opportunities.

Movement To/From Market: ASA supports a reliable transportation and infrastructure system, which contributes to the competitiveness of U.S. agriculture.

- **Infrastructure:** Support efficient and resilient transportation and infrastructure system, including waterways, rail, trucking and pathways for increased exports.

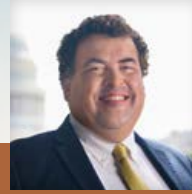


2025 ASA LEADERSHIP

2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Tom Adam
Harper, IA



Rob Baker
Leland, MS



Jamie Beyer
Wheaton, MN



Stan Born
Lovington, IL



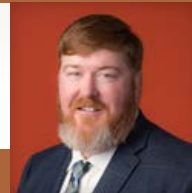
Caleb Ragland
President
Magnolia, KY



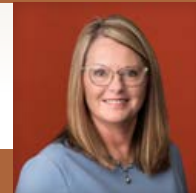
Scott Metzger
Vice President
Williamsport, OH



Steph Essick
Dickens, IA



John Fleming
Tarboro, NC



Renee Fordyce
Bethany, MO



Ryan Frieders
Waterman, IL



Josh Gackle
Chairman
Kulm, ND



Dave Walton
Secretary
Wilton, IA



Ron Kindred
Atlanta, AL



Jeff King
Corydon, KY



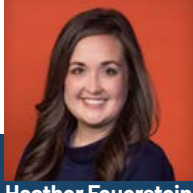
Mike Koehne
Greensburg, IN



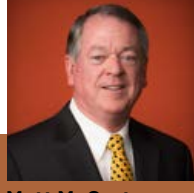
Jim Kukowski
Strathcona, MN



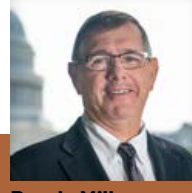
Alan Meadows
Treasurer
Halls, TN



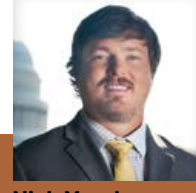
Heather Feuerstein
At-large
Belding, MI



Matt McCrate
Cape Girardeau, MO



Randy Miller
Lacona, IA



Nick Moody
Blackstone, VA



Andrew Moore
Dalton, GA



Tanner Johnson
At-large
Prairie Farm, WI



Jimmie Lee Shaw
At-large
Newberry, SC



Denise Scarborough
LaCrosse, IN



Bryan Severs
Potomac, IL



Rob Shaffer
El Paso, IL



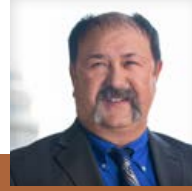
Justin Sherlock
Dazey, ND



Jordan Scott
At-large
Valley Springs, SD



Brad Thykeson
Portland, ND



Andy Winsor
Grantville, KS



Brandon Wipf
Huron, SD

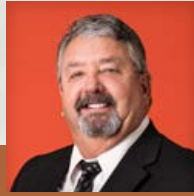


Russell Wolf
Syracuse, MO

2025 DIRECTORS



Teresa Brandenburg
Russell, KS



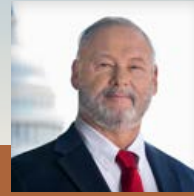
Paul Casper
Lake Preston, SD



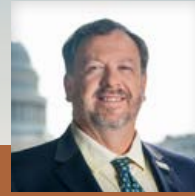
Daryl Cates
Columbia, IL



John Comegys
Hartly, DE



Wade Cowan
Brownfield, TX



Brad Doyle
Weiner, AR



Janna Fritz
Bad Axe, MI



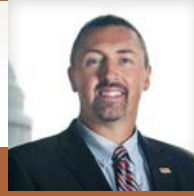
Dennis Fujan
Prague, NE



George Gobligh
