THE COLOR’S THE SAME.

THE PERFORMANCE ISN’T.

There are plenty of look-alike seed treatments out there, but don’t let them fool you. With CruiserMaxx® Vibrance® Beans you get the industry-leading combination of fungicides and insecticide. Nothing else protects your soybeans while boosting root health and yield with the same kind of power. To learn how that helps you win at harvest, talk with your local Syngenta retailer or visit SyngentaUS.com/CMVB.

*A combination of separately registered products.
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See for Yourself
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– by Cale Buhr
It’s no secret that our international customers play a big role in
determining the price of our soybeans. In fact, studies suggest
that one out of every four rows of soybeans in Nebraska will be
shipped to China or the Pacific Rim. Have you ever wondered how
they get there or why many foreign buyers prefer U.S. soy?

The Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) recently funded the thirteenth
year of its “See for Yourself” program. The See for Yourself program is
designed to give Nebraska soybean farmers the opportunity to
learn more about their checkoff. Farmers selected to take part in
the program will attend checkoff-sponsored activities in an
attempt to gain a better understanding of how their checkoff
dollars are being invested to build demand and increase
profitability.

See for Yourself is designed to include opportunities to attend state,
national and international activities. The in-state program gives
farmers the chance to attend functions in Nebraska that are vital
to the continued success of the soybean industry. The national
program includes attending meetings sponsored by the United
Soybean Board (USB), United States Meat Export Federation
(USMEF), National Biodiesel Board (NBB), United States Soybean
Export Council (USSEC), United States Poultry and Egg Export
Council (USAPEEC), as well as many other important national
meeting and activities. The international program is designed to
show soybean farmers first-hand what the checkoff is doing to
build global demand.

The NSB is committed to increasing the profitability of your
soybeans and wants to give you the opportunity to gain a better
understanding of checkoff activities. To get involved or learn more
about the program, please contact the NSB office at (402) 441-
3240. Thank you for your support of the NSB and this exciting
program, and we hope to see you at our next event!
As the leaves start to change colors and the combines hit the fields, we begin to close the chapter of the 2017 season just as the Nebraska Soybean Board closes out our 2017 fiscal year. I’m truly honored to have spent this past year as the Chairman of the Board and to represent all of the soybean producers in the great state of Nebraska.

Throughout the past year, the Nebraska Soybean Board and our staff have been extremely busy trying to find new uses and markets for our soybeans. We were excited to open a brand new Biodiesel Blending facility with Sapp Bros. in Norfolk, NE this past August. With biodiesel blends available year-round, this facility provides new opportunities for fuel distributors and boosts our local economy by supporting Nebraska soybean farmers. This partnership with Sapp Bros. isn’t the only one, construction is underway to add another biodiesel blending facility in Columbus, NE and we hope to have that facility up and running in the next year.

The Nebraska Soybean Board and staff were busy in August as we were fortunate enough to be the host for the 2017 U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange & Midwest Specialty Grains Conference in Omaha from August 15-17. This was the 5th year of the conference and the first time it was held in Nebraska. During the opening ceremony, I had the unique opportunity to sit in and witness purchase agreements being signed between processors from the United States and end users from China totaling $1.56 billion worth of U.S. soybeans. The conference is intended to continue to build relationships between U.S. farmers and processors and the international buyers of U.S. soy. On the last day of the conference, over 160 of the foreign attendees got the opportunity to travel to the UNL ARDC near Mead, local cooperatives, and local Nebraska farm operations. The tours helped emphasize how Nebraska and U.S. farmers continue to produce a sustainable product year in and year out.

In closing, I’d like to wish each and every Nebraska soybean producer a safe and bountiful harvest. The dedication to provide a quality and sustainable product from Nebraska farmers can not be matched. Thank you!

Tony Johanson
Chairman, Nebraska Soybean Board
from the Association

Harvest time and looking ahead
— by Dennis Fujan, Prague, NSA President

It’s another harvest season and hopefully you are prepared to reap the bounties of all your hard work. As we bring in the harvest, we are looking ahead to planning for next year.

The Nebraska Soybean Association (NSA) and American Soybean Association continue to present an outline for what we would like to see in the 2018 Farm Bill. Giving our input of what works and doesn’t work will help craft a Farm Bill that helps during tough times to manage our risk. A crop insurance program that provides a safety net in the event of a crop failure is one of the most important tools we have. Also, of utmost importance, is that we have a robust Trade Title in the next Farm Bill. We support the doubling of the Market Access Programs (MAP) and the Foreign Market Development Program (FMD). Our total Nebraska soybean export value is roughly USD1.9 billion. Our trade with the top soybean export markets of China, Mexico, Europe, Japan and Indonesia represents a huge demand for our crops. That’s why trade matters to Nebraska producers.

At the state level we continue discussions with policy makers and coalition groups on meaningful property tax reform. We need structural changes in the tax system that levels the playing field for all property tax owners. The current formula for funding public education puts the majority of the burden on local property taxes instead of income or sales taxes to fund education. Lawmakers need to look at making fixes in the school aid funding formula to level it out. Property tax reform may be in the form of legislative policy or perhaps a petition drive to get it on the voters ballot. Whichever form it takes we continue to work towards a solution. The current system is not working.

