



## KENTUCKY SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

### RESOLUTIONS

January 18, 2024

#### General Resolutions

- The Kentucky Soybean Association recommends the promotion of Kentucky soybeans and soybean products as its primary purpose.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association welcome soybean policy recommendations from any farm group or soybean producer. Recommendations will be considered during the Annual Meeting.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association endorses and supports the National Checkoff administered by the United Soybean Board.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association recommends that the Kentucky General Assembly amend KRS 247.552 to ½% instead of ¼% in reference to the soybean assessment. This would not increase the assessment/checkoff paid by the producer, but maintain the current level, ensuring continued investments in domestic and international marketing, new uses and production research in the event the National Checkoff ceases.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association urges soybean producers NOT to petition for a soybean referendum.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the American Soybean Association as the voice for the Kentucky Soybean Farmer for Federal Policy.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association engages in independent audits and reviews to encourage continued trust and transparency; and strongly urges the American Soybean Association, the United Soybean Board and the United States Soybean Export Council to do the same.

#### Farm Safety

- The Kentucky Soybean Association stresses ON FARM SAFETY especially around equipment, grain storage facilities, chemicals and livestock.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports financial and mental health resources be available to address the physical and emotional stresses related to managing and working on a farm.

#### Government

- Future farm bills should be written in a timely manner and any regulatory rules should be easier to comprehend.
- As domestic fertilizer manufacturers decrease in number and foreign manufacturing increases, we support the elimination of the import tariff for fertilizer in order to reduce U.S. crop production costs.

- Because of current conditions and the increasing demand for feed, fuel and food; the Kentucky Soybean Association opposes any state or federal programs that encourage land to be removed from crop and livestock production.
- We, as soybean producers, oppose embargoes and government manipulation of all commodities markets except in the case of a national emergency or declaration of war.
- We oppose Waters of the US (WOTUS) and recommend that the Natural Resources Conservation Service should be the designated expert in matters of wetland determinations, examination, appeals, and enforcement. Establishing and enforcing policies on the environment should be addressed by Total Quality Management (TQM). Local committees should be empowered to evaluate conflicts and administer decisions at the lowest levels.
- We suggest that the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices have more authority on decisions at the local level.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes any River Authority or Corp of Engineers raising lock walls or controlling flood levels without consultation with the respective local agriculture communities.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports and encourages "Trade Promotion Authority" to be extended or renewed for trade negotiation.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports Free and Fair Trade and urges passage of pending free trade agreements.
- We support state and federal legislatures strengthening eminent domain laws to protect private property from personal or commercial economic gain.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the relaxation of weight limits for farm commodities on all federal and Kentucky highways.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports continued funding for lock and dam modernization.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports investment in our riverports to maintain and expand the movement of agricultural products.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes any climate change legislation that negatively impacts agriculture.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes any legislation that would restrict, prohibit, or limit the modern production of livestock, poultry and aquaculture.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association encourages the government to get its work done in regular session therefore not having to return for a special session.
- We as soybean producers encourage USDA to approve seed and crop protection traits in a timely manner in order to control pests and open new markets to give US farmers an advantage based on sound science that is verified and replicated.

- Farmers should not be forced to pay any fee to the Farm Service Agency because of error/implementation issue brought forth by staff.
- We support maintaining current sales tax exemptions on farm inputs, building materials, equipment and utilities.
- We support that RMA/Crop Insurance yields be used for ARC-County payments rather than NASS county yields. In addition, we support the creation of base acres for land that has come into production over the past several years.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly opposes state budget cuts that will drastically reduce or eliminate agriculture industry support programs, organizations and universities.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports changing the Farm Service Agency July crop reporting date to July 22<sup>nd</sup> from July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly supports a strong H2A program that is focused on meeting the labor needs that exist in agriculture.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes the Department of Labor regulation requiring higher wages for some H2A job duties by virtue of their Standard Occupational Classification codes. All H2A workers should be paid the same wage regardless of job duties.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly opposes the NRCS, USDA, or any other government agency making changes mid contract to voluntary programs they have entered into with farmers.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the reformation of the wildlife depredation permitting process for landowners as well as tenants on crop land regardless of whether they live on the property or not.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the enforcement of regulations for minimum height requirements for all utilities over roads as well as farm fields.