Vesta, MN



Rusty Goebel
Stryker, OH



Adam Guetter
Wabasso, MN



Morey Hill
Madrid, IA



Keevin Lemenager
Monrovia, IN



Kody Leonard
Stillwater, OK



Don Lutz
Scandinavia, WI



Brad Macauley
Geneseo, NY



Jim Martin
Pontiac, IL



Julie Maw
Courtrigh, ON, CAN



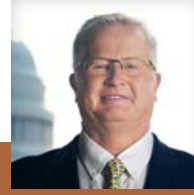
Brady Peek
Athens, AL



Phil Ramsey
Shelbyville, IN



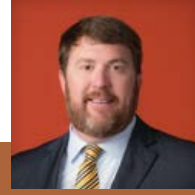
Ryan Rhoades
Radnor, OH



Ronnie Russell
Richmond, MO



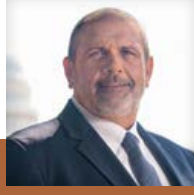
Geoff Ruth
Rising City, NE



Luke Sayes
Deville, LA



Roberta Simpson-Dolbeare
Nebo, IL



Fred Sipes
Ekron, KY



Jeffrey Sorenson
Morgan, MN



Robert Stobaugh
Atkins, AR



Pat Swanson
Ottumwa, IA



Jimmy Thomas
Timberlake, NC



Bob Worth
Lake Benton, MN



Casey Youngerman
Lexington, TN

EXECUTIVE STAFF

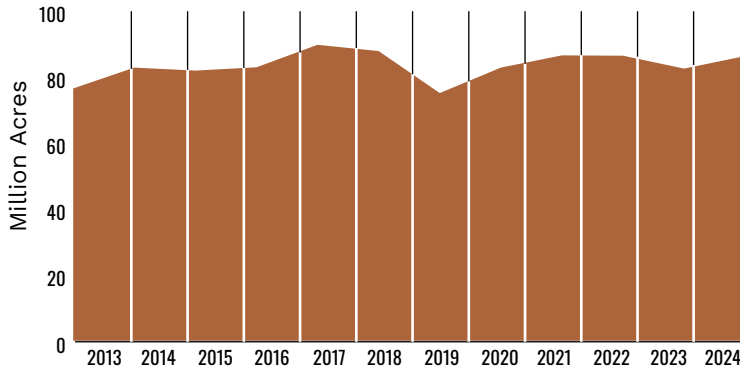


Stephen Censky
ASA Chief Executive Officer

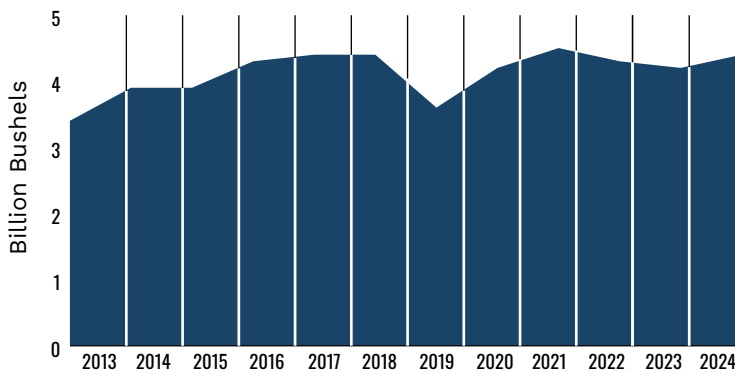
SOY BY THE NUMBERS



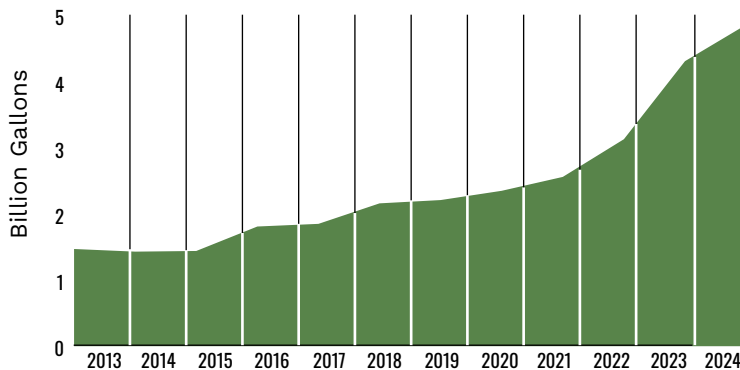
U.S. Soybean Harvested Area



U.S. Soybean Production



U.S. Biodiesel & Renewable Diesel Production



Sources: USDA, NASS, EIA

STATE	BUSHELS
Illinois	688,000,000
Iowa	597,600,000
Indiana	341,020,000
Minnesota	329,400,000
Nebraska	301,300,000
Missouri	286,160,000
Ohio	251,500,000
North Dakota	245,625,000
South Dakota	231,340,000
Arkansas	166,100,000
Kansas	154,700,000
Mississippi	127,120,000
Michigan	106,820,000
Wisconsin	101,760,000
Kentucky	97,920,000
Tennessee	75,600,000
North Carolina	62,790,000
Louisiana	55,120,000
Pennsylvania	27,000,000
Virginia	26,400,000
Maryland	21,340,000
New York	18,615,000
South Carolina	12,920,000
Alabama	10,850,000
Oklahoma	8,100,000
Georgia	7,614,000
Delaware	6,885,000
New Jersey	4,429,000
Texas	2,464,000

Source: USDA, NASS, Crop Production 2024 Summary (January 2025)

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING

World Initiative for Soy in Human Health

ASA's WISHH program continues to connect trade, development and food security across global market systems. Alongside market development work, WISHH continued its engagement with the United Nations Rome-based agencies to share U.S. soy's commitment to global food security.

