

ASA Calls For Soybean Target Price of \$6.85

The American Soybean Association (ASA) supports maintaining the current structure of farm programs in the 2007 Farm Bill, while adjusting target prices to a minimum of 130 percent of the Olympic average of season average prices in 2000-2004 and adjusting marketing loan rates to a minimum of 95 percent of the same price average. The soybean target price would increase from \$5.80 to \$6.85 per bushel and the soybean loan rate would increase from \$5.00 to \$5.01 per bushel.








The current soybean target price is only 110 percent of the 2000-2004 Olympic average price compared to 121 percent for wheat and 124 percent for corn. ASA supports harmonizing target prices at 130 percent of recent average prices to provide an equitable level of income support.

In the area of conservation in the new Farm Bill, ASA supports measures that emphasize conservation on working lands. ASA is calling for expanding the Conservation Security Program into a national program and adjusting the Environmental Benefit Index for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to allow non-environmentally sensitive land currently enrolled in the CRP to return to production or to produce energy crops.

ASA also supports soy-based biodiesel as a vital component of the farm bill to allow American agriculture to play a key role in boosting U.S. energy independence as well as economic development.

For more information about ASA policy initiatives on behalf of its soybean grower members, and details about ASA membership, visit www.soygrowers.com

American Soybean Association Responsibilities Compared to the Soybean Checkoff

	Voluntary ASA Membership	Mandatory Soybean Checkoff
PURSUE fair and favorable legislation for U.S. soybean growers		
FIGHT for reasonable regulation		
NEGOTIATE for expanded trade		
LOBBY for Federal soy research		
INFORM and educate legislators about soybean issues		
PROVIDE direct access to lawmakers		
PROVIDE international marketing strategic direction to the U.S. Soybean Export Council		✓
IMPLEMENT soybean farmer-funded domestic marketing activities		✓
IMPLEMENT soybean farmer-funded research and new uses activities		✓

The American Soybean Association is a national commodity organization with 25,000 members and affiliation with 25 states. For membership details, call 1-800-688-7692.

Soybean Farmers Provide Policy Direction to ASA

Representing 25 state soybean associations, 131 soybean farmers elected as Voting Delegates to the American Soybean Association (ASA) met in March for the annual process of reviewing and revising the policy direction of ASA. As a member-driven policy organization, ASA represents U.S. soybean growers and soybean interests on Capitol Hill.

ASA's soybean farmer members pay annual membership dues so that ASA can provide policy representation and policy development to benefit U.S. soybean production. By law, the mandatory checkoff dollars collected from soybean growers cannot fund policy work or lobbying, so voluntary membership in ASA is vital to ensuring that soybean interests are represented in Washington, D.C.

At the Voting Delegates meeting, resolutions were

passed addressing Farm Bill issues such as increased target prices for soybeans and authorization of a biodiesel incentive program for domestic biodiesel producers to offset subsidized foreign biodiesel imports.

ASA also endorses the goal of securing 25 percent of the U.S. energy supply from America's farms, forests and rangeland by the year 2025, and supports the establishment of national fuel quality testing centers.

In addition, ASA supports passage of Columbia, Peru and Panama Free Trade Agreements, and encourages maintaining Trade Promotion Authority.

Voting Delegates provided direction on these and many other policy issues as ASA pursues initiatives to improve U.S. soybean farmer profitability. To become a member of ASA and your state soybean association, call your state membership chair listed below.

State Soybean Association Membership Chairs

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256-723-8259

ARKANSAS

Gary Sitzer
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GEORGIA/ FLORIDA

Jimmy Clements
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ILLINOIS

David Hartke
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