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Cover Photo:
Soybeans in the summer sun
Photo by Nebraska Soybean Board

Soybean Summer Giveaway

3 Ways to Enter...

Like us on Facebook!
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Now that the 2017 crop year is in the ground, how are we going to maximize our soybean yield potential to break last year’s state record average of 61 bushels/acre? The first thing we need is obviously a little help from Mother Nature! The rest is up to us as soybean producers to manage our crops for weeds, insects and diseases.

I realize that the summer months of July and August are usually a great time for family vacations, but those months are extremely critical to soybean production. So, don’t forget about the soybeans on vacation! At this point in the soybean life cycle, the plant is blooming and pod development occurs. Simple math always taught me that more blooms lead to more pods, and more pods lead to more soybeans, and more soybeans lead to more yield. So, how can we protect the soybean plants and our investments?

1. Plant canopy closure – either from row spacing or variety selection
2. Manage insect pressures – scout fields and spray insecticides to prevent pod clipping
3. Disease management – spraying fungicides even when disease pressures are low can reduce stress on the plants
4. Irrigation timing – If possible, keep the plant canopy cool and provide timely irrigation from R3 to R5

If we can scout our soybean fields this summer and manage the stresses on the crop, they will reward you this fall by putting more bushels in the bin and more dollars in your wallet for winter vacations!

I hope each of you received your Nebraska Soybean and Corn Pocket Field Guide and have had a chance to look through it. This guide is an excellent source of information to help manage our crops and provide answers to problems that come up throughout the growing season. If you would like more copies, please contact the Nebraska Soybean Board office at (402) 441-3240 or visit your local Extension office.

Remember to control the things you can control, and above all, SAFETY FIRST!

Tony Johanson
Chairman, Nebraska Soybean Board


from the Association

Property Tax & Income Tax
— by Dennis Fujan, Prague, NSA President

In late May, I found myself twiddling my thumbs and waiting for the five inches of rain to dry off so I could finish planting soybeans. It’s too bad we can’t save some of this rain for later in the season. By the time you receive this magazine, I hope to have the planting wrapped up.

The Nebraska Legislature adjourned on May 23 and didn’t make much progress in the way of property tax relief or reform. We saw several bills this year that attempted to provide some sort of reduction in property taxes, but the bills were not able to gain enough traction to get out of committee. The Governor’s bill, LB461, was touted to give property tax relief. It did to some extent, but would have given ten times the income tax relief in the process. The bill would have changed the way real estate is valued, by considering production capabilities. However, it was also tied to recent sales, so it would not have changed taxes much. Reducing income tax also had the potential to increase demand for property taxes, since there would be less money for school funding that comes from income taxes. While this is disappointing, we are not going to give up on tax reform. It is too important, and many farmers are affected by the unfair tax system. We also dealt with issues pertaining to livestock ownership and branding, the budget, school finance formula and spending caps, internet sales taxes, NRD levy authority, and estate taxes to name a few.

On the bright side, we are encouraged that the Lincoln Premium Poultry project near Fremont will begin construction in the near future. This project has the potential to provide many good jobs, using 3,000 tons of soybean meal and 360,000 bushels of corn per week. That’s a great marketplace for our crops!

As you can imagine these issues keep the NSA busy by working on your behalf. It requires a lot of time to address these concerns. Your membership helps us continue working. If you are not a member, I encourage you to join. A three-year membership is $250, and you will receive six bags of soybean seed free, as well as numerous member benefits. Call our office today at 402-441-3239.

I hope to see you at the Soybean Management Field Days in August, which will provide valuable information for producers.

Have a safe and profitable season.

I Believe, I Belong...

For many years I have been a dues-paying member of the Nebraska Soybean Association, prior to my election as NSA’s District 4 State Director. Through my involvement as an NSA Director, it is evident that it takes the work of more than one individual’s voice and a coalition of agricultural interests to get changes made regarding policy issues, that affect our livelihood. Whether it’s a state or national policy issue the work of the NSA is ongoing. While you are busy planting and harvesting, the Nebraska and American Soybean Associations are working for you to make sure that issues are monitored and soybean farmers are well-represented.

That’s why I believe and belong to the Nebraska and American Soybean Association. I encourage you to join too. Contact the NSA office at 402-441-3239 to join. It’s a small investment with a greater return.

— Kent Grotelueschen, Octavia, District 4 NSA Director
Election ballots for the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) Districts 5, 7 and At-Large will be mailed to soybean farmers that reside in those districts. Farmers eligible to vote in the election must produce soybeans, be a resident of the district and pay the soybean checkoff. Qualified farmers who do not receive a ballot by July 17, 2017 can call (402) 564-5827 to request a ballot. The voting farmer must sign and print their full name and hometown on the return ballot envelope for their vote to be valid. Ballots must be postmarked by July 31, 2017.

The elected directors will serve a three-year term for these seats beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2020.

Meet the candidates interested in representing the soybean farmers in their district. The following is a short description of their farming operation and why they are running.

**Daryl Obermeyer**

Brownville, NE

Nemaha County, District 5

Daryl began farming in southeast Nebraska after graduating from UNL with an Agricultural Economics degree in 1974. He started his farming operation by trading manual labor for the use of machinery on his rented farmland, which eventually grew over time. Daryl’s wife, J ackie, and his three children help him farm soybeans, wheat, corn, alfalfa, and produce beef cattle. He also has six grandchildren who enjoy spending time on the farm and learning about agriculture.

Comments by Daryl: I am a strong supporter of the checkoff because it is farmers directly choosing and funding the programs that will directly benefit the producer. The Nebraska Soybean Board has shown they can build demand for soybean meal and oil in the international market due to the superior quality of U.S. soybeans. I would like to continue my involvement in order to discover and promote new uses of soybean oil. In return, this should increase the value of the oil and keep soybean meal competitively priced for livestock producers.

**Andy Dunn**

Falls City, NE

Richardson County, District 5

Andy and his wife raise corn, soybeans and perform custom farming in southeast Nebraska. He graduated from the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources with a degree in Diversified Agriculture. Andy began farming part-time in college, and worked in a southeast Nebraska feedlot for a year before leaving to farm full-time. He also has a cow/calf operation, seed sales business, and retail greenhouse on their farm. Andy is a 4-H and FFA alumnus, and is part of the Falls City Economic Development & Growth Enterprise.

