



**NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN
GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2026



Photo by Katie Becker

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

The New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA) is a grassroots organization representing corn and soybean producers' interests.

The Association works to develop and expand markets, educate members and consumers, and enhance public policy for corn and soybean growers in the Empire State. We also sponsor research on corn and soybean production, utilization, and marketing and host educational programs on management, production, and marketing. The Association is a Qualified State Soybean Board (QSSB) and administers New York's soybean checkoff.

NYCSGA has served as the QSSB for New York farmers as part of the national soy checkoff program since 2010. The farmer-driven board oversees and manages New York's share of funds received from the checkoff program.

Through the checkoff, each soybean farmer contributes one-half of one percent of the price of each bushel at the first point of sale. The NYCSGA Soybean Checkoff keeps one-half of the checkoff funds collected to conduct state-specific soy research and promotion activities on farmers' behalf.

2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

President

Brad Macauley | Merrimac Farms

Past President

Tom Corcoran | T & D Corcoran Farms

Vice President

Mike Meisenzahl | Meisenzahl Farms

Secretary

Emmaline Long | Industry Consultant

Treasurer

Matt Toussaint | Toussaint Farms

Board Members

Ben Austic | Austic Farm Partners

Chris Bay | Bay Farms

Loren Herod | Rabo AgriFinance

Marc Krieger | Willard Farms

Phil Panek | Panek Farms

Joe van Lieshout | Brabant Farms

Advisory Representative

Venancio Fernandez Diaz

Tim Winters | Western New York Energy

Staff

Colleen Klein | Executive Director

New York Corn & Soybean Growers

Association Magazine is published quarterly by:

Amplify Association Management

Sydney Kaizer

1255 SW Prairie Trail Parkway,

Ankeny, Iowa 50023

(515) 334-1069 | [amplifymyassociation.com](mailto:sydney@amplifymyassociation.com)

E-mail: sydney@amplifymyassociation.com

For advertising information, contact:

Sydney Kaizer

sydney@amplifymyassociation.com

Comments and statewide news articles should be sent to the above email address. Advertising space reservations must be made two months preceding publication. In consideration of the acceptance of the advertisement, the agency and the advertiser must, in respect of the contents of the advertisement, indemnify and save the publisher harmless against any expense arising from claims or actions against the publisher because of the publication of the content of the advertisement.



@NYCORNANDSOY



@NYCORNANDSOY



@NYCORNANDSOY

WWW.NYCORNANDSOY.ORG



NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 | SUMMER CROP SUMMIT

Join us on August 12 for the 2026 NYCGSA Summer Crop Summit in Seneca Falls!

6 | MEET THE NEW VOICES

Introducing NYCSGA's newest board members: Ben Austic and Joe van Lieshout.

12 | BUDGET WATCH IN ALBANY

Delayed state budget negotiations could affect tax credits, climate policy, and farm support programs important to New York growers.

14 | E15 LEGISLATION

NYCSGA will continue to support year-round E15 while monitoring broader renewable fuel policy discussions.

18 | SOY FARMER SUPPORT HUB

Soy Checkoff launches Soy Farmer Support Hub to help navigate farm challenges.

28 | VALUE OF MANURE PROJECT

In a weather-challenged season, manure offset nitrogen fertilizer needs and increased corn silage and grain yields.



Brad Macauley,
President, New York Corn &
Soybean Growers Association

Letter From the President

Greetings! I hope your planting season is off to a great start. It is always rewarding to see the first fields of the year emerge and watch our preparation take shape.

At the New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA), we are at a similar stage. Following our winter strategic planning and advocacy efforts for corn and soy priorities, several new initiatives are beginning to take root.

As part of our commitment to bringing more value to our members, we have expanded our team to support the Summer Crop Summit. Gabby Glenister of Lacy Road Media will be leading our events team. Please join Gabby and NYCSGA at Rodman Lott & Son Farms on August 12.

In addition to event planning, your NYCSGA team has been active in Washington D.C. and Albany. We are seeing progress on the state budget and Farm Bill 2.0, and we hope both will be fully passed soon. We are grateful to our national affiliates, the American Soybean Association (ASA) and National Corn Growers Association (NCGA), as well as our Albany team at Ostroff Associates, for their constant vigilance and support in these advocacy efforts.

The board and staff work diligently throughout the year, and we thank you for your continued support and for the opportunity to represent you.

Wishing you a safe and successful growing season. ■



Bringing the Field Together



Damian Mason, Keynote Speaker



Mark Modzeleski



Katie Basu



Jeff King



Karen Coble Edwards

Agenda

9:00 am

Registration, Coffee, & Exhibitor Time

10:15 am

Keynote – *Damian Mason*

11:30 am

Story Time: The High Oleic Soybean Opportunity in New York

12:00 pm

Lunch (included) & Exhibits

Main Stage Sessions & Field Demonstrations (Concurrent)

2:00 pm

Main Stage: Farm Transition & Estate Planning
Mark Modzeleski

2:30 pm

Main Stage: Farmers Supporting Farmers
Katie Basu

3:00 pm

Main Stage: Soybean New Uses Spotlight: SoyFoam
Jeff King and Karen Coble Edwards

3:30 pm

Grower Gathering Social

5:00 pm

Adjourn

August 12, 2026

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

@ Rodman Lott & Son Farms
2973 State Route 414, Seneca Falls, NY



Scan the QR code or visit nycornsoy.org to register!

BRABANT FARM

MEET THE NEW VOICES HELPING TO SHAPE NYCSGA'S FUTURE

Story by Lila Nolan | Photography by Katie Becker

The New York Corn and Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA) is excited to introduce you to its newest members on the NYCSGA Board of Directors, Ben Austic and Joe van Lieshout. While their farms and backgrounds may look a little different, both men share a strong desire to help New York farmers.

