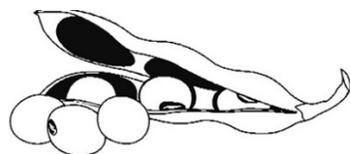


IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY™

Iowa Soybean Research Center



July 2019 Newsletter

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Visit our website at www.iowasoybeancenter.org

ISRC Hosts Summer Field Tour



Robb Ewoldt speaks to the ISRC's Summer Field Tour group on his farm near Blue Grass, IA.

The Iowa Soybean Research Center hosted a Summer Field Tour on July 1, 2019. Eighteen researchers and staff from Iowa State University and the Iowa Soybean Association participated in the one-day tour. The group first participated in a two-hour, interactive tour of seed science, precision equipment, and data science at the Bayer Learning Center, near Huxley, Iowa. Then, the group traveled east to near Davenport, where they visited the farm of Robb and Jennifer Ewoldt who raise soybeans, corn, cattle and hogs near Blue Grass, Iowa. Robb also represents Iowa's sixth district on the Iowa Soybean Association Board and serves as treasurer on the executive committee.

At the Ewoldt Farm, Robb described the challenging 2019 planting season caused by the long winter and wet spring. Also, he explained to the group the advantages and disadvantages of growing non-GMO soybeans, which is logistically possible because the Ewoldt Farm is located close to a grain terminal on the Mississippi River where he can sell the soybeans. Robb also explained that high water levels have affected barge traffic and, thus, his ability to deliver beans to the terminal on the river. In addition to farming, the Ewoldt family enjoys educating non-farmers about agriculture by hosting Open Farm Day at their farm each year. Visitors learn about farming practices and management from the perspective of the farmer. On July 7, Robb and Jennifer hosted their 10th such event. And, on July 9, the Ewoldts received the [Wergin Good Farm Neighbor Award](#), presented by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and Iowa Ag Radio Network. The award recognizes Iowa livestock farmers who take pride in doing things right and go above and beyond as environmental stewards and animal caretakers.



Photos: (top) The tour group at the Ewoldt farm, (bottom left) touring the Bayer Learning Center in Huxley, and (bottom right) ISA's Ed Anderson and ISRC Director Greg Tylka, talk soybeans with the group on the Ewoldt farm.

ISRC Funding Highlight

Each year, the ISRC funds soybean-related projects following input on research priorities from Iowa soybean farmers and from the ISRC Industry Advisory Council. The council is made up of representatives from the ISA and industry partners. Following is a summary of a program that received funding and support from the center during fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

Iowa Pest Resistance Management Program



The Iowa Pest Resistance Management Program (IPRMP) is an Iowa-specific effort to address pests (including weeds, insects and diseases) that can adapt and become resistant to chemical, genetic and agronomic control practices causing yield loss, increasing the cost of production and limiting farmers' future pest management options. The IPRMP outlines approaches for effective, community-based management solutions that will be sustainable in controlling mobile pests. By fostering methods to detect resistance and proactively implement diverse pest management techniques,

resistance can be delayed, or even prevented, and the spread of resistant pests across farming communities can be limited.

The idea for the program came out of a January 2015 meeting that included members of the Iowa Soybean Association (ISA), Iowa Corn Growers Association (ICGA), Iowa Farm Bureau Federation (IFBF), Agribusiness Association of Iowa, Iowa Independent Crop Consultants Association, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives, pesticide technology providers, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and Iowa State University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs). Attendees discussed the need to develop consistent messages about the status and trends of resistance development in Iowa and the need to manage resistance in Iowa crop systems. Meeting participants focused on the challenge of managing mobile pests and recommended the development of a voluntary, community-based pest resistance management plan to be coordinated by IDALS and CALs and include broad participation from all sectors of Iowa agriculture. After several more meetings and creation of a taskforce to lay the framework, the IPRMP was established in January 2017. Learn more at www.protectioniowacrops.org.

Funding from the ISRC leveraged additional resources provided by ISA, ICGA, IFBF and the pesticide industry through their resistance action committees to support the project launch, which focused on four pilot projects. The pilot projects focused on soybean aphid in northwestern Iowa, western corn rootworm in northeastern Iowa, waterhemp in central Iowa, and a diversity of weeds, including Palmer amaranth, in Harrison County. The effort in Harrison County is led by Larry Buss, a farmer outside Logan, IA, with the full support of the Harrison County Extension Office and is gaining national attention.

The Harrison County team consists of representatives from the Harrison County ICGA, Agriland FS, BASF, Asgrow/Dekalb, Heartland Coop, FCSA Financial, Midstates Bank, Harrison County Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, CALs and ISU Extension and local farmers. The team has completed farmer surveys in the county to assess concerns about the impact of resistant weeds on soybean and corn production, has screened fields across the county to assess the status of resistant weeds, held two field days in 2018 and is using a variety of outreach materials to share messages about managing resistance. Additionally, a 2019 field day was held on July 9. To learn more about this

project, see the video below or visit the [Integrated Pest Management website](#). The program contact is [Steve Bradbury](#), professor of natural resource ecology and management at Iowa State.



Syngenta and Corteva Partner with ISRC



Syngenta and Corteva recently joined the ISRC as industry partners, meaning each organization will have a representative on the ISRC's Industry Advisory Council, which advises the center on its research priorities.