Comments by Andy: I would like to help promote the expansion of soybean markets and have a more direct role in where checkoff dollars are spent in order to accomplish that goal. I think some of the important issues facing Nebraska soybean producers today include getting facts to the non-agricultural community – such as sustainability, GMOs, herbicide/pesticide use, and food safety.

**Brent Steinhoff**

Syracuse, NE

Otoe County, District 5

Brent and his family live on the farm where he was raised. He has been involved in agricultural production his whole life by raising crops and livestock. His operation began in 1997 and includes corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa and a small number of 4-H pigs for his children. After college, Brent was the nursery manager for a local hog facility and also has numerous years of experience in soil conservation construction.

Comments by Brent: After participating in two of the See For Yourself trips, I saw how important the Nebraska Soybean Board is for the industry. I knew that I wanted to be more involved in the promotion of the soybean industry and gain more knowledge of how the industry works. I think an important issue facing soybean producers today is staying competitive in the ever-changing world market. As other countries become more advanced in their production and infrastructures, the U.S. will have to work hard to maintain their foreign relations.
Doug Saathoff
Trumbull, NE
Adams County, District 7
Doug and his wife own and operate West Fork Farms, Inc. in northeast Adams County, where they grow irrigated soybeans, corn, seed corn and sorghum. He graduated from UNL in 1996 with a degree in Diversified Agriculture before moving back to the family farm to work with his dad and brother. His farming practices include ridge-till and no-till, as well as conventional tillage on a limited basis. Last year, Doug grew 200 acres of Plenish high oleic soybeans and will increase that amount this year.

Comments by Doug: The Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) has done great work in promoting and finding new uses for Nebraska soybeans and also providing educational opportunities for Nebraska agriculture producers. I would like to help make sure that continues and be a part of finding new markets. The number one issue facing Nebraska soybean producers today is profitability. Low commodity prices and high input prices have put a strain on the producer. If elected, one of my first tasks will be to listen, learn and ask questions about how everything works to gain a better understanding of the NSB.

Cecil Schriner
Hildreth, NE
Franklin County, District 7
Cecil began farming full-time in 1999, and currently raises corn, white corn, soybeans and milo. His operation consists of 75 percent irrigated land with restrictions, and most of his production is strip-till. He is a Nebraska Corn Growers Association member and has competed in the yield contest. Cecil is a Class 34 graduate of the Nebraska LEAD program, which he completed in 2016, and is now a LEAD alumnus. He hopes to find a new efficiency for both the producer and consumer.

Comments by Cecil: I want to advocate for the Nebraska soybean producer and I want to learn from consumers and customers to find out what their needs are. The biggest issue today for soybean producers is weed resistance, which is being looked at by everyone – from farmers to scientists.

Greg Anderson
Newman Grove, NE
Madison County, District 1 (At-Large)
Greg has been farming in northeast Nebraska since 1977. His operation includes corn, milo, oats, alfalfa, grass hay, soybeans, as well as a commercial and registered Angus cow/calf herd. Since 1990, along with his hay and cattle operation, he has grown continuous soybeans and began farming no-till in the mid-90s. Aside from being a director on the Nebraska Soybean Board, Greg is currently involved with the National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA), and National Biodiesel Board (NBB).

Comments by Greg: I would like to continue as a director of the Nebraska Soybean Board to help enhance Nebraska soybean farmers' profitability through efficient and wise investment of checkoff dollars. Profitability continues to be the important issue facing all Nebraska soybean producers today, during these challenging economic times. Through well-defined marketing and research programs, the soybean checkoff helps ensure a strong future and profit opportunities for Nebraska farmers.

Nathan Dorn
Firth, NE
Gage County, District 6 (At-Large)
Nathan farms in southeast Nebraska with his two uncles, father and cousin. His operation consists of corn, soybeans, a cow/calf operation and beef cattle production. His wife and two young children also help with the farm chores. Nathan is currently the secretary for the Nebraska Soybean Association (NSA), a member of the Nebraska Corn Growers Association, and is also a member of the 33rd Nebraska LEAD program. He is one of three members that actively helped form an alumni program for LEAD in 2017.

Comments by Nathan: As a soybean farmer, I value what the checkoff has done and I’ve seen what checkoff dollars can do. I want to foster goodwill between the NSA and Nebraska Soybean Board so we have cooperation between the two entities. I believe that the most important issue that soybean producers face today is complacency. We can’t get complacent with our export markets, and we can’t get complacent with educating our farmers and expecting them to know everything. Instead, I want to help educate the farmers.
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2017 SOYBEAN MANAGEMENT

FIELD DAYS

Aug. 8         University of Nebraska West Central Res. & Ext. Center in North Platte

At North Platte - from I-80, take exit 177 and go S. merge onto US-83 South S. Jeffrey S. Go 1 1/2 mi. South to W. State Arm Street. Go 1/2 mi. past the WCREC headquarters) to treeline. Field site is on North side of State Farm Road. GPS users: 41.089318° -100.776047°

Aug. 9         Tad Mella Farm near Ord

From the West side of Ord (north of the hospital) at the intersection of Hwys. 70 & 11, go North for 3 mi. and then turn left at 47th Ave B19 Rd. intersection. Take immediate left, south on 47th Ave. for 2 mi. Field day is on the West side of the road. GPS users: 41.636657° -98.364191° 47th Ave 814th Rd, Ord, Nebraska

Aug. 10        Jim Gerdes Farm near Auburn

From Auburn (at Hwy. 136 & Hwy. 75), go 7 mi. South on Hwy. 75. Go 1 mi. West on Co. Rd. 722. Go 1/4 mi. South on 638 Ave. Go west 1 1/2 mi. on 721A. Field site is on the South side of the road. GPS users: 41.858698° -98.871146°

Aug. 11        Tim Gregerson Farm near Herman

From Herman, go North at Hwy. 75 (Main St.) Co. Rd. 4 (Walnut St.) for 2 1/2 miles. Go 1 1/2 miles West on Co. Rd. C. Turn North on Co. Rd. 34. Field Day is on East side of the road. OR from Tekamah, go South at Hwy. 75 (13th St.) / Hwy. 32 (L St.) for 4 1/2 miles. Go 1 1/2 miles West on Co. Rd. C. Turn North on Co. Rd. 34. Field Day is on East side of the road. GPS users: 41.713357° -96.246971°