Having board members who experience firsthand what other farmers experience every day is one of the NYCSGA's strongest assets. From grain markets and dairy demand to advocacy and renewable

fuel opportunities, both Austic and van Lieshout bring valuable perspectives to conversations surrounding the future of corn and soybean production in New York.

Let's take a closer look at the newest faces representing NYCSGA.

BEN AUSTIC: "A PRIVILEGE TO SERVE"

Ben Austic of Interlaken, NY is a third-generation farmer and one of the newest members of the NYCSGA board. He brings decades of hands-on agricultural experience and a strong understanding

Joe van Lieshout is a third-generation dairy farmer from Verona, NY. He farms approximately 4,500 acres and milks 1,300 cows across two locations.



of the issues facing growers across the state because he has also experienced them. Elected last fall, he now also serves on the organization's Government Affairs Committee.

Today, Austic helps manage approximately 9,000 acres across Seneca, Tompkins, and Schuyler counties, raising corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, and triticale. After graduating high school in 1996, Austic and his father purchased a farm in Missouri, where he lived and farmed until the operation was sold in 2004. Over the years, he also worked as a grain merchandiser for an ethanol producer, spent time on a beef cattle farm, served as a sales agronomist for a Growmark company, managed a 4,000-acre farm, and even spent several years as a pastor before returning to New York and the family farm in 2019.

Austic says joining the NYCSGA board felt like an opportunity to be part of a good organization moving New York agriculture in a positive direction. He sees both challenges and opportunities ahead for corn and soybean growers, particularly when it comes to markets. The closure of the Fulton ethanol plant in 2020 created difficulties for grain growers and forced some producers to look farther south for buyers. At the same time, he believes the continued growth of New York's dairy industry has created important new opportunities for grain and forage producers throughout the state.

Outside of farming and advocacy work, Austic enjoys picking his guitar and singing, especially worship music and old country songs. It is a fitting reflection of someone whose life has been shaped by agriculture, faith, and community, and who now hopes to help strengthen the future of farming in New York.

JOE VAN LIESHOUT: "I LIKE BEING A FARMER"

Joe van Lieshout of Verona, NY, is a third-generation dairy farmer and the other newest member of the NYCSGA board. van Lieshout farms alongside his father and two uncles on an operation that spans approximately 4,500 acres and milks 1,300 cows across two locations. At 43 years

old, van Lieshout is also a husband to Samantha and father of two daughters and a young son, though he laughs that many people still know him simply as “Joey.”

Van Lieshout says advocacy has always been an important part of both his life and his family’s farming philosophy. He previously served as a junior advisor for the Holstein club and grew up surrounded by family members deeply involved in agricultural organizations. One uncle currently serves as president of the New York Holstein Association, while another has long been involved with Farm Bureau. Those examples helped shape van Lieshout’s belief that everyone involved in agriculture eventually needs to “take their turn” helping advocate for the industry and its future.

As he steps into his new role with NYCSGA, van Lieshout agrees with Austic that markets remain one of the biggest concerns facing New York corn and soybean growers. While the state’s dairy industry provides a strong local demand for feed, he notes that grain production can still outpace available markets. He also believes New York agriculture is often overlooked nationally despite the large amount of production happening within the state. Advocacy surrounding renewable fuels and market expansion is especially important to him, recently spending time contacting senators in support of E15 fuel policies and other opportunities that could strengthen demand for New York-grown grain.

At the heart of it all, van Lieshout says he simply loves being a farmer. From raising his family on the farm to working alongside what he describes as a “super group of employees,” agriculture is more than an occupation; it is the life he lives every day. That passion for farming and commitment to protecting the future of the industry is what he now hopes to bring to the NYCSGA Board of Directors and to growers across New York.

FARMERS HELPING SHAPE THE FUTURE OF NEW YORK AGRICULTURE

The NYCSGA is excited to welcome Austic and van Lieshout to the board as the organization continues working toward a strong future for New York agriculture. Both men bring valuable experience and fresh perspectives that will help our members and our industry as a whole.

From grain markets and renewable fuels to dairy growth and agricultural advocacy, Austic and van Lieshout understand the industry because they live it every day on their farms. Their passion for agriculture and willingness to serve will help strengthen the voice of New York corn and soybean growers and continue moving the industry forward for generations to come. ■

Ben Austic is a third-generation farmer from Interlaken, NY. He helps manage approximately 9,000 acres across Seneca, Tompkins, and Schuyler counties, raising corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, and triticale.



Mark Lott received the New York
Legacy Farmer Award in 2026.

NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN



GR



2027 LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Do you know someone who performs outstanding work on behalf of New York corn and soybean growers? Nominate them for one of the New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association leadership awards!

The **Seeds of Tomorrow Award** celebrates one emerging leader who represents the future of New York agriculture.

The **New York Legacy Farmer Award** honors a lifetime of dedication and leadership in New York agriculture.

*Scan the QR
code or visit:*

<https://nycornsoy.org/membership/2027-nycsga-leadership-award-nominations>

2026 CORN & SOYBEAN YIELD CONTEST

The New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA) corn and soybean yield contests are back!
You can begin submitting entries on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 through Saturday, August 15, 2026.
Additional eligibility and judging details are below.

Corn Eligibility

Designated fields must be at least 5 acres of the same hybrid number with 1.25 continuous acres harvested from each field and accurately weighed in the presence of a contest supervisor. Irrigated fields are not eligible. The harvested area must be exclusive of headlands and outside rows and include more than one combined pass.

Soybean Eligibility

Designated field must be at least 5 acres of the same variety with a minimum of 2 acres harvested as the contest entry. The harvested area must be squared off (ex: 180' x 484' = 2 acres). No odd shapes. For convenience, the test area may be measured after harvest by the contest supervisor. The harvested area must be exclusive of headlands and outside rows and include more than one combine pass. Participants must use non-irrigated soybeans but are not restricted as to variety, fertilization, spacing, or other cultural practices. There will be 4 classes of beans based upon maturity group (0, 1, 2, and 3).