I encourage all soybean producers to engage in these conversations, on these issues, whether they are local with your elected officials or at the national level. We need to be the advocates for effective policy. The best testimony is to let them know how policies affect you personally, either positively or negatively.

I invite all soybean members to attend the annual meeting on December 19th in Grand Island at the Riverside Golf Club. This is a time for you to help us review and develop our policy efforts. We invite all producers to join the Nebraska Soybean Association to help make a difference.

If you have suggestions or would like to be a member and support our policy efforts, contact the NSA office at 402-441-3239 or association@nebraskasoybeans.org.

Have a safe and successful harvest season!

I Believe, I Belong...

I became a member of the Nebraska Soybean Association to get involved in the ag industry on a broader level, and have a better understanding of what goes on behind the scenes. It is easy to get tunnel vision within the day-to-day details. It is important to have an organization like the Nebraska and American Soybean Associations focused on communicating with the policy makers to move towards maintaining and improving the health of the soybean industry.

- Adam Ickes, Roca, NSA At Large Director
As the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) makes its business plan and budget for FY18, we are constantly evaluating opportunities to invest checkoff dollars in the soybean industry. Research projects and international marketing are two important avenues that the NSB continues to focus and improve upon.

Research projects continue to be a beneficial investment option that allows us to evaluate best management practices for Nebraska soybean farmers. Through our collaboration with the University of Nebraska Researchers and Extension Educators, we are able to perform various projects that help us understand changes and improvements in soybean genetics, and the agronomic benefits that they bring to the producers. Other vital areas that we continue to focus on include pest and weed management, efficacy on fungicides, evolving soybean diseases, and irrigation research.

Soybeans are an important global commodity that continue to face the challenge of finding viable markets to sell to. This year, the United States is positioned to produce over 4.3 billion bushels with 3.3 million bushels coming from Nebraska alone. Approximately half of the soybeans produced this year will be used domestically in the form of animal and aquaculture feed, human food, and industrial uses such as biodiesel fuel. The other half will be exported to another world market, such as the top soybean export markets of China and Hong Kong, Mexico, Japan, the European Union and Indonesia.

Your soybean checkoff investment in international markets is important because of the growing demand for U.S. soybeans and the quality that we provide. As the international demand for soybeans grows, it is essential for us to foster relationships among our foreign buyers, as well as discover new emerging markets. The NSB will continue to fund research projects to maximize the quality and yield of our soybeans, while approaching international markets to increase profitability for our Nebraska farmers.
The Nebraska Soybean Board held an election in July for the Director Seats in District 5, 7 and At-Large. Nebraska soybean farmers in those districts (5 and 7) voted with the following results:

**District 5** - Counties of Cass, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee and Richardson

**Candidates:**
- Daryl Obermeyer
  - Brownville, NE
  - Nemaha County
  - Ballot Count: 281 (Re-elected)
  - Brent Steinhoff, Syracuse, NE
    - Otoe County - Ballot Count: 212
  - Andy Dunn, Falls City, NE
    - Richardson County - Ballot Count: 146

The re-elected Director, Daryl Obermeyer, will begin his second term on the board.

**District 7** - Counties of Adams, Buffalo, Clay, Franklin, Hall, Kearney, Nuckolls, and Webster

**Candidates:**
- Doug Saathoff
  - Trumbull, NE
  - Adams County
  - Ballot Count: 181 (Elected)
  - Cecil Schriner, Hildreth, NE
    - Franklin County - Ballot Count: 136

The elected Director, Doug Saathoff, will begin his first term on the board.

**At-Large** - The At-Large Director represents the state of Nebraska and is decided by a majority vote from the Nebraska Soybean Board at the annual July board meeting.

**Candidates:**
- Greg Anderson
  - Newman Grove
  - Madison County
  - (Re-elected)
  - Nathan, Dom, Firth, NE
    - Gage County

The elected Director, Greg Anderson, will begin his second term on the board.

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

The nine-member Nebraska Soybean Board collects and disburses the Nebraska share of funds generated by the one half of one percent times the net sales price per bushel of soybeans sold. Nebraska soybean checkoff funds are invested in research, education, domestic and foreign markets, including new uses for soybeans and soybean products.
BECOME the VOICE for Your District

Become the VOICE for your district as a director on the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB). The 2018 Board election will be held for directors in Districts 1, 3 and 6. Soybean farmers residing in one of these districts are eligible to run.

This is an opportunity to get involved and become a part of the decision making process of how Nebraska soybean checkoff dollars are invested.

The nine-member Nebraska Soybean Board collects and disburses the Nebraska share of funds generated by the soybean checkoff, which is one half of one percent times the net sales price per bushel of soybeans sold. Nebraska soybean checkoff funds are invested in research, education, international and domestic markets, including new uses for soybeans and soybean products.

If you are interested and would like more information about the Nebraska Soybean Board election, call 402-432-5720.
The soy checkoff is looking for farmers from diverse backgrounds to get involved in the United Soybean Board or in one of the 31 state or regional soybean boards across the country. There are a variety of opportunities to serve, and your talent and input can make a difference.

Help to lead the U.S. soybean industry into the future. Contact your state checkoff and get involved today, or visit www.UnitedSoybean.org/GetInvolved.
Nebraska soybean producers continue to experience new challenges in growing and marketing their soybeans each year. The Nebraska Soybean Board and University of Nebraska Extension joined together for the 19th Soybean Management Field Days to address current issues and topics that farmers continue to face.