Africa - WISHH's reputation as an aquaculture development specialist in sub-Saharan Africa continues to grow. WISHH's "Training Program for Young Professionals," supported by USB, now counts graduates from several countries on the continent among its ranks. Additionally, with the support of USB, the program was also launched in Nigeria. Both programs have trained more than 300 aquaculture practitioners and impacted more than 12,000 value chain actors and farmers across 16 countries.



WISHH's programs for young professionals have trained more than 300 aquaculture practitioners and impacted more than 12,000 value chain actors and farmers across 16 countries.

Latin America - WISHH's Latin America team is making gains with large and medium retail/food service food and beverage processors and companies. To build further awareness and interest in soy protein for human foods, the Latin America Division hosted trade teams, webinars and multiple technical assistance sessions. WISHH's engagement with private sector companies and ministry representatives provided the launching pad for its 2025 global food security conference in Guatemala, which builds on the value of soy for food security in Latin America.

Asia - WISHH hosted several trade teams from Asia for conferences and visits with U.S. soybean growers. This introduced Asian companies to new technologies and new uses for soy for human foods. The Asia division continues to work with food processors, feed millers and other aquaculture value-chain participants, including promoting the economic benefits of U.S. soybean meal to feed millers



In 2024, WISHH hosted several trade teams from Asia for conferences and visits with U.S. soybean growers, introducing them to new technologies and new uses for soy for human foods.

in Kazakhstan through its second feed conference. WISHH is branching out in Central Asia, conducting market assessments in Georgia, Laos, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

U.S. Soybean Export Council

The mission of the U.S. Soybean Export Council is to maximize the utilization, value and access to markets of U.S. soy around the world. USSEC offers program, workshops and training sessions to share knowledge and solutions that promote and create access for the use of U.S. soy for human consumption, aquaculture and livestock feed in more than 80 countries internationally.

U.S. soy remains America's No. 1 agricultural export, adding \$31.2 billion to the U.S. economy in marketing year 2023/24, and U.S. soybean meal exports set a record based on increased supply, strong demand, competitive prices and its nutritional advantage. In marketing year 2023/24, exports of U.S. soybean meal reached a record 14.4 MMT, valued at \$6.7 billion. That volume was up 10% from the year prior and 17% over the 5-year average.

Support for USSEC comes from ASA's investment of cost-share funding provided by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, along with cooperating industries and producer checkoff dollars invested by the United Soybean Board and various state soybean councils.

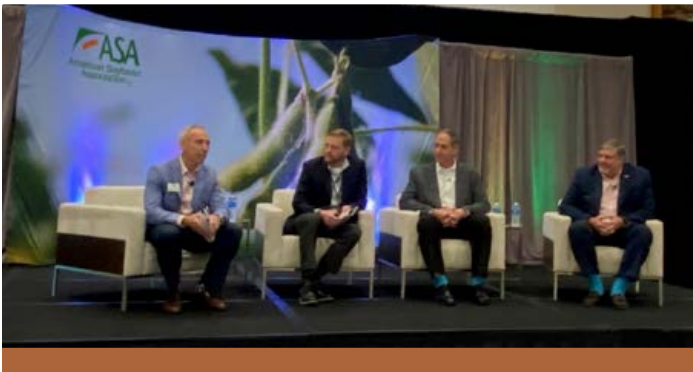


As part of its mission to increase global awareness of the many advantages of U.S. soy, USSEC hosted a group of journalists from the International Federation of Agricultural Journalists for an in-depth sustainability and aquaculture tour in Thailand. The unique opportunity allowed media representatives from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. to witness firsthand the critical role of sustainable U.S. soy in supporting Thailand's robust aquaculture industry.