AT A GLANCE:

ENTRIES OPEN
JULY
1
ENTRIES OPEN

Who Can Enter:
NY corn and soybean growers

Where To Enter:
nycornsoy.org

Recognition:
2027 Winter Expo in Canandaigua

ENTRIES DUE
AUG.
15
ENTRIES DUE

All decisions of the Yield Contest Committee are final. The committee reserves the right to disqualify any entry without refund for violation of the states rules and harvest procedures. Contest entrants will be notified in December 2026 of the final yields and contest placements. The winners will be recognized at the 2027 Winter Expo in Canandaigua, NY in January. All contest fields must be located in the state of New York. The originally entered hybrid/variety must be the same that is reported on the harvest report or it will be disqualified. Entrants are not eligible to win the Grand Champion prize more than two consecutive years.

The corn and soybean entry forms are available online at nycornsoy.org.

Budget Watch in Albany

Editor's Note: The New York state budget has now passed and the NYCSGA line item has been fully funded for FY26/27.

Delayed state budget negotiations could affect tax credits, climate policy, and farm support programs important to New York growers

**By Jay Holland
and Casey Marvell,**
Ostroff Associates



At the time of writing, the New York Corn and Soybean Growers Association (NYCSGA) is still awaiting final New York state budget bills to be printed and passed by the legislature. Although the budget was statutorily due on April 1, negotiations have extended into late May. Prolonged discussions on major policy issues, including auto insurance reform, climate law changes, and financial assistance for New York City, have pushed the process well beyond its typical timeline.

With the legislative session scheduled to conclude in early June, policymakers in Albany are now working under a compressed calendar to finalize outstanding items before returning to their districts ahead of June primaries and the November general election.

Despite these delays, NYCSGA is encouraged by early signals that state leaders recognize the importance of agriculture to New York's economy. In March, both the Senate and Assembly released their one-house budget proposals, nonbinding

frameworks that build on the governor's executive budget. These proposals included several provisions relevant to growers, such as an extension of the Investment Tax Credit through 2033, tariff relief payments for impacted farmers, and continued funding for agricultural research and support programs. While these items remain subject to negotiation, they reflect a growing awareness in Albany that farm viability, input costs, and global market pressures must be addressed in the state's fiscal plan.

For growers, these provisions carry real implications. The extension of the Investment Tax Credit can help offset the cost of capital investments in equipment, storage, and on-farm energy systems, critical at a time when interest rates and input costs remain elevated. Tariff relief funding is particularly important given the volatility in export markets, which directly affect prices. We look forward to working with the Department of Agriculture and Markets on the rollout of the payments.

In addition, the final budget is also expected to include changes to the state's climate framework under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). Enacted in 2019, the CLCPA established aggressive, economy-wide greenhouse gas reduction targets and a requirement to build out renewable energy. However, as implementation has progressed, concerns have emerged regarding cost impacts, energy reliability, and the pace of transition.

As part of budget negotiations, the governor has expressed her desire to adjust certain aspects of the law. Proposed changes include modifying emissions reduction timelines to allow for a more gradual path through 2040. For growers, this could help avoid sharp increases in fuel, fertilizer, and energy costs that might otherwise result from near-term compliance pressures, especially under a future Cap-and-Invest program.

Another anticipated change is a shift in how emissions are accounted for, aligning New York's methodology more closely with federal standards

and other states. This is particularly significant for growers, as it may better recognize the environmental benefits of biofuels, renewable natural gas, and climate-smart farming practices. A more balanced accounting framework could create new market opportunities and strengthen the role of agriculture in the state's broader climate strategy. NYCSGA applauds the governor for making changes to the CLCPA as part of the budget, and we look forward to working with the administration on new opportunities these changes will open up for New York's energy sector.

As we await final budget passage, members should know that NYCSGA remains actively engaged in Albany advocating on your behalf. We are optimistic that the final agreement will deliver meaningful benefits to growers across New York. Our team will continue to provide timely updates as budget bills are finalized, and we encourage members to stay tuned for alerts and further details. ■

YOUR Checkoff at Work: Building Local Demand

Thanks to the soybean checkoff, farmers can take advantage of new technology and markets like high-oleic soybeans. More than 100,000 acres of high-oleic beans were planted in New York in 2024—but we're just getting started. It's estimated that New York's dairy farmers have demand for 800,000 acres of high-oleic soybeans!



Purchasing soybeans from New York growers? Be sure to register with the New York Corn & Soybean Association (NYCSGA) checkoff remittance tool, Checkoff Pro. This simple software will outline federal soybean checkoff requirements and help with quarterly remittances.

 FUNDED BY THE CHECKOFF



By **Lesly McNitt**, Vice President of Public Policy,
National Corn Growers Association

E15 Legislation Exposes the Joy and Frustration of Advocacy Work

Working on policy issues in Washington can be rewarding, but often there is a form of delayed gratification. There are all types of competing interests that must be addressed to get legislation across the finish line and signed into law. Even widely popular bills can take years to pass, a problem that has been compounded by an increasingly divided capital city.

I was reminded over the last several weeks of the exhilaration, disappointment, and pure anxiety that comes with advocacy work. The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed the Farm, Food, and National Security Act (H.R. 7567), its version of an updated Farm Bill.

NCGA has been working to shape and pass the new Farm Bill for years, including growers testifying at field hearings and in D.C. since at least 2022. While the budget reconciliation bill last year provided many key priorities, the full Farm Bill needs to be completed this year—almost three years after it originally expired. Our work now turns to the U.S. Senate, as we encourage a bipartisan product to advance.