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- Justin McMichen, University of Nebraska Crop Protection and Crop Systems Specialist
- Nick Armson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Plant Pathology Research Technologist
- Loren Giesler, Nebraska Extension Plant Pathologist

Maturity Group and Traits, Cover Crops and Weed Management
- Roger Elmore, Nebraska Extension Crop Systems Agronomist
- Rodrigo Werle, Nebraska Extension Crop Systems Specialist

The Good, Bad and Ugly When Spraying the New Herbicides’ Formulations in Soybeans
- Bob Kleinkopf, University of Nebraska Emeritus Crop Systems Specialist
- Chris Proctor, Nebraska Weed Management Extension Educator

Marketing and Policy Outlook
- Jessica Grogkopf, Extension Educator, Ag Economics
- Brad Lubben, Nebraska Extension Public Policy Specialist

Impact of Tillage on Seeding Rates, Evapotranspiration and Soil Factors Affecting Yield
- Chuck Burr, Nebraska Extension Educator
- Troy Ingram, Nebraska Extension Educator
- Brian Krienke, Nebraska Soil Extension Educator
- Steve Melvin, Extension Educator, Crop Systems
- Aaron Nygren, Extension Educator, Irrigation and Crop Systems
- Darin Rudnick, Nebraska Extension Agriculture Water Management Specialist
- Crops
- Charles Shapiro, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Soil Scientist
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Monitoring White Mold and SDS

– by Allie Arp, NCSRP communications liaison, ISA research communications specialist

Mold today, management tomorrow

The diseases farmers see in their fields this growing season can help determine a better management strategy for the future. While that may not be a comfort to farmers in the midst of an outbreak, this will better inform their decision-making for the coming year.

According to Loren Giesler, University of Nebraska-Lincoln extension plant pathologist, once white mold and sudden death syndrome (SDS) are spotted in soybean fields, there is nothing that can be done to combat them.

“They aren’t diseases we can scout for and then make a management decision,” Giesler said. “We need to know the field’s risk based on history and environmental conditions to manage them before they occur.”

White mold

For white mold, farmers need to know which fields are at risk. Farmers who are working a field for the first time should ask about what neighbors have been experiencing. White mold is a disease that is generally geographical. Once a farmer has determined their fields may be at risk they need to focus on monitoring the weather and considering fungicide timing. A well-timed fungicide application is the best bet. Product needs to be applied when a flower is senescing, at late R1 or the beginning of the R2 stage.

“It’s problematic to manage but a few days difference in application can make a huge difference in disease development,” Giesler said. “Do not wait for podset with white mold. You won’t see it until late in the season when it’s too late to manage.”

What are the odds white mold will appear in Nebraska this year? Giesler says that’s tough to answer because of how variable the different parts of the state are. Northern Nebraska generally sees white mold issues and how far south it goes depends on how cool and wet conditions are during flowering.

Sudden death syndrome

Like white mold, the best information a farmer can have for combating SDS is disease history for each field. Unlike white mold, there isn’t a foliar fungicide available that has been proven against the disease. There is a seed treatment on the market that has proven effective, but this requires farmers to make a decision before planting.

Giesler thinks SDS could be an issue for some Nebraska farmers. Based on soil temperatures when farmers got into the fields, the amount of spring precipitation and wet 2016 harvest conditions that led to soil compaction, the conditions are favorable for the disease.

“SDS will affect some producers significantly, most likely those whose fields have a history of the disease,” said Giesler. “If temperatures increase as expected there will be a lower risk. I will forecast SDS as a moderate issue.”

Solutions

If a farmer sees white mold or SDS this season they should note the location and severity to come back to in the fall. If a disease is severe enough, farmers should look into resistant varieties, seed treatments and/or a crop rotation for the following year.

“Both (white mold and SDS) are diseases that once you see them, put it in the history book and manage it next time,” Giesler said. “Decide what you’re going to do the next year and have a strategy.”

This article was brought to you by the North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP). NCSRP is a regional research organization that funds collaborative basic and applied research projects regarding issues found in the north central region. It is funded by the checkoff dollars of 12 midwest states. In addition to Nebraska other members are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.
For cattle producers, one of the most important economical decisions relates to protein supplementation. Most producers and nutritionists commonly measure crude protein. Crude protein is simply a measure of nitrogen which is repeatable and inexpensive to measure, but only provides a “crude” estimate of protein content. Formulating diets to meet the crude protein needs of the animal is common and easy; however, we are actually trying to meet the amino acid requirements of cattle.

In animal nutrition, quality of protein is usually related to the ratios of amino acids in the feed or diet, relative to the amino acids required by the animal. The microbial community in the rumen is very effective at breaking down feeds, which is good when you are feeding forages as then cattle get energy from fiber, but a little discouraging if you are feeding high quality protein that is degraded and used by rumen microbes before the animal has a chance to utilize the amino acids. Supplementing cattle with what is known as ruminally undegradable or “bypass” protein allows the amino acids to bypass degradation in the rumen and instead be absorbed from the small intestine.

Sources of bypass protein have typically undergone a treatment process rendering the nutrients unavailable to microbes in the rumen while still allowing them to be digested by the animal. SoyPass is a feed made from soybean meal that has undergone non-enzymatic browning (think of a nicely toasted custard or making French toast—same reaction). This heat treatment along with sugar makes the protein in SoyPass about 75 percent bypass protein, compared to only 35 percent in soybean meal. Corn grain also contains a relatively large amount of bypass protein (65 percent of the protein), but grain is low in protein. However, when corn is converted to distillers grains during ethanol production, the protein is concentrated leaving another source of bypass protein, which has become a common feedstuff for cattle in Nebraska. However, distillers grains are quite low in lysine, an amino acid essential to the growth of calves. Feeding a blend of bypass protein from corn (distillers grains) and soybeans (SoyPass) provides a balanced diet and may provide better performance (faster gain).

Two recent trials conducted at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln show the benefits of bypass protein supplementation for growing calves on a corn silage diet (data and full reports available at beef.unl.edu; 2016 and 2017 Beef Reports). These supplements consisted of a blend of corn and soybean products. As the amount of supplement was increased, daily gain also increased. Inclusion of soy products in cattle diets, even at low levels, could represent a sizable market opportunity with the potential to benefit both soybean farmers and cattle producers, and requires further exploration.
Although planting of 2017 soybean crop is complete, engaging students in science is an ongoing endeavor for Nebraska teachers. Through the Soybean Science Institute, more than 120 teachers from three states have improved their ability to create curriculum and deliver instruction. The program was started in 2010 as a collaborative partnership among the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Lincoln Public Schools (LPS), and the Nebraska Soybean Board.