The four day event held presentation rotations by Nebraska Extension Educators from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. The Field Days took place at four different locations around the state:

- August 8, 2017 – West Central Research & Extension Center – North Platte, NE
- August 9, 2017 – Tad Melia Farm – near Ord, NE
- August 10, 2017 – Jim Gerdes Farm – near Auburn, NE
- August 11, 2017 – Tim Gregerson Farm – near Tekamah, NE

The producers had an opportunity to listen to a wide range of presentations, such as cover crops and weed management, grain marketing and financial outlook, early season crop stress effects, the impact of tillage on seeding rates, and the effect of spraying new herbicides on soybeans. The Nebraska Soybean Board, Nebraska Soybean Association and Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (AFAN) presented current updates within each association and how they affect soybean producers.

Nebraska Extension Educator Chuck Burr discusses the tillage effects on the soil systems at a field plot in North Platte, NE.

UNL Plant Pathology Research Technologist Nick Arneson walks through the early season crop stress effects on productions, insects and seedling diseases at the Tad Melia farm near Ord.
Nebraska Extension presenters left producers with a list of take home notes and things to remember in the upcoming year. This year’s topics and presenters consisted of:

**Maturity Group and Traits, Cover Crops and Weed Management** – Roger Elmore, Rodrigo Werle

**Things to remember:**
- Conventional soybean varieties can be a viable component of cropping systems
- Diversity, besides chemical options, is key for sustainable weed management

**Grain Marketing/Farm Financial Outlook** – Jessica Groskopf, Brad Lubben

**Things to remember:**
- Have a marketing plan and follow the plan
- Analyze risk and the role of crop insurance in choosing crop insurance products and coverage levels

**Early Season Crop Stress Effects on Production, Insects and Seedling Diseases** – Nick Arneson, Loren Giesler, Justin McMechan

**Things to remember:**
- Previous SMFD research has shown that the use of a fungicide seed treatment provides the greatest return of early season inputs
- If you plant early into cooler soils, fungicide seed treatments are a necessity

**Impact of Tillage on Seeding Rates, ET and Soil Factors Affecting Yield** – Chuck Burr, Troy Ingram, Brian Krienke, Steve Melvin, Aaron Nygren, Daran Rudnick, Charles Shapiro, Tim Shaver

**Things to remember:**
- Residue cover reduced evaporation, and increased water infiltration
- Reducing seeding rates can save you money

**The Good, Bad and Ugly When Spraying the New Herbicides’ Formulations in Soybeans** – Bob Klein, Chris Proctor

**Things to remember:**
- Know your real tank size
- Know the difference in dry and liquid ounces that are key to correct rates

Soybean Management Field Days is in the books, but you can still learn about the presentations and research on this website: [http://ardc.unl.edu/soydays](http://ardc.unl.edu/soydays). By attending Soybean Management Field Days 2018, you are taking an important step in helping us meet the challenges of the future.
Always wanting more: How farmers can look to increase on previous yield records

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

Farmers have repeatedly set soybean yield records the last few growing seasons, but experts say yields could have been even higher. How can farmers in Nebraska and across the Midwest make sure their soybeans are reaching full potential?

According to the United States Department of Agriculture the average soybean yield nationally in 2015 was a (at the time) record-setting 58 bushels per acre. A great achievement, except the latest North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP) research shows that in 2015 farmers were still 20 percent below their yield potential as determined by climate and soil. This means farmers still have room to increase their soybean yields by fine tuning of their management practices.

A group of researchers from 10 universities, led by University of Nebraska-Lincoln Assistant Professor Patricio Grassini and Research Assistant Professor Juan Ignacio Rattalino, wanted to find out why the yield gap was so large.

“We believe having detailed yield and management data from thousands of fields across the US north central region is equivalent to running hundreds of field experiments to discern the yield impact of individual factors,” said Grassini. “The true value in this research is showing that producer self-reported data can be used to improve yield and profit in the context of commercial-scale fields.”

Earlier this year NCSRP published an article on this same project, which showed there isn’t a yield benefit to increasing planting populations above 120,000 seeds per acre. Based on farmer data, most Nebraska farmers are planting between 140- and 180,000 seeds per acre. Cutting back on population may not close the yield gap, but it could certainly increase profitability.

In addition to earlier findings about planting population, the latest results show planting date is very influential when it comes to determining realized yield. Across all major soybean regions in the north central region there was a yield penalty for every day that planting was delayed after early April. Daily reduction ranged from .1 to .5 bushels per acre per day. The study also shows that the yield benefit of early plantings depended on the water availability during the pod setting stage, with the yield benefit decreasing as water becomes more limited.

If the amount of data coming from this project seems high, it could be because of the way it was collected. Rather than running annual university plots to determine the best management practices, Grassini and his collaborators surveyed farmers to find out what they do and what their yields are. Aggregating all this data allows them to efficiently determine which practices are currently working for farmers in commercial production fields.

“The most important message from this research is that we have found a way to look at the causes of yield gaps without the need to rely exclusively on field experiments,” Grassini said. “We collect data from producers to try and determine constraints and by doing so we can make field research more efficient. The answers provided by farmers can also be very useful in planning ahead for more focused experiments that address the problems faced by farmers in the real world.”