While the Farm Bill momentum was a positive step, the House also punted a vote on legislation that would expand consumer

access to higher blends of ethanol. We have worked for years trying to secure passage of legislation that would allow for the year-round sale of fuels with 15% ethanol blends, referred to as E15.

The legislation, H.R. 1346, entitled the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act, enjoys the support from corn grower allies across the political aisle in Congress. The legislation offers something for everyone. Expanding access to ethanol would increase corn demand, helping growers as well as the rural communities in which they live. This bill strengthens American energy independence and dominance. And it would help lower gas prices as fuel costs continue to climb.

Yet, like most bills, this legislation is analogous to a Rubik's cube. Right when you think all the colors are lined up, you look to the side and find that you have more work to do. In our case, we have some members of Congress who wrongly think E15 is a mandate. In fact, it eliminates burdensome restrictions.

Another complication we've run into is greed. A small group of million- and billion-dollar oil companies are masquerading as small refineries to obtain exemptions to the nation's

Renewable Fuel Standard's ethanol blending requirements. Simply put: this legislation would close that loophole, and they don't like it. So as the nation's corn growers and many drivers struggle with an unaffordable cost of living, a small handful of corporations want to continue exploiting a loophole to pad their profits.

Despite all these efforts to derail E15 legislation, corn grower leaders have worked hard, pounding the pavement on Capitol Hill, knocking on the doors of hundreds of House members, meeting with those who need more information on our bill and weighing in at the grassroots level with elected officials. We have engaged the media as a vehicle for reaching policymakers. And, as a result, we will have a vote on H.R. 1346 this month.

Yet, there is still a lot of work to do. We have come close to passing E15 legislation before, only to find that some special interest group or a procedural maneuver has thwarted our efforts. So, we are spending our time engaging in an extremely aggressive outreach effort: calling undecided representatives, holding press conferences, and launching campaigns that will reach members of Congress.

It's no doubt a race to the finish with the opposition on our heels. But we are dedicated to getting this passed in the House and Senate and then signed into law. NCGA will keep fighting for opportunities to increase market demand for corn growers.

Even as we face a tough playing field, we are going to show Washington that corn growers are up for the challenge. ■

Editor's Note: Since this article was written, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1346, the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act, by a vote of 218–203 on May 13, 2026. The legislation would allow year-round sales of E15 nationwide, removing seasonal restrictions that have created uncertainty for fuel retailers, producers, farmers, and consumers. For New York corn and soybean growers, the House vote represents an

important step toward diversifying and strengthening markets for homegrown renewable fuels, supporting rural communities, and increasing consumer choice at the pump. As the bill moves to the U.S. Senate, NYCSGA will continue to support year-round E15 while monitoring broader renewable fuel policy discussions to ensure both corn and soybean growers are represented.

SOY BIOBASED

RAPIDLY RENEWABLE PRODUCTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

ABOUT BIOBASED

Across the nation, U.S. companies now offer hundreds of biobased products, ranging from safer firefighting foams to cabinets and flooring to road and parking lot rejuvenators, all made with rapidly renewable ingredients grown on American soybean farms.

Learn more at soybiobased.org



04.25.25.1



SOY-BIOBASED PRODUCTS HELP CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH JOBS THAT CARE FOR OTHERS

1 WOOD – FLOORING, STORAGE & MORE

Soy-biobased innovations are reshaping the wood industry with sustainable adhesives made without formaldehyde to improve air quality for customers as well as the people who make everything from cabinets to flooring to storage units for fire departments. **Columbia Forest Products** uses soy-biobased **PureBond®** technology in their plywood, replacing traditional adhesives with a healthier, formaldehyde-free solution. **1st in Emergency Products** uses this plywood for made-in-the-USA purpose-built storage solutions for fire command and law enforcement cabinets. **HempWood®** is a fast-growing, soy-biobased hardwood alternative for flooring, furniture, and more for construction.

2 FLEET OPERATIONS

Hydraulic fluids, greases, lubricants and more are available from multiple companies with U.S. Soy inside. **Goodyear®** soy-biobased tires provide enhanced traction and durability, offering a more sustainable option for fleet vehicles without sacrificing performance. Soy is used to manufacture **biodiesel** and **renewable diesel**, which boost performance, offer immediate cost savings, lower emissions and improve air quality. **Bioheat®** fuel is a blend of biodiesel and ultra-low sulfur heating oil.

3 ASPHALT REJUVENATORS & PAINT

U.S. Soy oil plays a vital role in infrastructure improvement and coatings. Asphalt rejuvenators, such as those made by **SoyLe**, restore flexibility to aging pavement, extending its lifespan while reducing maintenance costs. **Aexcel Corporation** incorporates soy into traffic paints and coatings, offering high-performance solutions with reduced environmental impact. **Advanced Polymer Technologies** is also working with soy for surface coatings. **Craft's PavShield®** is a cost-effective, soy-biobased concrete preservative that's proven to extend the life of concrete surfaces by 10+ years.

4 PFAS-FREE FIREFIGHTING FOAM

Soyfoam™ TF 1122 firefighting foam meets rigorous performance requirements at the same time it offers environmental and health benefits to first responders and their communities. **Soyfoam™** is 100% free of intentionally added per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) and is made with no fluorines. **Soyfoam™** is the first and only firefighting foam GreenScreen Certified® at the Gold level.

5 TOOLS & SHOP EQUIPMENT

From cleaning products to lubricants and adhesive removers, U.S. Soy boosts the sustainability and performance of a wide range of biobased solutions for the shop and the equipment that emergency teams need to perform their missions. **DeWalt's® Bar & Chain Oil**, developed in collaboration with **Dynamic Green Products®**, improves chainsaw performance while replacing the petroleum content that chainsaws routinely let fly off into soil and water.