At its inception, the institute targeted elementary teachers (K-2), and provided them a research experience covering the soybean plant system. An evaluation in 2016 led to the restructuring of the Soybean Science Institute to focus on middle school science curriculum.

Leaders of the 2017 institute were Don Lee, UNL, Anica Brown, Lindsey Luly, and James Blake, LPS; and Teri Zimmerman, Nebraska Soybean Board.

The first year moving to middle level started with great success. Eleven middle school science teachers from LPS participated as the first cohort moving to middle level.

Teachers spent eight days improving their ability to teach science through discussions and hands-on activities, soy production site visits, meetings with scientists, lesson development, field and greenhouse research experiments, and soybean curriculum exploration.

“This is a special year for Nebraska when we will be getting new types of science standards heavy in application and eventually a new state science test reflecting these standards. For many of us, it is a good idea to consider some extra learning as we will be asked to grow when teaching science,” Blake said.

Soybeans were chosen as the focus because of their economic and cultural importance to the midwest, specifically Nebraska. Soybeans also have relevance as a food source, use in commercial products, quick growth, and availability, and fit as a replacement for plants like lima beans typically grown and studied in classrooms.

Although the grade level has changed, the goals of the institute remained the same – to provide teachers the tools...
and knowledge necessary to engage in authentic science, communicate and educate the youth of Nebraska on the role of soybeans in their lives, and develop inquiry-driven lesson plans that teach science using soybean as the model system for instruction.

“Teaching science with hands-on approaches can be a challenge with lack of time and the type of assessments that emphasize vocabulary, which can be learned through just reading about science,” said Nancy Peters, Culler Middle School sixth grade teacher. The institute is designed to help support teachers expand their approaches beyond just reading about science or doing worksheets.

Don Lee and Amy Hauver, a graduate student, helped teachers engage in extended soybean experiments utilizing the greenhouse. Teachers were provided four experiments in progress to begin their own investigation on growth, competition, light, and inheritance. Teachers were then encouraged to continue the progress to completion through the next eight days using their own questions. “I am impressed with the teachers’ ability to learn the science that we work with [at the university level]. They can then translate it to the level that is right for their students,” Lee said.

Hands on experiences, where the teacher becomes the student, encourage more investigative teaching methods back in the middle school classroom. To further support the goal of teaching with the soybean, each participant received a grow light and digital microscope to take back and share in the classroom.

One new aspect to the Soybean Science Institute this year was taking the newly created soybean lessons and teaching them to the students. As leaders were planning, they realized that curriculum design in absence of students may leave participants only remembering the difficult aspects of teaching. So the LPS Community Learning Centers (CLC) provided an ideal setting for the institute participants to test out their new soybean lessons with students. “The directors are all excited for this activity,” said Kristi Chambers, School Community Coordinator, YMCA CLC at Elliott.

The participants formed teams of two to three teachers in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades to deliver lessons to four different CLCs. Each team gave a one hour lesson to middle school aged students during the second week of the institute. The lessons were videotaped so teachers could reflect on their performance and share feedback.

Good participation in this institute demonstrates the need in Nebraska for these types of opportunities for middle school teachers. The Soybean Science Institute looks forward to continuing to inspire teachers who want to improve their skills in an intensive, hands-on, learning experience. According to Lee, “The students they have now are the same students I’ll have in five years. Effective science teachers are absolutely critical. My challenges depend on their success.”

One group activity used soybean leaf disks (punches) to determine the rate of photosynthesis with different variables including the presence of carbon dioxide and various light sources. Documentation of observations is an important step in the scientific process.

Teachers learned from Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss about the predator-prey relationship between soybean aphids and the lady beetle. Institute participants created their own experiments and observed the lady beetle’s consumption rate of soybean aphids.
Soybean Farmers, Suppliers Strengthen Relationships in Mexico

— by Matthew Wilde, ISA senior writer

As U.S. farmers prepare to plant a record number of soybean acres, it appears a good portion of the crop will find a home south of the border.

Mexican soybean and soybean meal buyers told midwest farmers and suppliers they will continue to purchase from the United States if free trade, especially for agricultural products, isn’t disrupted between the two countries.

Speculation about potential reductions of soybean and soybean product exports to Mexico escalated after President Donald Trump announced plans to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). He also floated the idea of imposing a 20 percent tax on Mexican imports to pay for a border wall and narrow the trade deficit.

During a trade mission to central Mexico, midwest soybean farmers and representatives of Ag Processing Inc. (AGP) worked to strengthen relationships with their largest soybean meal customer and second largest buyer of whole soybeans. The trip is part of the Soybean Research and Development Council’s Latin America project, funded by AGP and several state soybean organizations.

With 89.5 million acres of soybeans projected to be planted in the U.S., according to a recent government report, participants said it’s crucial to maintain and increase soy sales to Mexico. Buyers are cautiously optimistic that will happen.

“If things stay the status quo, we will continue to buy. The country is growing so we’ll need more protein and the livestock industry keeps growing 5-8 percent a year,” said Jose Garay, an area manager for Gavilon, an international commodities trading firm. “We’re at a (grain and oilseed) deficit here.”

Garay works out of Gavilon’s shuttle station near Encarnacion, Mexico, which brings in shuttle trains (110 cars) of soybean meal, corn and dried distiller’s grain – mostly from the midwest. It sells the feedstocks to area livestock producers and feed mills.

Last year the facility imported 173,000 metric tons of soybean meal made from a little more than 8 million bushels of soybeans. Company officials said 60 percent were fed to swine, 30 percent to chickens and the rest to other animals.

In 2015, Garay said the facility imported 105,000 metric tons of meal. He looks forward to a continued good relationship with AGP, a major meal supplier based in Omaha, and U.S. farmers.

“NAFTA is a good thing and the U.S. is a valuable partner,” he said. “The logistics are good and all the buyers know what (quality) they will get.”
Mexico is a growing market for soybeans and soybean meal, according to the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC). The U.S. exported nearly 132 million bushels of soybeans and almost 2.2 million metric tons of meal (100.6 million bushels) to the country during the 2015/16 marketing year. The United States market share for soybeans and meal in Mexico is a dominant 86.9 percent and 91.6 percent, respectively, according to USSEC data.

