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TOP NEWS IMPACTING AMERICA'S SOYBEAN FARMERS

December 13, 2018



## TOP NEWS

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# House & Senate Approve Farm Bill—and Soy Growers Approve the Quick Progress

ASA congratulates the House and Senate Agriculture Committees and Congressional leadership on both chambers' quick actions to approve the "Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018," or Farm Bill. ASA now encourages the President to act quickly, in turn. Read [more](#).



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## Soybean Growers Encouraged by China Sales, but Need Second Aid Payment

ASA is encouraged by news this week that buyers in China have made purchases of U.S. soybeans.--but says this week's sale announcement is only the first step in rebuilding soybean exports to China and will not fix the prolonged period of low prices soybean farmers have faced since the trade war began. Read [more](#).



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## Soybean Growers Appreciative of WOTUS Announcement

ASA is pleased that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers have developed a proposed Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule that takes into account comments by ASA and other impacted stakeholders that aim to protect our waterways while offering a workable solution for farmers. Read [more](#).



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## Biodiesel Tax Credit Still in Flux; Take Action: Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Biodiesel Tax Credit Extension

Congressional leaders and tax committee chairmen are contemplating options for consideration of tax provisions before the end of the year. The House of Representatives could vote on a tax package next week and/or the Senate could tack it onto a larger appropriations agreement. It is critical that soybean producers continue to contact Members of Congress to reiterate support for a long-term extension of the biodiesel tax incentive and ask them to push for enactment before

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Congress adjourns for the year.

Click [here](#) to ask your U.S. Representatives and Senators to support extension of the biodiesel tax credit during the lame duck session. ASA thanks the state affiliates who joined the National Biodiesel Board's (NBB) letter to Congress asking for a long-term extension of the biodiesel tax incentive. Read the final [letter](#).



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## OTHER NEWS

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### ASA Director Delivers Soy Message to Trump

ASA Director Ronnie Russell (MO) had a rare chance to meet President Donald Trump at the Kansas City airport and advocate for U.S. soy this week. Hear the President's response [here](#).



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### Soy in the News

- [U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer Discusses Trade Issues With China](#)
- [The Effects U.S. Soybean Farmers Have Felt From Trade Negotiations With China](#)

- [Soybean Association Concerned About Trade](#)



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## U.S. Soy Stakeholders Gather for International Marketing Dialogue

As USSEC moves into FY 20 planning, feedback from U.S. soy stakeholders is critical—and last week they had the opportunity to provide input for future planning and discuss a number of pertinent industry-related topics during the International Marketing Dialogue (IMD), held in St. Louis. Read [more](#).



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## Register for the 2019 Soybean Leadership College

We hope you are planning to attend the 2019 Soybean Leadership College Jan. 7 – 8, 2019! The two-day conference will provide agricultural industry leaders with training to effectively promote the soybean industry, communicate key agricultural messages and work to expand U.S. soybean market opportunities domestically and internationally while networking with growers from across the country. Read [more](#).



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## Register for ASA's 2019 Soy Social & Auction

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# TREASURE ISLAND

## 2019 ASA SOY SOCIAL & AUCTION

This year's event, "Treasure Island" will be on Thursday, Feb. 28 starting at 6 p.m. The event will be held in the Valencia Ballroom at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla. Read [more](#).



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## Conservation Spotlight



# BENEFIT THE SOIL

*"The Good Lord has given us the perfect system. We just need to follow His design to help feed the world."*

Matt Griggs  
Humboldt, Tenn. farmer



The Griggs family farm in west Tennessee pushes the boundaries of sustainable agriculture by exploring new ways to not only protect, but restore the farm's most important natural resource. Watch [here](#).



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## ✓ SOY CHECKOFF NEWS

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### Soy Checkoff Sets Strong Course For Future with New Leadership And Continued Focus

United Soybean Board (USB) farmer-leaders elected Keith Tapp, Fifth generation soybean farmer from Sebree, Kentucky as chair at the annual meeting December 5, 2018. In addition, 16 directors, appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue in October, were sworn in by the USDA. Read [more](#).



## USB Director Gregg Fujan Explains the Benefits of Biotechnology

In this video, United Soybean Board Director Gregg Fujan talks about how biotechnology is helping soybean farmers reduce risk, lower input costs and grow soybeans for specific markets. Watch [here](#).



### UPCOMING ASA EVENTS

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- Jan. 7-8– [Soybean Leadership College](#), St. Louis, Mo.
- Feb. 28-March 2– [Commodity Classic](#), Orlando, Fla.
- March 19-21– [ASA Board of Directors Meeting](#), Washington, D.C.



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