6 SOY-BIOBASED ARTIFICIAL GRASS

SYNLawn® uses soy-biobased backing in its artificial turf, offering a durable, fire-resistant, and eco-conscious solution for both residential and commercial spaces. No more weeding, watering, fertilizing or pesticides, and it's recyclable. From playgrounds to putting greens to roof tops, soy-backed turf ensures safety, longevity, and sustainability. **SYNLawn** products undergo rigorous third-party testing to meet—and often exceed—industry fire safety standards.

When The Work Doesn't Let Up

In agriculture, there's always something that needs attention. When the pace stays high for weeks at a time, it wears on you.

Here are steady, practical ways to protect your energy year-round:

Pause + Breathe

Step outside or sit down for 2-3 minutes. Take 10 slow breaths, in through your nose and out through your mouth. Slowing your breathing will help calm your body!

Eat Before You're Starving

Keep water + snacks in the truck or tractor. Low fuel makes stress hit harder.

Narrow Your Focus

When everything feels urgent, pick the top 2-3 priorities for the day; let the rest wait if it can.

Move Your Body

A short walk, gentle stretching, or stepping away from machinery for a few minutes can help reset your mind.

Talk It Out

You don't have to solve everything alone. Call a friend. Talk with family. Reach out to someone you trust!

Guard Your Sleep

You may not always get a full night, but protect the rest you can.



If stress feels heavy or doesn't ease up, support is available. Call the **Farmers Supporting Farmers Confidential Helpline** at: **1-888-328-7847**

If you are in crisis please call or text **988** or contact local emergency services.



**"U.S. SOYBEAN
MEAL IS MORE
CONSISTENT
WITH QUALITY.
YOU CAN SEE
THE DIFFERENCE."**

Hendri Chandra
Director, PT Shahabat Yaya Tio Perkasa, Indonesia

**YOU GROW THE WORLD'S
MOST SUSTAINABLE SOY.
WE GROW DEMAND FOR IT.**

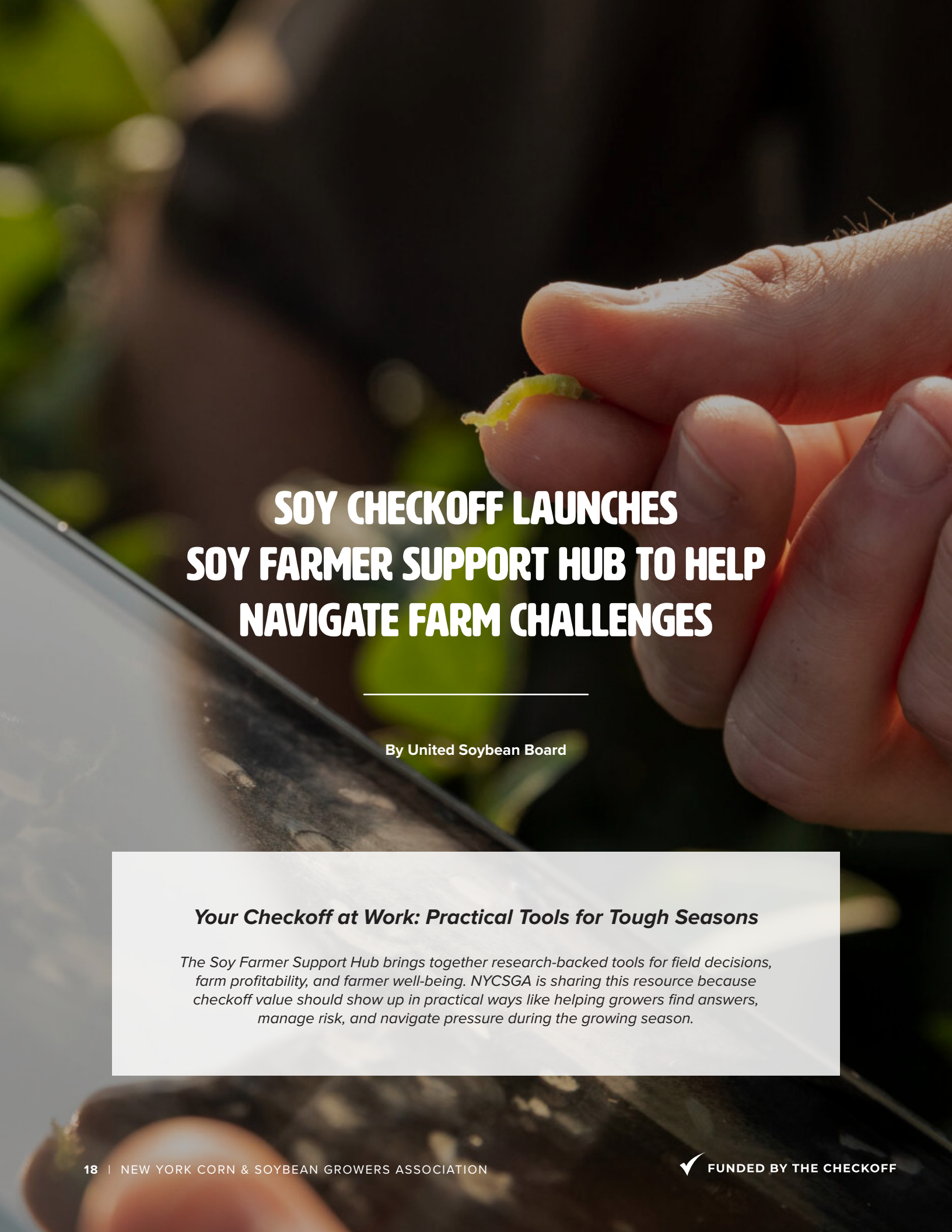
USSEC elevates a preference for U.S. Soy by working directly with buyers in over 90 countries to demonstrate its proven quality and sustainability.



SCAN TO SEE HOW USSEC
WORKS WITH BUYERS LIKE
HENDRI AROUND THE WORLD.



