

## ASA Wants Better Income Safety Net for Soybean Farmers

The American Soybean Association (ASA) wants a better income safety net for soybean farmers in the 2007 Farm Bill. ASA believes that, in the current Farm Bill, Target Prices for oilseed crops are disproportionately low compared to other program crops. An equitable Target Price for soybeans relative to other program crops will ensure that soybean farmers are not disadvantaged.

ASA farmer leaders are focused on representing soybean interests as work on a new Farm Bill takes place this year in Congress. The number one responsibility of ASA is to do policy work and lobbying in Washington, D.C. on behalf of U.S. soybean growers. There are 25 state soybean associations affiliated with ASA.

ASA is a grassroots organization with voluntary membership. Membership dues pay for the important legislative and policy work that ASA and the states undertake. By law, NO checkoff dollars can be used for lobbying or policy activities — that's why voluntary membership in ASA and state soybean associations is so essential.

It is only through membership in ASA that farmers can be assured that soybean specific interests are being represented in Washington, D.C. on issues like a new Farm Bill. Join ASA online at [www.soygrowers.com](http://www.soygrowers.com) or call 800/688-7692. ASA membership includes membership in your state association.

## Here's How U.S. Farmer Dollars Support Soybean Organizations

### MANDATORY Soybean Checkoff:

**\$82.7 million** in checkoff funds (FY05) collected from all U.S. soybean producers through a *mandatory* assessment, with funds split between the United Soybean Board (national) and state soybean checkoff boards.

**UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD (USB) and State Soybean Checkoff Boards**

### Responsibilities:

Fund research and promotional projects that help soybean farmers and also create demand for U.S. soybeans. Major areas of focus:

- New Uses
- Production Research
- Producer Communications
- Domestic Marketing
- International Marketing carried out by the United States Soybean Export Council

**By law, NO checkoff dollars can fund the policy and lobbying work of the American Soybean Association and state soybean associations.**

*If you aren't a member of the American Soybean Association and your state soybean association, then you aren't doing everything possible to create market opportunities and increase value for your soybeans.*

Join the ASA and your state soybean association today. Online at [www.soygrowers.com](http://www.soygrowers.com) or call 800/688-7692.

### VOLUNTARY Soybean Association Membership:

**\$1.4 million** in membership dues (FY05) collected from 25,000 U.S. soybean farmers who are *voluntary* members of the American Soybean Association and state soybean associations.

**AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ASA) and State Soybean Associations**

### Responsibilities:

Represent U.S. soybean farmers in work with state, national and international policymakers and advocate policies that increase U.S. soybean farmer profit opportunities. Major areas of focus:

- Federal and State Incentives for Biodiesel
- U.S. Farm Programs and Farm Bills
- Market Access for U.S. Soy Exports
- Federal Soy Research Funding
- Sound Conservation and Transportation Policies
- USDA Funds for International Marketing