

ASA Wants New Farm Bill to Correct Soybean Inequities

The American Soybean Association (ASA) wants the new Farm Bill to correct major inequities in price and income support levels that exist under the 2002 Farm Bill.

“While soybean farmers are familiar and comfortable with the structure of farm programs under the 2002 Farm Bill, they are concerned that current support levels don’t provide an equitable safety net for soybean production,” said ASA President Rick Ostlie, a soybean grower from Northwood, N.D. “We also want to make sure the Farm Bill assures the continued growth of the emerging biodiesel industry, provides effective conservation practices on working lands, and continues strong support for soybean research and export promotion.”

The ASA President noted that, “The Administration Farm Bill proposal increases spending under the direct payment program. We would prefer to see any additional

funds used to level the playing field by setting more equitable marketing loan rates and target prices, and through income-generating opportunities like biodiesel that are good for soybean growers and the nation at large.”

Without ASA there would be no national organization to represent the interests of U.S. soybean farmers in Washington, D.C. While all U.S. soybean farmers contribute to the mandatory checkoff, by law none of those dollars can be used to fund policy or lobbying work.

Dues from voluntary membership in ASA and your state soybean association provide the funding for representation of soybean farmers in Washington, D.C. To become a member, visit www.soygrowers.com, or call your state membership chair listed below.

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