US SOY



SOY CHECKOFF LAUNCHES SOY FARMER SUPPORT HUB TO HELP NAVIGATE FARM CHALLENGES

By United Soybean Board

Your Checkoff at Work: Practical Tools for Tough Seasons

The Soy Farmer Support Hub brings together research-backed tools for field decisions, farm profitability, and farmer well-being. NYCSGA is sharing this resource because checkoff value should show up in practical ways like helping growers find answers, manage risk, and navigate pressure during the growing season.

Farmer-leaders of the United Soybean Board (USB) built something their fellow farmers have long needed: one place for near-term solutions that matter. The Soy Farmer Support Hub, found at unitedsoybean.org/soy-farmer-support-hub, combines resources that the checkoff curated into an easy-to-follow location focused on fields, operations, and the farmers themselves.

The site is part of a bigger initiative by the Soy Checkoff to help U.S. soybean farmers access timely, research-backed tools to overcome the challenges they face day-to-day. While the checkoff typically focuses on long-term market building and on-farm production improvements three to five years out, these immediate resources are applicable to helping farmers' bottom line while also reducing farm stress.

The Soy Farmer Support Hub is categorized into three sections: For Your Fields, For Your Operation, and For You. These are resources farmer-leaders feel are a high priority this growing season. The first section—For Your Fields—includes a collection of resources that help farmers make pre- and in-season decisions. Farmers can find everything from variety selection tools to disease and insect management calculators.

"Soybeans are grown in more than 30 states, and navigating all the resources out there can be a full-time job," said Tom Frisch, Soy Checkoff farmer-leader from Dumont, MN. "We're covering standard topics like planting, seeding rates, pests, and diseases. But, we're also covering newer topics like making decisions around biologicals."

Frisch explained that for the first time ever, the checkoff has a suggestion box for resources farmers would like to see added to the Support Hub or additional input on investment priorities. The form is a direct line to the farmers making funding decisions.

The second section of the Hub—For Your Operation—looks at revenue and profitability. While it's top of mind for farmers 24/7, the tools available help farmers identify new opportunities to impact on-farm profitability including premiums, cost-share funding, and management decisions.

"There are some concrete opportunities within the specialty and sustainability space for farmers to add revenue to their operation," said Don Wyss, Soy Checkoff farmer-leader from Fort Wayne, IN. "Many of these income streams like high oleic soy and Farmers for Soil Health are direct checkoff investments and helps us diversify to meet customer demand from buyers who are willing to pay more for high-quality varieties and soil health practices."

Wyss grows high oleic soybeans and recognizes that these programs are not a one-size-fits-all situation for growers. He encourages farmers to look at the opportunities in their area and identify what works for their operation.

But none of the field tools or economic resources matter without the farmer behind them, which connects to the third section of the hub—For You (the farmer). The checkoff recognizes the role mental health plays in agriculture and compiled resources to emphasize that farmer stress and well-being must be discussed and that anyone struggling is not alone.

For You combines resources from all over the country that focus on the farmer. It gives friends, connections and family an opportunity to know the signs of stress and help the people they care about break through.

"To be able to take care of your family and your farm, you have to also take care of you," said Robb Ewoldt, Soy Checkoff farmer-leader from Davenport, IA. "We're all dealing with compounding stress in agriculture, and we want people to know that you have neighbors and peers who are also managing it. As a farmer-led board, we want to help in normalizing conversations about mental well-being and making it easier to find the right information."

The checkoff's plan for the Soy Farmer Support Hub includes ongoing development of materials. More resources will become available in the weeks and months ahead. Farmers who are looking for something specific are encouraged to reach out and submit suggestions within the hub. ■

In a Weather-Challenged Season, Manure Offset Nitrogen Fertilizer Needs and Increased Corn Silage and Grain Yields: Value of Manure Project 2025 Update

By Juan Carlos Ramos Sanchez¹, Allen Wilder², Mike Contessa³, Andy Miller⁴, Paul Cerosaletti⁵, Dale Dewing⁵, Kirsten Workman^{1,6}, and Quirine M. Ketterings¹

¹Cornell University Nutrient Management Spear Program, ²Miner Agricultural Research Institute, ³Champlain Valley Agronomics, ⁴Osterhoudt Farms, ⁵Cornell Cooperative Extension, and ⁶PRO-DAIRY

Manure is a highly valuable nutrient source. Beyond supplying essential nutrients, it helps build soil organic matter, enhances nutrient cycling, and improves overall soil health and climate resilience when managed properly. Previous research in New York indicates that these benefits can increase crop yield beyond the fertilizer value of manure alone. That is even more important in weather-challenged seasons like 2025, where a wet spring that delayed planting was followed by a very dry summer.

This statewide project evaluates nitrogen (N) and yield benefits of various manure sources and application methods for corn silage and corn grain. Five trials were conducted in 2025, adding to 19 trials conducted in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Here we summarize the findings of the 2025 trials.

What We Did in 2025

Trials were implemented within commercially farmed corn fields in northern New York (two trials), central NY (two trials), and the Catskills region (one trial). Each trial had three strips that received manure and three that did not, for six strips total. For trials A and

B, manure was applied in spring 2025 before planting corn. For trials C, D, and E, manure was applied in spring 2023 but not in 2024 or 2025. For those three trials, we tested the carryover benefits of manure into the third year (2025) after manure application. Dairy manure treatment and application methods varied across trials. Trials B and E had no manure history in the two years prior to the application of the treatment manure.

Strips were 300 ft long in one trial, 1,200 ft long in all others, and 35-120 ft wide. When corn was at the V4-V6 stage, each strip was divided into six sub-strips and subplots were sidedressed at rates ranging from 0 to 200 pounds N per acre. Sidedress rates were trial-specific based on the expected N needs for that field. For each trial, manure was analyzed and soil was sampled for general fertility and the Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test (PSNT). Crop biomass was sampled for Corn Stalk Nitrate Test (CSNT), yield, and forage quality. Soil test phosphorus (P) levels were medium for trials A and C and optimum for the other

trials. Soil test potassium (K) was optimum or very high except for trial C which tested medium. Magnesium (Mg) soil test values were very high for all trials. Soil test zinc (Zn) was low in trial A and medium to high in all other trials. Manganese (Mn) and iron (Fe) were in the normal category.