### Government Tax

- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the Pass-Through Deduction.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the return of “like kind exchange” for farm equipment.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports giving farmers the option to either treat traded in equipment as an other gain, as it is now, or as an income on a schedule F to prevent the accidental elimination of the self-employed health insurance deduction and accidental removal of young farmers from the social security program.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the permanent elimination of all inheritance tax & estate tax, for the preservation of the family farm.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the continuation of stepped up basis for inherited property.

- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the 100% bonus depreciation for 2024 and 2025.

## Energy

- KSA Supports the continuation of the Renewable Fuels Standards set forth by congress. We support increased volume requirements of all renewable fuels.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly encourages the continuation of the federal biodiesel tax credit and encourages Congress to make the tax credit permanent.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly supports renewable fuels, including use throughout the Commonwealth through the following four incentives which are our guidelines for legislation.
  - a. Kentucky State Government leads by example: all state agencies will use minimum of 20% biodiesel blend in both stationary and transportation applications. The State Emergency Energy Plan should include the use of Biodiesel as an option in response to an energy supply disruption.
  - b. Support the production of existing biodiesel plants and the construction of any future biodiesel plants in the Commonwealth.
  - c. Preference to state contractors that use biodiesel for state projects.
  - d. Establish biodiesel on state fuel contract.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly encourages the congress and president's administration to create and implement an energy policy with a strong emphasis on biofuels.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the investment of Solar Energy Facilities in areas which contain undeveloped land where marginal soil types exist and that are not actively and fully utilized in the production of row crops, livestock and commodities being used to provide food and food products for human consumption and that the placement of such solar facilities do not negatively affect the viewshed of the surrounding community.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports that, since the environmental impacts of solar projects are large, all projects should be bonded with a third-party company for demolition including adequate surety to cover the total costs of decommissioning and remediation at the end of the project's physical or economic lifespan and/or ensure cleanup from a natural disaster. The surety – to be provided by an independent financial institution – should be subject to periodic review to ensure adequate coverage is maintained at all times.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association urges landowners to carefully review contracts with legal counsel and a financial adviser before agreeing to a long-term lease to energy production.

## Cooperation

- We recommend that the Kentucky Soybean Association continue to work with all state farm organizations where areas of mutual benefit exist.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association wishes to thank NK Brand Seeds, Ag Venture, LG Seeds, Seed

Consultants, Inc., Beck's Hybrids, Stine, Progeny, Southern States – Owensboro, Dyna-Gro Seed, Syngenta Seeds, Stewart, NuTech Seed, FS HiSoy Soybeans and Farm Credit Mid-America for their support of our membership program.

- The Kentucky Soybean Association encourages all seed companies to adopt 140,000 seeds per unit to enable economic comparison.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association encourages makers of the new dicamba formulations to increase their investments in and recognition of national and state association, academic institutions and state departments of agriculture for their efforts to ensure new innovative technologies are available for growers to combat weed resistance issues.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the State Fair Board and management in their efforts to make the State Fair the pride of Kentucky's agriculture, industry and natural resources. We encourage the Kentucky State Fair Board be composed of a minimum of fifty percent voting members who are active members in agriculture leadership. We support funding for the expansion and maintenance of facilities at the Kentucky Exposition Center. We urge the Kentucky General Assembly to assume the remaining debt service on capital expenditures at the Kentucky Exposition Center and for the funding to be taken from the general fund. We will cooperate with all interest groups in efforts to maintain an educational State Fair free from political interference with continuity of competent management. For efficiency and effectiveness, we support the Kentucky State Fair Board maintain its independence as a state agency as provided in KRS 247.
  - We support participation in local fairs to encourage good local entries to participate in the State Fair.
  - We support state funds for the continued upgrading of county fairs and encourage the legislature to reinstate and fund the County Fair Building Program.
  - All requirements for participating in all shows and fairs should strictly adhere to and all entries should be visually inspected and certified before unloading.
  - We support fair and uniform guidelines and enforcement of animal livestock inspections for shows and fairs and support the proper training for inspectors.