LEARNING AND LEADER DEVELOPMENT



The ASA Innovation-to-Market (I2M) Work Group met in Arlington, Virginia. The group's mission is to facilitate the domestic and international introduction, commercialization and market acceptance of new innovations in seed and crop protection products. I2M includes manufacturers of seed and crop protection products and farmer-leaders and staff from ASA, USB, USSEC and state soy organizations.



Over 100 leaders and staff in the soybean industry gathered in Cape Coral, Florida, for the annual Soybean Leadership Academy. Pictured (left to right): ASA CEO Steve Censky moderates a leader panel featuring ASA President Josh Gackle, USB Chair Steve Reinhard and past USSEC Chair Stan Born.

ASA Conservation Champions met in Tennessee and Arkansas to learn about conservation efforts employed in southern parts of the country and hear updates on pressing issues that can impact farmer conservation efforts. In Tennessee, the Conservation Champions participated in educational sessions on conservation-related policy issues, biofuels, crop protection tools and new biobased products. The program took place at the Ducks Unlimited headquarters.



The 40th class of ASA Corteva Agriscience Young Leaders finished training with the 2024 Commodity Classic Convention and Trade Show in Houston. The Young Leaders are: Kelsey Banks & William De Jong, CAN; Terrance Scott, AL; Adam Collier, DE; Casey Collier, DE; Daniel Williams, IN; Skyler Rinker, IA; Michael & Amanda Tupper, IA; Ryan & Alisha Delaney, KS; Bryan & Lauren Bickett, KY; Grant Ziliak, KY; Nick & Mary Van Mol, LA; Shawn & Tera Baker, MI; Jenna Gardner & Logan Maher, MI; Parker Revier & Gabrielle Carmichael, MN; Christian Δ & Laura Good, MS; Andrea Kientzy, MO; Sarah Kliethermes, MO; Justin & Samantha Fiala, NE; Derek & Nicole Van Heek, NE; Christopher Bay, NY; Daniel & Marilyn Fincher, NC; Alexander & Camille Zavara, OH; Riley & Kelcy Schoenfelder, SD; Ross Tschetter, SD; and Danny Brisky, WI.





A select group of 10 college students from across the country completed the Ag Voices of the Future program while in Washington, D.C. The program, sponsored by Valent USA and ASA, gives college students an inside look at how agricultural policies are made in Washington and careers that impact ag policy. The following students were in the 2024 class: Leon Aldridge, Alabama A&M University; Wyatt Anderson, Iowa State University; Allyson Aves, Iowa State University; Makenna Garrett, Oklahoma State University; Kyra Meister, Purdue University; Peter Metivier, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Clayton Moore, University of Idaho; Zy Polk, Alcorn State University; Harrison Sachs, Cornell University; and Rachel Swinford, Oklahoma State University.



CEOs Stephen Censky (ASA) (second from left), Jim Sutter (USSEC) (third from left) and Lucas Lentsch (USB) (right) shared insights on organization priorities and farmer support at the 2024 State & National Soybean Staff Meeting in Virginia Beach.



The Illinois Soybean Association hosted the Producer and Industry Information Exchange (PIIE) program, sponsored by USB and NOPA. Grower leaders and staff from both ASA and USB attended the 2024 event titled, "Illinois Water: A Confluence of Interests." Pictured: Attendees visit the Peoria River Lock & Dam.



During the ASA State Staff Meeting in St. Charles, MO, state and national staff broke into mini roundtables to explore topics like the Endangered Species Act; ASA's Government Affairs and organization survey results; biomass-based diesel issues; and attracting grower leaders to board positions and helping them better understand their roles as directors.

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Here are a few examples of ASA's active presence on social media in 2024



Rep. Randy Feenstra gave a shout-out to Iowa soybean leaders who attended the Ways and Means field hearing at the Iowa State Fair, including ASA directors Dave Walton and Randy Miller.




To recognize National Ag Day, Sen. Amy Klobuchar shared a photo from her visit to Minnesota soy grower Bob Worth's farm.




In recognition of Mental Health Month, ASA and others in the soy industry once again promoted #SoyHelp on its social media channels throughout May. To broaden outreach among farmers, ASA partnered with the United Soybean Board on radio ads that ran on Brownfield Ag News across several soy-producing states, complemented by a print ad in Progressive Farmer's May edition, spotlighting rural mental health.

ASA launched its #FarmBillFamilies social media campaign in August. This mini advocacy campaign was produced with farmer-sourced videos featuring the children and grandchildren of ASA members to highlight U.S. soy grower priorities in the farm bill—crop insurance, biofuels, trade, Title 1 safety net, new uses, checkoff and more.