This is the second year of the planned three-year project. The study was a collaboration of 16 researchers from 10 of the 11 NCSRP member states. In addition to NCSRP, research was conducted with funding and collaboration from The Iowa Soybean Association On-Farm Network®, the Nebraska Soybean Board and the Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board.
The soybean industry has developed a unique synergy in high oleic soybeans, where all members of the value chain contribute and all benefit. Farmers, processors, and food and industrial companies all play a part in making high oleic soy a success, and they all will share in that success.

Nebraska farmers are making their contribution by providing a reliable supply of high oleic soybeans. By helping the industry reach its goal of 18 million planted high oleic acres, farmers get to enjoy not only the premiums that come with high oleic contracts, but long-term value for themselves and all U.S. soybean farmers.

Nebraska Soybean Board vice chairman Eugene Goering led the way, dedicating 100 percent of his acres to high oleic as soon as they became available.

“I went in with both feet,” he said. “Agronomically, we didn’t see any difference. They grew the same and they’re harvesting the same.”

Processors across the soybean growing region are also doing their part for high oleic. Contracts for high oleic first became available last year through AGP’s Hastings location and expanded this growing season.

“It’s a win-win for everybody involved,” said AGP’s merchandising manager Jodie Johnson. “We’re expanding this higher quality oil in the marketplace and we’re providing extra revenue, or premiums, for our local growers.” With growers and processors on board, the last piece of the puzzle is the customer base. Fortunately, high oleic soybean oil has a lot to offer to both the food industry and industrial markets.

Goering’s wife, Sheila, can attest to the performance of high oleic soybean oil in the kitchen, as she uses it to cook and bake at Columbus’ Traditions Inn.

“The oil performs very well in the high heat of deep fat fryers, making clean-up much easier,” she said. “And it’s a very healthy oil with no trans fats.”

High oleic soybean oil’s favorable nutritional profile, alongside its superior cooking and baking properties make it an excellent replacement for partially hydrogenated oils being phased out of food products.

When all parties are working together, high oleic soybeans promise to bring a benefit to all those involved.

“I think it’s going to be really good for the industry as we gain a greater share of the food oil market,” said Eugene Goering. “It’s great for farmers in Nebraska and across the country. I’d encourage other producers to consider it.”

“I went in with both feet”

“It’s a win-win for everybody involved”

“It’s a very healthy oil with no trans fats”

“They grew the same and they’re harvesting the same.”
Win back the 4 billion pounds of annual oil demand you lost to canola and other crops. High oleic soybeans produce oil with zero trans fat and less saturated fat. That’s why the food industry wants it, and processors and elevators are willing to pay a premium for it. Grow it now and grow your bottom line. New delivery locations are being added every year, and current programs are expanding their offerings. Ask your seed rep for the best varieties in your area. — SOYINNOVATION.COM
All eyes were on Nebraska on August 16 and 17, as Omaha played host to U.S. Soy’s signature event.

The U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange is the U.S. Soybean Export Council’s (USSEC) biggest event of the year, bringing together international trade teams and U.S. Soy industry representatives for key discussions and personal networking. This year, more than 250 soy buyers from 58 countries gathered to attend the annual event that connects buyers and sellers of whole soybeans, soybean meal, and soybean oil.

In addition to building a preference for U.S. soybeans in the world market, the U.S. Soy industry provided its international buyers with a taste of Nebraska hospitality at a networking reception held at the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha’s Downtown Market area.

Although Nebraska is called the Cornhusker State, we are also known for our soybean production. In 2016, Nebraska soybean farmers harvested 305.7 million bushels on 5.3 million acres, worth $2.6 billion, ranking fifth in production of U.S. Soy.

Belden farmer Jim Miller, who serves as USSEC Chairman, states, “I was delighted to welcome the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange to my home state and introduce our buyers to my peers. The relationship building that happens at the GTE is important for U.S. industry and exporters, plus it provides a fantastic opportunity for the buyers of U.S. Soy to view U.S. agriculture and meet with our farmers face to face.”

Nebraska Soybean partners with USSEC on timely and topical projects that help to enhance market access for state produced soy and soy products, such as the 2017 Americas Aquaculture Technical Training held at Auburn University.

Photos courtesy of ZimmComm New Media
INTRODUCING

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**3-Year Average Yield Protection Advantage over control, across all locations and thresholds. N=223 Trials (2014, 2015, 2016) (AR, CA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MS, NC, ND, NE, OH, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WI)
Results will vary based on nematode pressure in each field.
Individual results may vary, and performance may vary from location to location and from year to year. This result may not be an indicator of results you may obtain as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary.
Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. PRODUCTS FEATURING NEMASTRIKE™ TECHNOLOGY MAY NOT BE APPROVED IN ALL STATES. The distribution, sale, or use of an unregistered pesticide is a violation of federal and/or state law and is strictly prohibited. Please visit nemastriketechnology.com/stateapprovals regarding approval status of tioxazafen products for application to seeds in your state. Acceleron® and NemaStrike™ are trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC. ©2017 Monsanto Company.
Nebraska Delegation Holds Farm Bill Listening Session at Nebraska State Fair

The topic of the 2018 Farm Bill was highlighted during a Farm Bill listening session held at the NE State Fair on Sept. 1. All five members of Nebraska's congressional delegation took part in the listening session hosted by several Nebraska agricultural organizations including the Nebraska Soybean Association.