Greg Greving, a Nebraska Soybean Board member and farmer near Chapman, wants to keep that market share and hopefully increase it. He told buyers Mexico is an important market and he and other farmers, state soybean associations and suppliers will do everything they can to maintain it, including making sure the Trump administration and U.S. lawmakers know how important trade is to agriculture and not to do anything to disrupt it.

Greving said trade missions are always valuable but take on an added sense of importance during times like these. “I know the Mexican market is very important to AGP and farmers from Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and the Dakotas (participating states),” Greving said. “We’re all concerned, but building relationships and just being here making an effort means a lot to keep customers happy.”

“Most buyers value contact over a contract, ” he continued. “That’s what we’re here to do.” Although making a sale is nice, too.

While touring facilities owned by Empresas Guadalupe, one of the largest fully integrated egg producers in Mexico, company officials expressed interest in purchasing a 110-car unit train of soybean meal from AGP. A unit train holds about 10,000 metric tons of meal made from nearly 464,000 bushels of soybeans.

Glenn Von Seggern, AGP national account manager, said Mexico is an important customer. Only the Philippines buy more meal from AGP for swine and poultry. It also ships AminoPlus high-bypass feed to Mexican dairies and other countries around the world.

“We’re always striving to expand markets and our presence,” Von Seggern said. “There will always be changes in the political landscape, but we’ll always focus on maintaining strong partnerships with our customers. Despite all the political rhetoric, we have a high regard for our customers and that will never change.”

Saul Cabrera Salas, feed mill manager for Empresas Guadalupe, said he prefers to buy soybeans and soybean meal from the U.S. because of price, ease of delivery by train and quality. But he is concerned about the future.

“We’re still nervous about what President Trump suggested,” Salas said. “But we’re very pleased with U.S. soybean meal, its consistency and high quality. We’re very happy to buy from AGP.”

The company purchases 110,000 tons of soybean meal made from 5.1 million bushels and soybeans (2.6 million bushels) a year. Last year 80 percent came from the U.S. This year, all soybean meal so far was purchased from AGP.

“Right now we’re cautious,” Salas said. “We’re expecting nothing will happen and we’ll still be buying.”
The 2018 ASA DuPont Young Leader Program

Raise your voice for agriculture

- Improve your leadership skills and help advance the soybean industry
- Learn to communicate and influence various groups on important agricultural issues
- Connect with soybean farmers from other states and Canada

The ASA DuPont Young Leader Program is a two-phase educational program for actively farming couples or individuals 21 years or older.

The two-phase training program is as follows:

Phase I – Tuesday, November 28 – Thursday, November 30, 2017 in Johnston, Iowa

Phase II – Sunday, February 25, 2018 – Wednesday, February 28, 2018 in Anaheim, California in conjunction with Commodity Classic

For more information about the ASA DuPont Young Leader Program and to apply for the class of 2018 go to: soygrowers.com/learn/young-leader-program

Application Deadline: September 15

“This is an industry where very few people shoulder the responsibility of feeding so many, with that being said, we all have a responsibility to engage in the ways in which our time & talents allow. The ASA DYL program has helped me on my journey of finding my role within agriculture as an advocate.”

– Monica McCollough, Missouri
The Nebraska Soybean Association (NSA) worked on your behalf during the 2017 legislative session monitoring issues important to soybean producers. Several of the bills identified by NSA had a strong property tax reform component. Property taxes, education funding and the state budget seemed to consume most of the discussion. Debate on LB 461, the tax reform bill, contained many provisions of Governor Ricketts’ income tax cut proposal as well as the changes to the way ag land is valued. LB 461 remains on General File.

The last day in session was May 23. In the final days, the Legislature took up the Governor’s budget vetoes, attempting to override his additional cuts from the FY 2017-2019 state budget which requires 30 votes. None of the cuts were overridden. In terms of agriculture’s budget priorities, the Property Tax Credit Relief Fund and the Water Sustainability Fund were both left intact, and dollars were fully restored to the Brand Committee cash fund.

In the coming months, NSA plans to review and consider legislative options, as well as ideas outside of the legislature. We will continue work with the Governor, state senators and coalition partners to discuss policy options for next session that will bring substantial property tax reform to all Nebraskan’s. Membership in NSA is what drives our policy work, Contact us today to join! 402-441-3239.
It has become fairly common for some farmers to use fungicides and insecticides at early pod stage in soybeans. While applications are commonly applied without evidence of insect and disease problems that require treatment, the return has been profitable for some. In a three-year study at Soybean Management Field Days in Nebraska (2013 through 2015), foliar fungicide and insecticide treatments applied at the R3 growth stage were evaluated for their yield and economic benefits. Averaged across all locations, the fungicide and fungicide + insecticide applications increased yield more than the control by 2.5 bu/A and 2.4 bu/A, respectively. While yield was higher, the most profitable treatment was consistently the non-treated control. The results of this study demonstrate that while yield increases can be obtained from the use of foliar fungicide and insecticide products, they are not always profitable. Careful consideration of the pests present and both the soybean market price and the cost of application are important to making the most appropriate management decision.

In a study across Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Nebraska from 2008 through 2014, it was determined that fungicide applications were profitable in 14 percent of trials. Insecticide alone was profitable in 39 percent of trials and fungicide + insecticide was profitable in 45 percent of trials. Profitability was determined at a soybean market value of $11.43 a bushel and a constant treatment cost of $25.05 per acre. From this study, a profitability calculator was developed to help producers with decisions by inputting a soybean market value and treatment cost to predict the probability of returns using foliar treatments. The calculator can be found at http://fungicide-calc.bitbyteyum.com/.

As the frequency of applications increase without the need to manage disease and insect pests, there is the added risk of losing these tools in our pest management toolbox. Frequent use of the same management tactic can lead to pesticide resistance, and for insects, unneeded use of insecticides can lead to pest resurgence or pest recolonization. This has been observed for soybean aphid and two spotted spider mite in Nebraska, where mid-summer insecticide treatment removed pest natural enemies so any remaining pests could increase unchecked. Additionally, the soybean field can be recolonized without natural enemies to slow pest population build-up. Select use of fungicides and insecticides under an IPM strategy has been reported to be the most consistent profitability action.