What We Have Found So Far

Like our 2022-2024 results, trials differed in their responses to manure and sidedress inorganic N. Trials A, B, C, and E had yield responses to N sidedress application, and manure application reduced sidedress N needs by 53, 66, 13, and 4 lbs N/acre, respectively, to achieve similar or higher yields than the no-manure treatments. Trial D was profoundly impacted by the dry growing season, showing no response to sidedress N.

For trials A and D, yields at the MERN were equal. Manure increased yield to levels not achievable with fertilizer alone by 3.2 to 1.6 tons/acre in trials B and C, respectively. Trial B had no manure in the two years prior to the trial, consistent with the great yield response to manure.



For farm C, the large carry-over benefits reflect the slow-release organic-N and organic matter applied with compost in 2023. The manure-induced yield increase in trial E was 5 bushel/acre. The yield increases in trials C and E come from manure applied in 2023 only, showing continued benefits even three years after application.

The PSNT levels for the strips that received manure in 2025 (trials A and B), were higher than their no-manure counterparts, showing that manure supplied crop available N to the soil. For the manure carry-over trials (C, D, and E), PSNT levels were similar in manure and no-manure strips, suggesting limited to no carryover into the third year, although two of these trials had a yield increase from the 2023 manure application treatment. The PSNT results in the no-manure plots correctly identified trials A, B, C, and D as needing additional N, but incorrectly flagged trial E as high in N when it needed sidedress N. In the manure plots, PSNTs also correctly suggested trials A, C, and D needed sidedress N, and incorrectly identified B and E as

not needing sidedress N when they did need it.

In trials A, B, C and E, CSNT levels of the plots that did not receive manure or sidedress fertilizer N were low, consistent with the yield response to N sidedress fertilizer. In trial D, CSNT levels were medium, and the plot had a modest response to sidedress N. In the five trials, the manure strips without N fertilizer addition were in the low and medium CSNT category, also accurately reflecting the need for additional N.

Conclusions and Implications

In the challenging growing season of 2025, we again documented “yield bumps” resulting from manure application beyond what could be obtained with fertilizer only in three of the five trials, consistent with observations for 14 of the 19 trials in 2022, 2023, and 2024. These yield bumps were present also for two “carry-over” trials, signaling that manure applied in spring 2023 continued to be beneficial to crop yield in 2025, three crop seasons after application. Those

yield increases in the trials with optimal or high fertility status show that manure has additional benefits beyond its nutrient contributions. In 2025, the highest yield and N replacement benefits from manure were documented in a field with no recent manure application history (trial B). The PSNT results showed inconsistencies this year with two trials where corn yield still responded to sidedress N even though the PSNT values were high. The CSNT results consistently reflected where N was needed and allowed for documentation of the N contributions of manure.

Next Steps in 2026

To re-evaluate the current N crediting system and learn how to predict and take into account yield bumps, the Value of Manure project requires the addition of more trials beyond the 24 trials completed so far. Thus, the Value of Manure Project will continue in 2026. We will be testing additional manure types and application methods in various soil types and weather conditions. ■

FROM YOUR FIELDS TO FIREFIGHTERS' HANDS

The more we discover about soybeans, the more valuable they become. One innovative product, SoyFoam™, creates a new, sustainable use for your crop that protects firefighters and the planet.

See how your Soy Checkoff is unlocking new markets for soybeans at unitedsoybean.org



 FUNDED BY THE CHECKOFF

© 2025 UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD



Around the Corn

TEXT UPDATES FOR
NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN GROWERS

Join Around the Corn



A text community for New York corn & soybean growers.

Get quick updates, event reminders, timely opportunities,
and occasional grower check-ins.



TEXT “JOIN” TO (315) 639-7088

to join the New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association, Inc. text list

OR SCAN THE QR CODE



I consent to receive survey, public service announcement, marketing & sales,
and account update & notification messages from
New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association, Inc.
Message frequency varies. Message and Data Rates may apply.
Reply HELP for Help. Reply STOP to Opt Out.



SMS SHARING DISCLOSURE: No mobile information will be shared with
third parties/affiliates for marketing/promotional purposes at any time.



UNCOVER EARNINGS WITH COVER CROPS



FARMER BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES



**Per Acre,
Per Year**

Financial Incentive

Earn \$35 per acre to help offset the cost of implementing cover crops, regardless of your cover crop history.



Technical Advisor

Get on-the-ground support and educational resources from your local Technical Advisor to aid in the transition of your fields.



Flexible Commitment

Contracts can be renewed annually for the duration of the Farmers for Soil Health program.

FUNDED BY THE CHECKOFF

Enroll now! Visit FarmersforSoilHealth.com for more information.

What is Farmers for Soil Health?