As discussions about the 2018 Farm Bill are underway, several of the ag organizations shared thoughts on what has worked in the current farm bill and where improvements can be made to ensure a strong and viable safety net for agriculture into the future.

American Soybean Association director Jim Miller of Belden, NE represented the NSA on the panel. Miller provided comments on the Trade Title of the Farm Bill. He stressed that it is of utmost importance that we have a robust Trade Title in the next Farm Bill that strengthens the Market Access Programs and Foreign Market Development Program.

“Nebraska soybeans have an export value of over $1.9 billion. The MAP and FMD programs have helped to strengthen our soybean exports tremendously”, said Miller.

Other ag organizations that joined in the Farm Bill panel included the NE Farm Bureau, NE Corn Growers, NE State Dairy Assoc., NE Cattlemen, NE Sugar Beet Growers, NE Dry Bean Growers, NE Wheat Growers, NE Grain Sorghum Producers and the NE Pork Producers.

2018-19 Soy Scholarship Opportunity

The 2018-19 Soy Scholarship is a $5,000 one-time scholarship award presented to a current, eligible high school senior who is going to pursue Agriculture as a degree at any accredited college or university. The scholarship is managed by the American Soybean Association (ASA) and is made possible through a grant by BASF Corporation.

The scholarship will be presented in $2,500 increments per semester during their 2018-19 freshman year. The student must maintain successful academic progress and be in good standing with the college or university to receive the full amount of the scholarship. Candidates may apply online now through November 20, 2017.

In order to apply for the scholarship, applicants must be the son, daughter or grandchild of a current Nebraska Soybean Association/ American Soybean Association member. They also must meet high school GPA, standardized test and leadership activities requirements. Full details of the scholarship requirements are listed online. Applications are being accepted now through November 20, 2017 at http://soygrowers.com/award-programs/soy-scholarship/

BASF sponsors the winner and one parent to attend Commodity Classic to participate and receive special recognition at their booth and the ASA Awards Banquet in Anaheim, CA, February 27 - March 1, 2018.

To join as a member or to check on the status of your membership, contact the NE Soybean Association at 402-441-3239 or association@nebraskasoybeans.org. Scholarship application deadline is November 20, 2017.
INVESTING CHECKOFF DOLLARS

Livestock Development...The Story.

— by Kristen Hassebrook, Executive Director,
Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska

Think about your day today; who you spoke to and interacted with. What can you recall about those specific conversations and moments? What about a week ago?

Now think about your favorite movie, latest novel you read, or your child’s favorite bedtime story? What are the character’s names? What happens in the book? What are the details of your favorite scene?

Can you remember a lot more about the latter than the former? Don’t worry you are not alone, it’s the way the human brain is wired.

Great stories make for great memories. Conveying a message through a story is 22 times more memorable than facts alone.

Great stories make for great connections. Listening to a story engages three to five areas of the brain compared to two when processing facts.

Great stories make for great trust. Stories activate parts of the brain that allow listeners to experience the story in their own lives; almost mirroring the experience and providing a sense of empathy.

The human brain is wired to process stories in a unique way, and even if we don’t think we are utilizing stories as a tool in our daily lives, you probably are. One example of this is oral family histories. We all have them, stories that have been passed down for generations. And we do not share them with our children and grandchildren in bullet point fashion. We evoke the time and place, the shared values and deeper meanings.

This is why the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture (AFAN) has partnered with the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) to create livestock development stories. Together we are creating six distinctive video and radio spots highlighting the stories behind livestock development in Nebraska.

We are emphasizing family, community, and the culture of Nebraska’s agriculture roots. Four of the six will feature different livestock sectors. Two of them will bring attention to communities that have embraced livestock development.

AFAN will use these videos to recruit new and promote livestock expansion in Nebraska, because we know livestock is good for Nebraska families. We will target their use in regions where there is a need to create community buy-in, since diversifying rural economies with livestock helps communities thrive. We will share positive, impactful and memorable messages with all Nebraskans because agriculture and livestock are not only the history of this state, but its future as well.

Bryce Doeschot of BCD Productions is creating these video and radio spots. Check out his work at www.bcdproductions.org and be on the lookout for the NSB and AFAN stories winter 2017.
Adding Livestock: Building for the Future Experience Exchange Panels

by Kyla Habrock, Youth Education Director, Nebraska Pork Producers Association

Panelists

Amy Schmidt, Ph.D. P.E.
Assistant Professor, Livestock Bioenvironmental Engineer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Emily Skillet
Livestock Development Coordinator, Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska

Tim Chancellor
Pork Producer and Supervisor, Thomas Livestock Company

Paul Segner
Pork Producer

Alan Stephens
Senior Business Development Manager, The M aschhoffs

Walt Traudt
Pork Producer

In cooperation with Beck Ag and in partnership with the Farm Credit Services of America, Nebraska Corn Board, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, and Nebraska Soybean Board, the Nebraska Pork Producers Association hosted three Experience Exchange Panels: Adding Livestock: Building for the Future in February of 2017.