Soybean aphids are Nebraska’s most serious insect pest and can be managed effectively from late vegetative through R5 stage soybean by scheduling an insecticide treatment when populations reach 250 aphids/plant with 80 percent of the plants infested and populations increasing. (Photo courtesy of University of Nebraska)

Frogeye leaf spot of soybean is a foliar disease that often warrants a fungicide application when the disease is present at R3 and the variety is known to be susceptible.
Cover Crop Basics

by Roger Elmore, Extension Cropping Systems Specialist; Paul Jasa, Extension Engineer - both University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Cover crops can be used for a variety of purposes including reducing erosion, protecting the soil from sun and wind, improving soil structure, scavenging nutrients, fixing nitrogen, suppressing weeds, and feeding soil biological life. The selection and management of the cover crop depends greatly on the desired outcomes and/or resource needs. One of the keys to success is seeding the cover crop as soon as the field is harvested.

Following corn or soybean harvest, the simple place to start with cover crops is to seed cereal rye. The rye will begin growing in the fall, storing normally unused sunlight energy and carbon dioxide as biomass to help build the soil. In the spring, the rye will add more biomass to the system, helping reduce erosion by absorbing raindrop impact and anchoring the soil. Another benefit reported by many producers is that marestail populations are greatly reduced when growing cereal rye as a cover crop.

The timing of termination of the cover crop is dependent on the soil moisture and rainfall outlook. In dry springs, especially when planting corn, the rye should be sprayed out several weeks before planting. Even when terminated early, the cover crop still helps the soil system by having a living root feeding the soil biology in the off season. In wet springs, the rye can be allowed to grow longer to use excess water and produce more biomass. The additional residue will reduce soil moisture evaporation later in the season and help keep the soil cooler in the heat of the summer.

For most effective cover crop seeding, a drill or air-seeder should be used to place the seed directly in the soil. In higher rainfall areas and irrigated conditions, aerial seeding into growing soybeans, just as the leaves start to yellow and before leaf drop, allows more time for fall growth. However, with aerial seeding into growing corn, too many of the seeds are caught up in the whorls and leaves unless seeding is delayed until after the corn plant is drying down. Seeders on high clearance sprayers are being developed to reduce the problems with seed interception.

Cocktail mixes are often used to ensure success or to achieve a variety of goals. As examples, mixing oats and cereal rye would give some quick growth in the fall and some additional growth in the spring. Including a cool season legume like forage peas in September would add some nitrogen fixation and diversity. However, if seeding in October, a winter annual legume like Austrian winter peas or hairy vetch would be better as they overwinter. Though popular, brassicas like turnips and radishes usually aren’t seeded after corn or soybean harvest as they should have 45 to 60 days before a killing frost to be effective. Aerial seeding would extend the growing season for oats, peas, and brassicas, adding diversity to a cereal rye cover.

Before seeding any cover crops, check with your crop insurance provider to see if there are any rules or restrictions that may affect your management.
Consider Cover Crops for Improving Soil Health

— by Roger Elmore, Extension Cropping Systems Specialist; Paul Jasa, Extension Engineer - both University of Nebraska-Lincoln

A healthy soil, with good soil structure and biological activity, is more productive and resilient, growing better crops. A key soil health concept is that there should be something green and growing during as much of the year as possible. By using cover crops after corn or soybean production, sunlight energy and carbon dioxide are "harvested" during the off season, growing roots and biomass to improve the soil system. Cover crops can be used for a variety of purposes including protecting the soil, improving soil structure, scavenging nutrients, fixing nitrogen, managing soil moisture, suppressing weeds, and feeding soil biological life. While some producers are concerned about the soil moisture that a cover crop uses, many producers would benefit as cover crops keep the sun and wind off the soil surface, reducing evaporation. The additional residue produced reduces evaporation during the next season, if the next crop is no-till planted. Many producers report that properly managed cover crops use less water than is lost through evaporation from unprotected soil surfaces, particularly following low residue crops. Erosion is also greatly reduced because the growing cover crop and the resulting residue absorbs raindrop impact, reducing soil particle detachment.

In addition, the growing cover crop provides biological activity to help feed the soil organisms during the non-crop season. The biological diversity of properly selected cover crops can reduce pest problems in the production crops and improve the soil environment for beneficial organisms. The cover crop biomass added to the system can increase the soil organic matter and improve soil tilth. The additional roots in the soil from the cover crop will add structural stability as well. Some cover crops also offer nitrogen fixation and grazing potential. By having something growing, Mother Nature is less likely to "protect" the soil by growing weeds. Producers have noted reductions in winter annual weed problems, like marestail, when they have a growing cover, like cereal rye, in the off season.

Before seeding any cover crops, check with your insurance provider to see if there are any rules or restrictions that may affect your management, especially termination. Also, cover crop selection varies depending on the herbicide program used in the field and the resource needs to be addressed. If considering haying or grazing the cover crop, careful detail must be paid to the herbicide label of the previous crop regarding plant back intervals and grazing. Usually, cover crops are grown and left in the field to benefit the soil system. Forage crops are used for haying or grazing and should be treated as a cash crop for best production. If grazed, these crops can still benefit the soil system similar to a cover crop as the soil had a living root in it.
From the streets of New York City to the surf of the California coast, big things are happening to fuel biodiesel’s future. From humble beginnings in America’s heartland in the early 1990s, the biodiesel industry has grown into the first commercially available advanced biofuel found nationwide.

“While biodiesel has always had strong support from soybean farmers, whose vision to find an industrial use for the glut of soybean oil on the market spurred the industry’s beginnings, we are far from being the only ones carrying the torch for the industry today,” said Greg Anderson, farmer from Newman Grove, Nebraska. “As the industry grows, the obstacles to achieving future growth expand as well, so the swell of support from all of our stakeholders becomes increasingly important.”

Thanks to legislation in 2016, New York City residents will see the amount of biodiesel used in place of conventional heating oil gradually grow over the coming years. In fact, the amount of biodiesel used for home heating oil there is expected to skyrocket from 50 million gallons last year to 200 million gallons by 2034.

The effort to clean up the city’s emissions can have a lasting impact. New York City’s population is more than four times higher than that of the entire state of Nebraska, and all those people live in roughly 304 square miles – an area roughly half the size of Madison County. “Providing clean air is at the root of the policy,” Anderson said. “Heating and cooling homes and businesses, driving cars, delivering goods, and everything else that society needs generates air pollutants, and biodiesel has become an integral solution to a problem caused by everyday living.”