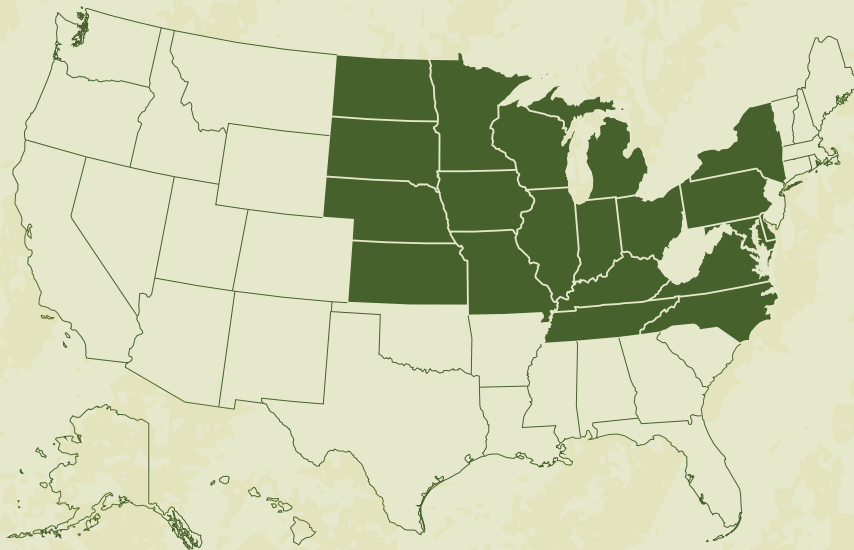
Farmers for Soil Health is a farmer-led, 20-state program designed to help producers improve soil health while strengthening their bottom line. Created by farmers for farmers, the program promotes proven practices, like cover crops, that support healthier soil, improved water quality and long-term farm productivity.

The program is a collaboration between the Soy Checkoff, Pork Checkoff and the National Corn Growers Association and is supported by a \$95 million USDA Advancing Markets for Producers (AMP) grant, which helps expand education, enrollment and technical assistance across participating states.

Farmers for Soil Health provides both financial and technical assistance to aid in cover crop adoption. Participants receive \$35 per acre, per year, for planting cover crops on up to 2,000 acres for the duration of the program, regardless of their cover crop history. Farmers also gain access to local technical advisors who provide research-based, on-the-ground guidance to support successful implementation in their fields.

While practices like cover crops require an initial investment, research shows they can begin delivering returns within three to five years. By helping offset upfront costs and offering hands-on support, Farmers for Soil Health aims to accelerate cover crop adoption across acres of corn and soybean farmland, benefiting both farm profitability and the environment.

ELIGIBLE STATES



Delaware

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Kansas

Kentucky

Maryland

Michigan

Minnesota

Missouri

Nebraska

New York

North Carolina

North Dakota

Ohio

Pennsylvania

South Dakota

Tennessee

Virginia

Wisconsin

Don't see your state listed?

Reach out to your state commodity office about future opportunities.

Learn More about Farmers for Soil Health



Contact

For more information, contact your state's Technical Advisor by visiting FarmersforSoilHealth.com

✓ FUNDED BY THE CHECKOFF





Farmers for Soil Health Enrollment Instructions

Start Your Enrollment



To enroll or re-enroll in the Farmers for Soil Health program, please follow the steps below.

Visit **FarmersforSoilHealth.com** and click on the **"Enrollment"** button located at the top right of the navigation bar.

- A. Click the **"Start Enrollment"** button. Once clicked, it will take you to **DTN's enrollment website**, where you can either:
 - I. Select **"Login"** to re-enroll or check your enrollment status, **or**
 - II. Select **"Create an account"** and follow the instructions on the website
- B. Once logged in, select the appropriate **program year** you're enrolling in (for example, Planted in 2026) and click **"Sign Up"**.

What Happens Next

After signing up and selecting your program year and your public records, you'll see an enrollment page that outlines:

- The **documents you will need** to complete enrollment
- A **timeline** outlining the next steps in the enrollment process
- An **"Application Received"** message

At this point, no further action is required from you until your state Technical Advisor (TA) reaches out. Your state TA will be automatically notified of your enrollment and will contact you within 5 business days to walk through the enrollment requirements and next steps.

You can complete a **data release form**, so your state TA can work with you to gather the needed documents for enrollment, or you can compile and submit the information independently.

Items Needed for Verification & Payment

- Identification Information
 - USDA Identification Numbers
 - Farm Number
 - Tract Number
 - Field Number
 - Social Security Number (SSN)
 - Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- Field & Practice Information
 - FSA Maps
 - Field Boundaries
 - Practice Information
- Required Documents
 - W-9
 - FSA 156EZ
 - FSA Subsidiary Print
 - CPA-52

Local Support

WHENEVER YOU NEED IT

What is a Technical Advisor?

Each state participating in the Farmers for Soil Health program has its own team of **Technical Advisors (TAs)** dedicated to supporting farmers who are implementing cover crops. TAs are knowledgeable, research-based experts who provide **personalized guidance**, educational resources, and one-on-one, boots-on-the-ground support through enrollment and implementation.

Ways Your TA Can Help

- Enrollment Support
 - If you complete the **data release form**, your TA can take the lead on collecting and submitting the information needed for enrollment. They'll check in with you, ask any necessary questions, and guide you through each step to help get you successfully enrolled.
- Support for Farmers New to Cover Crops
 - New to cover crops? No problem. TAs are trained in agronomy, soil science, and conservation practices and are happy to help you get started with confidence.
- Support for Expanding Your Practices
 - If you're looking to expand your cover crop acres, your TA can help with that, too. From planning and species selection to equipment considerations and next steps, your TA is there to support you every step of the way.

Hear From Our TAs

"My favorite part of working with other producers on adopting sustainable practices has been being able to connect farmers planning to adopt a practice with resources that ensure successful adoption, whether that be best management practices, supplemental reading, or most likely, other farmers who have been down that road recently enough to remember how they navigated the adoption."

- **Hans Schmitz**, Farmers for Soil Health TA in Indiana



Ready to take the next step and enroll in the program? Scan the QR code to get started!



✓ FUNDED BY THE CHECKOFF

Have questions or need help? Contact your state TA today by scanning the QR Code.





**NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN
GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 133
Silver Springs, NY 14550

KNOW A GROWER WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THIS MAGAZINE?



Tell them to join the New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association
(first year free, then \$125/year) to receive this quarterly magazine:
<https://nycornsoy.org/membership>



**NEW YORK CORN & SOYBEAN
GROWERS ASSOCIATION**