The objective for each Experience Exchange Panel was to encourage Nebraska corn and soybean farmers in Eastern Nebraska to consider adding livestock, specifically pigs, to their farming operations while promoting benefits that reduce risk, add value by utilizing manure as fertilizer, and offer new opportunities for future generations to return to the farm.

Panel experts represented great diversity and shared meaningful, first-hand experiences with corn and soybean farmers.

(See list left)

The three Experience Exchange Panels generated considerable engagement from the corn and soybean farmer participants. 298 corn and soybean farmers registered for an Experience Exchange Panel and 158 attended. This strong participation rate shows great interest in adding livestock, specifically pigs, among corn and soybean farmers.

Participants were asked if they found the educational discussion relevant and if it was worth attending. 93% responded yes.

Participants were asked if as a result of this discussion, did their understanding of the opportunities for livestock production increase, 87% responded yes.

A final polling question asked if participants would like to be contacted by a livestock integrator to learn more. Thirteen corn and soybean farmers indicated they would like follow up and are considered a hot lead. An additional 425 corn and soybean farmers requested additional information about adding pork production on their farm and are considered a warm lead.

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association looks forward to building upon the success of the Experience Exchange Panels by hosting three more panels in 2018, thanks to the support of the Nebraska Soybean Board!
You rely on diesel fuel to perform many important tasks on your farm. As with all the other equipment you have, your diesel storage tank requires some seasonal maintenance.

Just as you check the equipment, make sure you give the storage tank and its parts a thorough inspection as well. Check to see that caps are on tight and there are no leaks from hoses or connections. Replace cracked and defective parts for optimal performance. Install a clean dispenser filter before harvest to accommodate the higher viscosity of the fuel in cooler temperatures.

Since above ground storage tanks are exposed to weather extremes, it is possible for water to accumulate over time in tanks when the temperatures fluctuate greatly. The water in air condenses out at night when the temperature falls, and accumulates in the fuel as this process is repeated over time. When the fuel is completely saturated, the water sheds from the fuel and collects at the bottom of the tank. This leads to tank corrosion, possible microbial contamination, plugged dispenser filters and icing when the temperatures get below 32°F.

Determine your winter fuel needs. Will you be using diesel during the winter? If not, there is no reason to spend money winterizing all that fuel. Let it freeze in the winter and it will melt in the spring. If you will be using diesel in the winter, utilize a smaller tank, with a blend of No. 1 diesel and cold flow additives. Typical No. 2 diesel starts to cloud between 0°F to 12°F. No. 1 diesel usually starts clouding around -40°F. Cold flow additives can replace the need for some No. 1 diesel. Once it gets cold, No. 1 diesel can cost 20-50 cents per gallon than No. 2 diesel, so it is usually more cost-effective to utilize a combination strategy of cold-flow additives and No. 1 diesel.

Remember that No. 1 diesel is lighter than No. 2 diesel, so you will not get a complete mix if you add the No. 1 diesel on top of No. 2 diesel. The cold flow additives should be added to the fuel when it is 10 degrees above its cloud point, otherwise they will be ineffective.

Biodiesel blends up to 5% will behave the same as straight No. 2 diesel and can be treated as such. Using higher biodiesel blends is possible in winter but requires higher additive treat rates or greater percentage of No. 1 blending.

If you have any fuel related questions or need help troubleshooting a fuel related problem contact us at the Regional Diesel Helpline:
800-929-3437

Diesel

Housekeeping Tips

Keep tanks full to eliminate head space and prevent condensation from air.

Regularly check hoses, caps and gaskets for leaks.

Install a new filter before harvest.

Check tanks for water in the fall before cold weather sets in and again in the spring. Remove any free water.
State Biodiesel Policies Serve as a Safety Net for Growing Industry

— by Kaleb Little, Senior Communications Manager National Biodiesel Board

While federal policy continues to be the driving force for growth in the biodiesel industry, a broad network of state and regional policies serve as an important safety net. Various programs such as statewide requirements, consumption incentives, and low carbon fuel standards guarantee more than a billion gallons of biodiesel demand across the country.

“While only about a third of the overall biodiesel market in the U.S. is driven by state policies, one billion gallons represents a considerably more robust insurance policy for the industry than we had just a few years ago,” said Shelby Neal, Director of State Governmental Affairs at the National Biodiesel Board. “In 2010, markets driven by state policies accounted for only about 250 million gallons of total demand, meaning the industry has seen a greater than four-fold increase over the past several years. With the continued successful efforts of NBB’s members and regional stakeholders, those numbers are expected to continue to grow into the future.”

In the Midwest, three leading biodiesel states — Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota — have enjoyed milestone successes recently that further cement their reputations as industry leaders. Last year, Iowa passed legislation to extend the state’s Biodiesel Production Credit through 2024 and to extend and expand the Biodiesel

Promotion Retail Tax Credit to encourage the production and sales of biodiesel in the state. This July, Illinois lawmakers approved a tax package that included a five-year extension of a full sales tax exemption for biodiesel blends above 10 percent. The Illinois sales tax exemption was set to expire at the end of 2018 and ensures that Illinois will remain one of the top markets for biodiesel consumption in the country. And finally, in August, Minnesota regulators approved the state’s landmark move to B20 in diesel fuel statewide. The policy was originally implemented in 2005 at a two percent level and will move to 20 percent on May 1, 2018.