On the west coast, a similar need for clean air exists and biodiesel again finds itself championed as a part of low carbon fuel policies in California, Oregon and Washington state. In California, the state’s Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) was established in 2007 as part of a larger initiative to reduce California’s greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. In September 2015, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) affirmed that biodiesel reduces greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent, and often by as much as 81 percent versus petroleum. This gives biodiesel the best carbon score among all liquid fuels.

Beyond biodiesel’s many environmental benefits, fleets and auto manufacturers continue to tout biodiesel as the push for increased fuel efficiency, performance, and sustainability in America’s transportation sector grows. Automakers and fleets remain bullish on new diesel engines that lower carbon emissions by increasing fuel economy over their gasoline counterparts. And they can provide even further benefits when powered by clean, low carbon biodiesel blends.

“Customers from coast to coast have used B20 successfully in virtually every make and model diesel engine, and the vast majority of new diesel engines now have full OEM support for B20 with no vehicle modifications required,” Anderson added.

The benefits of biodiesel are numerous – reduced environmental impact, increased performance, positive economics, increased value to soybean farmers, and more. As the industry continues to grow, more stakeholders are now carrying the torch than ever before for the industry ignited by soybean farmers more than two decades ago.

“As the biodiesel industry grows, the obstacles to achieving future growth get bigger with it, so the swell of support from all our stakeholders becomes increasingly important,”
Representatives of the U.S. biodiesel industry filed a petition in March with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), formally requesting antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of biodiesel imports from Argentina and Indonesia. The National Biodiesel Board (NBB) and U.S. biodiesel producers testified on behalf of the industry, and on May 5, the ITC announced a preliminary determination to allow proceeding with the investigation.

“Make no mistake, 2016 should have been a banner year for U.S. biodiesel producers with demand growth, stable feedstock prices, and regulatory certainty that should have led to profitability and reinvestment in their businesses, but unfortunately that didn’t happen,” said NBB Vice President of Federal Affairs, Anne Steckel, in testimony before the ITC. “Instead, dumped and subsidized biodiesel from Argentina and Indonesia entered the United States in record volumes, capturing greater market share at the expense of U.S. producers. The loss of market share has left the domestic industry with substantial unused capacity and the artificially low prices these imports are sold at leave American biodiesel unable to get a fair return for their product.”

Because of illegal trade activities, biodiesel imports from Argentina and Indonesia surged by 464 percent from 2014 to 2016. That growth has taken 18.3 percentage points of market share from U.S. manufacturers.

“Negative margins within our industry due to low-priced imports have had a major impact on our company, with a disproportionately greater impact on smaller producers,” said Robert Morton, co-founder of Newport Biodiesel, a small biodiesel producer from Rhode Island who also testified before the ITC. “We have halted several plant modification projects as a result of reduced working capital, even for modest projects. Because of this, Newport Biodiesel is being limited in its ability to be a productive U.S. green energy company in what is otherwise a growing market.”

The adverse impact of dumped and subsidized imports is not limited to America’s small biodiesel producers.

“When we see biodiesel from Argentina selling at a discount to the market price of soybean oil, the main input into biodiesel, we know we are facing dumped pricing,” said Paul Soanes in his testimony, CEO and President of Renewable Biofuels. “The United States is a key market for these exporters, and without a remedy, these unfairly traded imports are likely to continue unabated. That is a further threat to our business.”

The action was taken to level the playing field in response to illegal trade activities associated with biodiesel from Argentina and Indonesia and to grow and protect the U.S. biodiesel industry.

The National Biodiesel Board Fair Trade Coalition filed antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of biodiesel imports from Argentina and Indonesia in an effort to level the playing field for American producers in response to illegal trade activities.
Truckers and farmers are using more biodiesel in Nebraska than ever before. A few years ago, after supporting biodiesel projects in other states, the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) wanted to support biodiesel use closer to home and took a step to increase the availability and use of biodiesel in Nebraska. NSB entered key partnership projects that encouraged capital investments by fuel distributors and retailers in infrastructure needed to handle biodiesel. These projects have significantly increased the availability of biodiesel in Nebraska.

The first project was at Jerry’s Service in Hartington, followed up by Shoemakers Travel Center in Lincoln. Both locations installed an insulated tank with a meter pump system that allows them to blend biodiesel with regular diesel on site. The biggest project has been the rail site installed by Victory Renewables in North Platte where several rail cars per week are brought in for fuel distributors to pick up full transport loads or blend biodiesel into their truck to the desired blend level. Last year Bosselman’s began selling biodiesel at their retail location in Grand Island. These projects alone will contribute 10 million gallons annually to Nebraska’s biodiesel consumption. Two new blending sites operated by Sapp Brothers in Norfolk and Columbus opening later this year will increase those gallons even more. Farmers in these areas should ask their fuel supplier for a biodiesel blend. The Nebraska Soybean Board has also conducted petroleum industry outreach and education to help Nebraska fuel distributors become more knowledgeable and comfortable with handling and selling biodiesel blends.

More than 50 percent of all biodiesel in the U.S. is made from soybean oil and adds 63 cents in value to the price of a bushel of soybeans. On 1,000 acres of soybeans, biodiesel adds about $35,000 to the bottom line of an average yield. Soybean farmers created the biodiesel industry over 20 years ago and it has grown close to 3 billion-gallons a year in annual consumption. Support your industry and ask your fuel supplier to bring you B20.

For questions about using biodiesel, finding biodiesel in your area or need help troubleshooting a fuel related problem, contact us at the Regional Diesel Helpline: 800-929-3437.
Nebraska Farmers Will Be the Face of U.S. Soy at USSEC’s Global Trade Exchange
— by Jen Del Carmen, USSEC Communications Consultant

Nebraska will take its turn in the spotlight as the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) hosts its fifth annual U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange in Omaha on August 15, 16, and 17, 2017.

The event will be held in conjunction with the 14th annual Midwest Specialty Grain Conference and Trade Show and the 6th annual Trade Team Invitational at the CenturyLink Center and the Hilton Omaha. The conference program will feature industry leaders in international trade, global food industry and consumer trends, soy food and animal nutrition, transportation and logistics, and more.