 **American Soybean Association @ASA_Soybeans** · Sep 9

The 2024 #FarmBill is critically important to U.S. soy growers. ASA supports meaningful improvements that strengthen #FarmBillFamilies. youtube.com/watch?v=K_rISE...

Learn more about ASA's farm bill priorities here: ow.ly/lbgw50SOlNo

 youtube.com
#FarmBillFamilies: The Next Generation
 Here's what the next generation of farmers has to say about the importance of passing the farm bill ...

 **Foreign Ag Service @USDAForeignAg** · 13m

When we met w/ the @ASA WISHH Program at the @USDA Food Aid showcase, they told us about a Food for Progress project in Cambodia using 🇺🇸 soy in fish feed, growing production. So now the fish is being dried into jerky—a new commodity for the local market! wishh.org

Soy: A Sustainable Solution For Climate-smart Ag

Soybeans provide animals and fish with protein, energy and amino acids that are essential for growth. In addition, U.S. Soy has increased digestibility, meaning the fish are absorbing and using more of the nutrients in soy-based feed. Not only does U.S. Soy deliver optimal performance and profitability for producers around the world, but U.S. Soy is also verified to be sustainable.

High-quality, soy-based aquaculture feeds allow farmers to boost the growth of their fish as a replacement for traditional home-made feeds that commonly use small fish and other unsustainable ingredients.

Extruded soy-based fish feed floats so farmers can avoid overfeeding, enabling them to cut waste and save money.

[WISHH.ORG](https://wishh.org)



USDA FAS highlighted the ASA WISHH Food for Progress project in Cambodia on social media.

You reposted

 **House Committee on Agriculture @HouseAgGOP** · 22h

.@ASA_Soybeans: Farmers face significant headwinds – including an unfavorable farm income outlook and volatility in access to export markets – and strengthening the farm bill is more important than ever. #FarmBill

 **American Soybean Association**

"It is a welcome development to see progress toward a new and improved farm bill, and we are hopeful that meaningful bipartisan legislation will be advanced this year. Farmers face significant headwinds – including an unfavorable farm income outlook and volatility in access to export markets – and strengthening the farm bill is more important than ever."

JOSH GACKLE, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION



The House Committee on Agriculture tweeted a quote from ASA President Josh Gackle (ND) expressing support for moving toward passing a new and improved farm bill.

You reposted

 **Congressman Max Miller @RepMaxMiller** · Mar 13



Glad to see the @OhioSoyCouncil in Washington!

My team talked with them about the importance of moving the #FarmBill forward, strengthening our trade agenda, & advocating for Ohio farmers @ASA_Soybeans




Rep. Max Miller posted about his talk with Ohio soybean growers during Hill visits in March.

From the field...

...to the Hill



The #FieldToHill campaign featured side-by-side photos of our hardworking ASA directors, working both in their fields and advocating on the Hill. The goal of this campaign was to highlight ASA policy priorities and the importance of the work and value our soy leaders bring to the industry both on and off the farm.

2024 ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION



ASA Pinnacle Award

Dr. Gary List (IL) received the Pinnacle Award. The Pinnacle Award is ASA's top honor and an industry-wide recognition of a lifetime of work that demonstrates the highest level of contribution and leadership within the soybean family and industry.*



ASA Distinguished Leadership Award

Steve Pitstick (IL) accepts ASA's Distinguished Leadership Award during ASA's awards ceremony in Houston. The ASA Distinguished Leadership Award recognizes a soybean grower or association staff leader who has shown a high level of dedication and successfully led others to meet goals and achieve successes to benefit soybean farmers.*



ASA Outstanding State Volunteer Award

ASA President Josh Gackle (ND) presents Theresia Gillie (MN) with the Outstanding State Volunteer Award at the annual ASA Awards Celebration during 2024 Commodity Classic.*

Conservation Legacy Awards

ASA President Josh Gackle (left) presents Brad and Joyce Doyle from Weiner, Arkansas, with ASA's National Conservation Legacy Award. The Doyle's were also winners of a Conservation Legacy Award for the Southern Region.*



Donald Morse and wife, Helen, from Birch Run, Michigan, receive the Conservation Legacy Award for the Northeast Region.*

Jacob Kaderly and wife, Ann, from Monticello, Wisconsin, receive the Conservation Legacy Award for the Upper Midwest Region.*