On both coasts, Low Carbon Fuel Standards and Bioheat® fuel policies are driving significant biodiesel demand. Implementation of California’s Low Carbon Fuel Standard is expected to increase the biodiesel and renewable diesel demand in that state to one billion gallons by as soon as 2020. Oregon has a similar policy in place that should create a 100-million-gallon market by 2023. And 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.

“This diverse set of policies drives demand for biodiesel all across the country, adding significant value to the agriculture industry along the way,” Neal said. “Whether the intent of each policy is to support economic growth, the environment, agriculture, or the nation’s energy security, a variety of unique and compellingly positive impacts are assured.”
Soy-Based Products Help Educate!

— by Marie Meis

This year the Nebraska Soybean Board (NSB) worked with the Antelope County Fair to award a $2000 grant to improve their fairgrounds using bio-based products. The Antelope County 4-H Committee came together and decided what better way to use the money than create educational and informative posters.

Tessa Hain, the 4-H coordinator for Antelope County, helped organize this project. “The signs served as an educational piece to educate the public on what 4-H is, what Clover Kids are, and also to illustrate that 4-H is more than just the county fair. Our plan is to use them every year at the county fair, at the 4-H Open House, and other 4-H events around the county,” she explained.

Helping Consumers

The NSB offers this grant each year to help spread the word of the availability of bio-based products. From ink-toner to paint, cleaning products to carpet, there are so many materials and products available. Promoting the use of these greener products helps consumers make smarter purchasing decisions and county fairs are a great way to get the word out.

Both the Nebraska Soybean Board and the United Soybean Board invest in research and development in expanding the use of bioproducts. Both organizations put out an array of resources available to learn more about the products and to see which ones are available. All consumers are encouraged to seek out products that are soy based.

Maybe It’s For Your County

Anne Meis, a Nebraska Soybean Board member and one of the coordinators for this project, talks of the signs, “Antelope County 4-H called on the expertise of Pitzer Digital, a local internet marketing and graphic design business, to create and design four stand up banners for the 4-H and open class building.”

This is what worked for Antelope county, using soy-based ink. Many other counties have utilized the grant by painting with soy-based paint, allowing them to do great aesthetic updates. There is also hand sanitizer that is available as a bioproduct, along with many cleaning supplies and certain types of flooring. There are so many options available for counties to fill their needs with the $2000 available.

This $2000 grant offered each year is an all around win for anyone involved. The counties are able to update their grounds, the NSB receives promotion from the county, and soybean producers are getting their products promoted. Bioproducts are not only great for the producer but the consumer and environment, too.

The participants in the photo are Anne Meis, Nebraska Soybean Director, Evin Pelster, Ashleigh Nelson, and Morgan Erhardt.
Sapp Bros. celebrated the opening of their new biodiesel blending terminal in Norfolk, Nebraska, located 2.5 miles from the Norfolk NuStar Terminal. Fuel suppliers can load diesel on their transport at the terminal, then load biodiesel at the Sapp Bros. terminal to the desired blend level. Fuel suppliers will have 24/7 access and loading upon approval. The biodiesel will be sourced from soybeans and BQ-9000 certified plants, assuring high quality biodiesel.

Biodiesel is a renewable form of diesel fuel, often blended into petroleum diesel fuel in blends of five to twenty percent. It is made from oils found in plants, used cooking oil or animal fats. More than 50 percent of biodiesel produced in the U.S. is made from soybean oil, making this new blending infrastructure a benefit to the state’s soybean farmers. Biodiesel has many beneficial properties, including increased lubricity, high cetane, reduced emissions and compatibility with diesel engines and equipment. For these reasons, biodiesel has been growing in popularity throughout Nebraska and the country.
Agriculture, Innovation and the Global Picture

What do two countries, vastly different from both one another and from the U.S., have to do with technology in U.S. agriculture? Nebraska farmers Mark Caspers, Auburn, and Gregg Fujan, Weston, were on a mission to find out.

Caspers and Fujan serve as two of four farmer-leaders from Nebraska on the United Soybean Board (USB). USB recognizes that technology is increasingly part of nearly every soybean operation across the country. And that the U.S. is not the only country bringing tech to the farm gate.

Innovation from the Beginning
Believe it or not, Israel, a country the size of New Jersey with a population of just under 9 million, is at the leading edge of some of the world’s most innovative agriculture technology. With limited land, and even less water, farmers had no choice but to be innovative from the very beginning.

In 2016 Israel was ranked first globally for percentage of country GDP invested in research and development. The Israeli people attribute this spirit of invention to several key factors, including compulsory service in the military for all citizens after they complete high school and before attending college.

“We quickly saw how impactful military service is,” said Fujan. “When they leave the military, they take what they’ve learned and apply it to various industries, including agriculture. They see solutions to problems through a different lens.”

Irrigation efficiency is a high priority in a country where agriculture relies heavily on supplemental water for production. Today, Israel recycles 85 percent of its sewage waste water for irrigation. And the industry continues to look for efficiencies, through improved irrigation systems, moisture sensors and more.

Catching Up
At the other end of the innovation spectrum is Ukraine, a country in many ways still emerging from the fog of Soviet rule and downfall. But it’s possible that once the fog clears, the world will see a new global ag powerhouse come to the stage.

“Ukraine may not be on the cutting edge of production now, but that doesn’t mean it won’t ever happen,” says Caspers.

