

## ASA has Concerns about Climate Change Legislation

The American Soybean Association (ASA) issued a paper in November outlining its concerns and issues for climate change legislation. ASA believes that climate change legislation passed by the House of Representatives and the current draft Senate climate change bill do not provide sufficient measures to protect American economic competitiveness, and ASA does not support those measures in their current form.

ASA issued its detailed position paper as the Senate continued work on climate change legislation in the Environment and Public Works Committee and considered the potential for future hearings and mark-ups by the Senate Agriculture and other committees of jurisdiction.

"ASA is concerned with the impacts that could result from enactment of climate change legislation that unilaterally subjects U.S. farmers, manufacturers and other businesses to emissions caps and increased energy costs without appropriate measures to ensure that the U.S. maintains economic competitiveness," said ASA

President Johnny Dodson, a soybean producer from Halls, Tenn. "ASA recognizes that inaction on energy and environmental issues may also have consequences and that absent legislation, potential regulatory action by the Environmental Protection Agency may be a more onerous and costly method of addressing the issues."

If Congress moves to enact climate change legislation ASA believes it must be structured in a manner that will achieve the desired benefits while maintaining the viability of the U.S. economy and domestic food supply, including U.S. farmers and livestock producers, food and feed processors, and our communities.

"Any cap and trade legislation must provide stability, promote the global competitiveness of U.S. agriculture, and not diminish our ability to supply U.S. and foreign consumers with abundant food, feed, fiber and renewable fuel," Dodson said.

For more about ASA's top policy priorities for 2010 visit [www.SoyGrowers.com](http://www.SoyGrowers.com).

## ASA Founded in 1920, Now Celebrating 90 Years

In 2010 the American Soybean Association (ASA) will reach its 90th year of operation as an organization dedicated to increasing market opportunities and value for U.S. soybean farmers. Following are a few notes about the early history of ASA.

**1920** — The first Corn Belt Soybean Field Day was held in September 1920 in Camden, Indiana at the Fouts Brothers Farm. Growers at the event decided they needed an organization to further the goals of building a thriving soybean industry. The organization called itself the National Soybean Growers' Association. Taylor Fouts was the first president of the association. The organization's name was changed to American Soybean Association in 1929.

**1928** — In early policy activity, ASA celebrated a major legislative victory when its work helped get a tariff levied on low cost imported soybean cake and meal in 1928. Then in 1930 ASA helped enact a stronger protective tariff for soybeans, soy oil and soy meal.

**1940** — ASA established its headquarters in Hudson, Iowa.

**1940** — ASA was the original creator and owner of the *Soybean Digest* magazine. The first issue was pub-

lished in 1940. Years later ASA sold the magazine, which is now known as *Corn & Soybean Digest*.

**1947** — ASA published the first *Soybean Blue Book*, a directory for the soybean industry. This publication, which ASA also eventually sold, later became the *Soya Bluebook*.

**1956** — In the late 1940s, representatives of ASA began traveling regularly to foreign countries seeking to find new markets for U.S. soybeans, soy oil and soy meal. In 1956, ASA established its first overseas office, located in Tokyo, Japan. By 1984, ASA had 11 international offices.

**1962** — The Minnesota Soybean Growers Association was founded and became ASA's first affiliated state soybean association. In 2009, ASA has 25 affiliated state associations.

**1978** — ASA moved its headquarters to St. Louis, Missouri, where it remains today.

Learn more about ASA history and accomplishments through the years at [www.soygrowers.com/history](http://www.soygrowers.com/history).

To become a member of ASA and your state soybean association, or learn more about ASA's 90th Anniversary visit [www.SoyGrowers.com](http://www.SoyGrowers.com).