Chris Von Holten and wife, Julia, from Walnut, Illinois, receive the Conservation Legacy Award for the Midwest Region.*

*Photo Credit: Commodity Classic

SOYCONNECTIONS

ASA State Affiliate Websites

Alabama Soybean & Corn Association

alabamasoycorn.org

Arkansas Soybean Association

arkansassoybean.com

Georgia/Florida Soybean Association

No state website, visit soygrowers.com

Illinois Soybean Association

ilsoygrowers.com

Indiana Soybean Alliance

indianasoybean.com

Iowa Soybean Association

iasoybeans.com

Kansas Soybean Association

kansassoybeans.org

Kentucky Soybean Association

kysoy.org

Louisiana Cotton and Grain Association

louisianacottonandgrain.com

Michigan Soybean Association

misoy.org

Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association (DE, MD, NJ, PA)

midatlanticsoy.org

Minnesota Soybean Growers Association

mnsoybean.org

Mississippi Soybean Association

No state website, visit soygrowers.com

Missouri Soybean Association

mosoy.org

Nebraska Soybean Association

nesoybeans.org

New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association

nycornsoy.org

North Carolina Soybean Producers Association

ncsoy.org

North Dakota Soybean Growers Association

ndsoygrowers.com

Ohio Soybean Association

soyohio.org

Oklahoma Soybean Association

No state website, visit soygrowers.com

South Carolina Corn & Soybean Association

sccornandsoy.org

South Dakota Soybean Association

sdsoybean.org

Tennessee Soybean Association

tnsoybeans.org

Texas Soybean Association

texassoybeans.org

Virginia Soybean Association

vasoybean.com

Wisconsin Soybean Association

wisoybean.org

CONNECT WITH ASA

 soygrowers.com

 @ASA_Soybeans

 /AmericanSoybeanAssoc

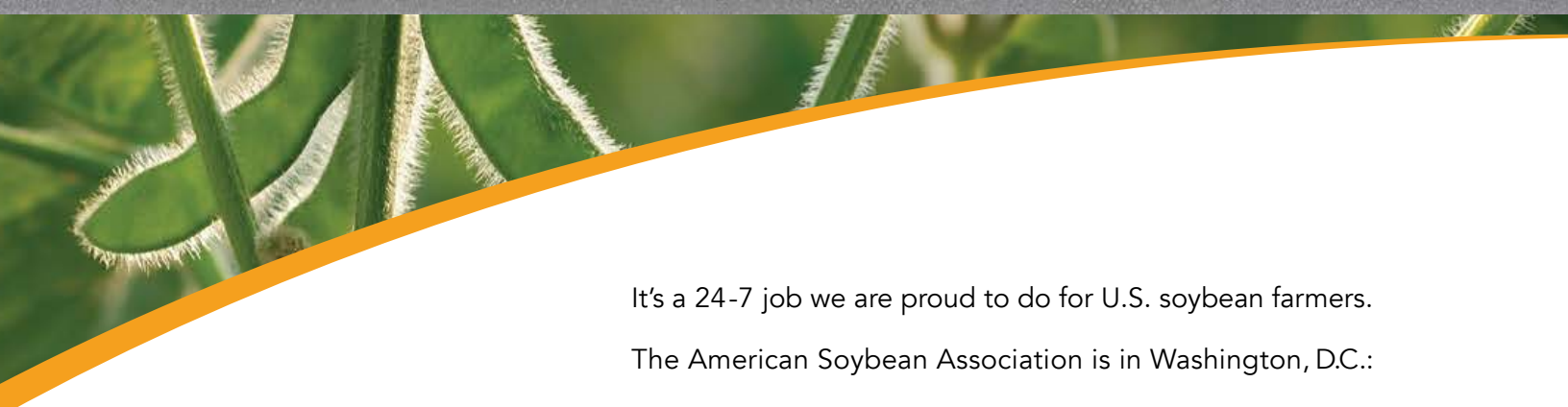
 /AmericanSoybeanAssociation

 American Soybean Association

 info@soy.org



Policy makers take notice of ASA.



It's a 24-7 job we are proud to do for U.S. soybean farmers.

The American Soybean Association is in Washington, D.C.:

- Protecting soybean interests in the farm bill
- Fighting against burdensome EPA regulations
- Growing soybean trade opportunities

That's why ASA matters.



Joining your state soybean association supports ASA's work in Washington, D.C. | Visit ASA at SoyGrowers.com