Soy Foods

- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly supports the development of food soybean production and processing in Kentucky. The Kentucky Soybean Association is committed to supporting and assisting producers in developing this market.

Crop Insurance

- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports flexibility to adjust planting dates for crop insurance purposes when beneficial to Kentucky producers.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association encourages that all crops be insurable in all Kentucky counties.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly urges Risk Management Agency (RMA) to continue Area Yield Protection (AYP) and Area Risk Protection (ARP) policies in Kentucky.

- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports crop insurance being handled by private companies not the Farm Service Agency.

### Soybean Policy

- The Kentucky Soybean Association is opposed to a uniform national loan rate.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association is opposed to all mandatory set-asides in the present or future Farm Bill.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association strongly supports the continued use of 50 percent of Phase I Tobacco Settlement Funds for agricultural development.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the Grain Indemnity Fund.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the concept of a Livestock Indemnity Fund.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes the Kentucky Department of Agriculture enacting crop protectant labeling that is more restrictive than the EPA label.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports a federal grade on any grain sale where the discount reaches the threshold for a quality discount under RMA special provisions of insurance.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports doubling of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funding.

### Education and Research

- We support Kentucky agriculture and environment in the classroom programs.
- Conventional research and development of soybean varieties is important to agriculture to provide the biodiversity and widest availability of varieties. Conventional plant breeding must be maintained.
- We request that more Federal and State funds be made available to the University of Kentucky and regional Universities for soybean production and utilization research.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports research and development of new uses for soybean products.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports producer nominated varieties in the University of Kentucky soybean variety tests each year especially Non-GMO as there is still a viable market in certain areas.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association continues to provide dissemination of Best Management Practices (BMP) through technology transfer at institution and individual levels.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports Kentucky's best and brightest-the Kentucky 4-H and FFA.

- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the approval and use of new seed based technologies for pest and weed management to combat resistance issues.
- In order to provide feed, fuel and fiber to our ever increasing world populations; we support the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and implementation of new technology to meet these demands.

#### Domestic Market Promotion

- The Kentucky Soybean Association encourages all rural electrical cooperatives to use soybean oil in all replacement transformers throughout the state.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports animal agriculture and will defend livestock producers in the event of attacks based on emotion, rather than sound scientific evidence, by private groups or policy by local, state, and federal governments.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the Kentucky Livestock Coalition and its member organizations.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the creation of the Kentucky Livestock Innovation Center and Meats Lab.

#### Environmental Stewardship

- Kentucky farmers are leaders in sustainable agriculture. We are opposed to regulations that jeopardize livestock and crop production in Kentucky. Sustainability can best be achieved by economic incentives, education, and voluntary best management practices. We encourage cooperation with other agricultural organizations in promoting agricultural sustainability.
- Urban areas and small property owners must be included in all legislation, regulation or rules governing pollution.
- We encourage chemical companies to provide pesticides in returnable containers or other environmentally friendly and/or user-friendly packaging.
- We encourage all producers to follow best crop production management practices and crop protection labels.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports the Kentucky Department of Agriculture program of rinse and return for chemical containers and the old farm chemical collection program.
- The Kentucky Soybean Association supports an increase in funding for EQIP and state cost-share programs.

#### Competition Policy

- Competition is essential for production agriculture. The Kentucky Soybean Association opposes any monopolistic activities of grain, crop input, grain transport companies or agricultural equipment manufacturers to manipulate any portion of input or commodity markets.