Ag technology use lags substantially behind the U.S., though not universally across the country. Technology use is more likely integrated in major farming corporations, some of whom manage hundreds of thousands of acres. Global ag tech companies are anxiously awaiting for this trend to filter down to smaller operations.

“The innovation we saw in Israel is definitely a take-home that we can apply in the U.S.,” says Fujan. “As I think about my role with USB, I know I’ll be thinking about ways the checkoff can help facilitate this type of cross-industry collaboration for the benefit of U.S. soybean farmers. As for Ukraine, it was a chance to peek behind the curtain of a potential competitor and understand what lies ahead.”
Two local meat producers from Nebraska recently joined the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) in Osaka and Tokyo, Japan from September 3-8. They joined the USMEF Heartland Team (a group of beef, pork, corn and soybean producers from nine Midwest states) to view U.S. beef and pork in the Japanese marketplace, collaborate with Japanese buyers and tour various meat outlets.

Leon Dorn of Firth, Nebraska and Chuck Knipe of Auburn, Nebraska represented the Nebraska Soybean Board as meat producers during their time in Japan. Dorn feeds approximately 1,500 cattle that is sent to a meat packing plant and exported to foreign markets, while Knipe produces around 1,200 hogs per year. Dorn and Knipe participated in multiple media interviews that included The Japan News, an English-language daily published by The Yomiuri Shimbun, and spoke at a consumer event at Taiko-en in Osaka, Japan.

The Heartland Team met and spoke with various Japanese meat buyers throughout the week, with one visit taking place at Marudai Food Co., Ltd in Takatsuki, Japan. Marudai manufactures ham and sausage, cooked and processed food, and fresh meat that is distributed all over the world. Producers had the opportunity to talk with Marudai executives about the impact of United States meat that is exported to Japan, and future opportunities for producers.

The team visited different outlet locations to view U.S. meat in the Japanese marketplace and observe how the price, placement and consumer recognition compare to domestic Japanese meat. They also had the opportunity to participate in a lunch meeting with Zensho, the largest foodservice company in Japan.

USMEF also celebrated its 40th anniversary by hosting the U.S. Meat Trade Seminar & Tasting Session at the Prince Park Tower Hotel in Tokyo. The Heartland Team concluded its trip by meeting with more than 800 Japanese meat buyers at the event.
With the back-to-school season past, field trips are at the top of the mind for students and teachers. If I could recommend an unforgettable field trip for a class of students, it would be a trip to Lincoln for an Ag Sack Lunch Program presentation!

Created in 2010, the program’s mission is to educate Nebraska fourth-graders about the different agricultural industries in Nebraska, all while providing 5,000 sack lunches each year. Each Ag Sack Lunch Ambassador is given a set of presentation cards with fun facts that help the students learn about the agricultural industries in Nebraska. The Program covers both specific industries in livestock, such as beef, dairy, swine, and poultry; and also crops like soybeans, corn, and wheat. At the end of the presentation, the group walks through the items in their lunches and talks about which industry they came from.

The Ag Sack Lunch Program not only reaches 4th graders, but also helps develop future ag-leaders, such as myself. I have worked as an Ag Ambassador for two years now. I can honestly say it has been one of the most rewarding life experiences I have ever had. It has kept me humble and open minded, as I did not grow up in a very diverse area. Once I began to present to urban centered schools, there were times I felt truly heartbroken. Some students I interacted with did not even know where the meat or cheese on their sandwich came from before the grocery store. I could see in their eyes that they wanted to learn. When it finally clicked for them, the light in their eyes and smiles on their faces is what made me fall in love with the Ag Industry all over again.

Agriculture is an important industry in the state of Nebraska. It is crucial to the economy, the environment, and providing enough food to feed the world. Unfortunately, as more and more generations are being removed from farms and ranches, the knowledge we have gained is not being passed along. Not many people know how these industries work and there are not many schools in Nebraska with ag-related courses. This is what the Ag Sack Lunch Program is trying change. By improving ag-literacy in Nebraska, their hope is to get people more involved and interested in agriculture to strengthen the future of the industry.

The experiences I have gained by working as an Ambassador have really made me appreciate the area in which I grew up and the educators I had along the way. I have experienced first-hand that programs like Ag Sack Lunch are so important and influential in the lives of children. In the future, it will be up to their generation to find more sustainable food practices in order to feed the growing population while keeping the economy and the environment in check. They are the future of agriculture, and sponsored programs like Ag Sack Lunch are helping that happen in fun and interactive ways!
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PERFECT PULLED PORK

Ingredients:
5 lbs boneless blade pork roast
1 ½ tsp smoked paprika
2 tsp black pepper
1 tsp cayenne
1 tsp dried thyme
1 tsp garlic powder
½ tsp salt
1 cup water
Soft sandwich buns

Instructions:
1. Combine all the seasonings in a small bowl and rub evenly over roast. Place meat in a 6-quart slow cooker. Add water. Cover and cook on LOW for 6-8 hours or HIGH for 4-5 hours or until pork is very tender.
2. Remove pork to a large cutting board or platter and let rest for 10-15 minutes. Pull, slice or chop to serve. Serve in buns with barbecue sauce.

Recipe from National Pork Board - www.porkbeinspired.com

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