Networking, or building face-to-face relationships, with current and potential international customers is a key opportunity of the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange. This global showcase for the U.S. soybean industry demonstrates to customers from around the world that the United States values relationships and is committed to being a reliable supplier of first choice.

Building demand is vital to combatting low prices, and good relationships are a critical component of building demand, explains Jim Miller, a fourth-generation farmer from Belden. Miller wears many hats: Nebraska farmer, USSEC chairman, and American Soybean Association (ASA) director.

“Trade is something that’s on everyone’s minds right now,” Miller says. “And exporting soybeans is all about relationships. It’s exciting for international buyers when they get a chance to meet our farmers, right here in our own backyard.”

“Our end goal is to increase demand for soybeans,” he continues. “You increase demand by making foreign buyers more comfortable with the United States. Our customers want to know about U.S. Soy’s sustainability and who can better speak to our sustainability methods than our farmers, the people who know it best?”

This year, more than 200 international soy buyers and traders are again expected to join more than 500 U.S. agriculture industry attendees in Omaha, one of the leading food and agriculture industry cities in the U.S. Over 750 attendees from more than 55 countries took part in last year’s event in Indianapolis, Indiana.

To register for the 2017 U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange, please visit http://www.grainexchange.org.
You probably know that China is an important market for U.S. agriculture and that U.S. soybeans make up a big part of our ag exports to that country.

You may even have heard that one out of every four rows of soybeans grown in the U.S. is shipped to China.

But did you know it’s taken 35 years to create the solid reputation and credibility that the U.S. Soy industry enjoys in the Chinese marketplace?

As the world’s largest soybean market, China is a critical one for U.S. farmers, generally accounting for over 50 percent of total U.S. Soy exports. With 1.349 billion soy consumers and a GDP of $12.26 trillion, China is U.S. Soy’s largest market. Competition is fierce, however, and so the U.S. Soy industry continues to work hard to offset potential challenges as they arise.

One such challenge with the Chinese regulatory environment is biotechnology.

In April, Belden farmer Jim Miller, who serves as chairman of the U.S. Soybean Export Council and director for the American Soybean Association, was part of a delegation representing U.S. farmers on an International Soy Growers Alliance mission to China, where they addressed topics ranging from biotechnology to food safety to future demand.

The delegation attended a forum, met with media, visited major soybean importers, and met with the Ministry of Agriculture.

These meetings, says Miller, highlighted the importance of biotechnology. A question and answer session with approximately 15 media outlets “gave us a good opportunity to help educate the people there about the importance of biotechnology, why we use biotechnology on our farms, and helped to dispel some of the myths.”

In addition to critical market access work, USSEC also provides important trade and technical servicing.

Trade servicing encompasses annual soy outlook conferences; joint soybean meal roundtables connecting soybean meal processors with the largest end users; crop quality and buyers’ teams that visit the U.S. to see crop conditions on the ground; and government relations that help improve Chinese policymakers’ view of U.S. Soy.

Technical servicing includes aquaculture feed demand, along with conferences and sponsorship for feed, swine, poultry teams, both of which help expand U.S. Soy utilization in the aquaculture and animal ag industries.

The U.S. Soy industry’s long-term commitment in China not only helps to strengthen its partnership with Chinese industries to help achieve their goals in food security, food safety, and sustainable soybean supply, it helps boost U.S. soybean farmers’ bottom line here at home.

USSEC is a trusted ally, working with QSSBs as their global marketing arm to enhance market access for state produced soy and soy products. USSEC is the state’s gateway to the international marketplace, providing timely and relevant information through USSEC’s proprietary network in 70 countries.
 Mexico is the U.S. poultry industry’s biggest single market, and that has a significant positive impact on the U.S. soybean industry, accounting for the equivalent of 32 million soybean bushels valued at $951 million in 2016. But product delays and rejections at border inspection sites in Mexico can slow or block some exports of U.S. poultry and eggs, potentially costing poultry producers thousands of dollars for just one shipment, with a resulting negative impact on the soybean industry.

To help prevent such delays and rejections, the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) and USA Poultry & Egg Export Council (USAPEEC) are partnering to conduct a series of seminars to train border inspection officials throughout Mexico. NSB and USAPEEC are working with local Mexican industry groups including the Mexican Poultry Producers (UNA) and Mexican Meat Processors (COMECARNE) to conduct the seminars.

“These groups continuously tell us just how important it is to hold these training programs each year, especially since border officials rotate positions frequently,” USAPEEC Mexico Marketing Manager Alma Lilia de Leon said.

“Keeping this market open is a vital part of the profit potential for Nebraska soybean producers,” District 5 director Daryl Obermeyer of Brownville, NE said. “Poultry has become a major customer of our soybean meal, and with the planned Costco processing plant, Nebraska will become a bigger poultry producer.”

Of the 138 million soybean bushel equivalents worth $4.1 billion that are exported as U.S. chicken, turkey, duck and eggs to more than 100 countries around the world annually, over 10 million bushels were from Nebraska. In fact, more than 2.4 million soybean bushels from Nebraska were exported through U.S. poultry and egg exports to Mexico alone in 2016, according to USDA FAS data and USAPEEC calculation.

Nationwide, 98 percent of all soybean meal is consumed by poultry, cows and pigs. The U.S. poultry and egg industry is the largest user of U.S. soybean meal by livestock group, accounting for 55 percent of all the soybean meal produced in the U.S.


USAPEEC, a non-profit trade association whose mission is to promote U.S. poultry and egg exports around the world, has been partnering with NSB since 2005. For more information, please visit: www.usapeec.org
DIRECTIONS:
1. Preheat your grill to 350 degrees.
2. Starting at the bony underside of the ribs, peel off the membrane.
3. In a small bowl, mix the chili powder, garlic salt and 1 teaspoon of chipotle.
4. Rub the mixture all over the ribs and let stand for 15-30 minutes.
5. Place ribs (bone side down) on the grill over indirect heat. Cover and cook for 1.5 - 1.75 hours, brushing ribs with the 1/4 cup of cola on both sides every 20 minutes.
6. While the ribs are cooking, combine BBQ sauce with the 1/3 cup cola. Simmer over medium-low heat for 10-15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in remaining 1/2 teaspoon of chipotle.
7. Brush ribs with sauce and continue to cook for 20-30 minutes, basting and turning often.
8. Let stand for 5 minutes on cutting board before cutting.

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