"We greatly appreciate Syngenta's and Corteva's support of the center and the research we are conducting," said Greg Tylka, ISRC director. "Their input and feedback on Iowa State's soybean research portfolio will be extremely valuable."

"Syngenta is pleased to partner with the Iowa Soybean Research Center. We are very impressed with the breadth and importance of the projects presently being sponsored by the ISRC and look forward to seeing how their results improve and shape the productivity of the soybean industry," said Stott Howard, Heartland Region crop protection field development head for Syngenta.

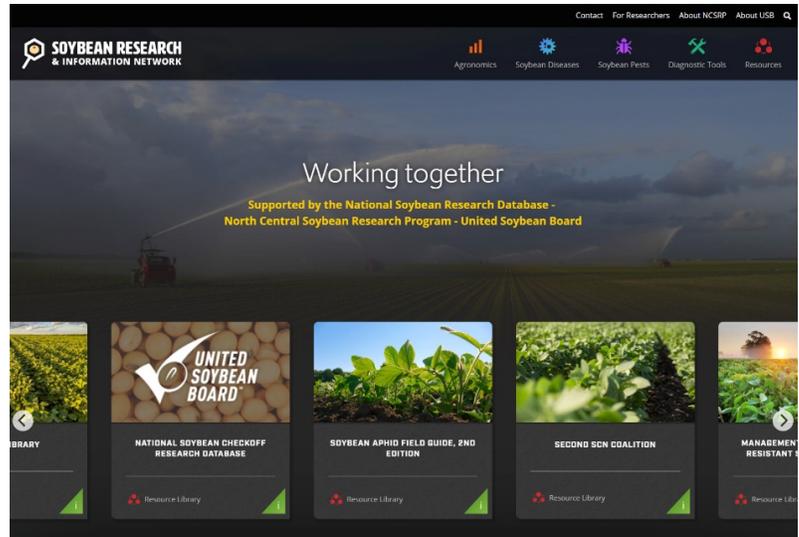
"We are excited to have Syngenta and Corteva as industry partners. By engaging with the Soybean Center, these companies will enhance collaboration efforts to meet the research and production information needs of Iowa soybean farmers," said Ed Anderson, senior director of research for the ISA and chair of the ISRC Industry Advisory Council.

Corteva and Syngenta join BASF, Bayer and Cornelius Seed in partnering with the center. For more information on becoming an industry partner of the ISRC contact us at ISRC@iastate.edu or at 515-294-0878 . More at www.iowasoybeancenter.org .

Soybean Research Website Expanded

A newly expanded website for the Soybean Research and Information Network (SRN), supported by the North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP) and the United Soybean Board (USB), went live in June. This website replaces the Soybean Research and Information Initiative (SRII) website, although the url, <https://soybeanresearchinfo.com>, remains the same.

The SRN website highlights soybean-checkoff-funded research and extension work. The site works in alliance with the USB National Soybean Checkoff Research Database, providing information on a broad range of topics such as agronomics, soybean diseases and pests, diagnostic tools, resources, links to associated affiliate sites, videos, publications and more. There is a wealth of information on this site and it's easy to navigate.



One area of interest that is found by scrolling down the homepage is a section called National Soybean Checkoff Research Database Updates. By clicking on an update category, you are taken to the USB Research Database at <https://www.soybeanresearchdata.com>. The database, maintained by the USB, is the home for all checkoff research projects, past and current.

In addition, SRN developers also created a Facebook page where soybean farmers can connect with one another and with researchers to discuss concerns and solutions. Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/SoybeanResearchInformationNetwork>.

Weed Scientist Prashant Jha Joins Iowa State



ISRC and ISA staff recently met with and welcomed Iowa State's newest weed scientist, associate professor [Prashant Jha](#). Staff learned about his background and future research focus areas. Opportunities were explored to connect with the ISRC's research funding process as well as ISA's On-Farm Network.

Before joining the Department of Agronomy at Iowa State, Jha was an associate professor of weed science with the Southern Agricultural Research Center at Montana State University-Bozeman. His research included work on various species of weeds with an emphasis on weed biology and ecology, yield loss associated with weeds and herbicide resistance evolution dynamics and multi-tactic approaches for management. Jha was also responsible for weed-related extension and teaching. In January 2018, he received the "Outstanding Early Career Weed Scientist Award" by the Weed Science Society of America.

Jha earned his bachelor and master of science from CCS Haryana Agricultural University in Hisar, India before earning his doctorate in plant and environmental science (major: weed science) from Clemson University. Jha spent a year at the University of Arkansas as a postdoctoral research associate with the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences.

The ISRC and the ISA look forward to working with Jha, who will focus on extension initiatives including statewide programs focused on current and emerging weed problems in agronomic crop production systems. Jha's research will concentrate on improving the understanding of crop-weed interactions, non-chemical weed management strategies, herbicide resistance evolution and other factors. Development of effective, integrated weed management systems that protect environmental quality will be a priority.

CALS Dean Robison Addresses ISA Board



Daniel Robison, Endowed Dean, Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, visited with Iowa Soybean Association directors on June 19, during their annual board meeting in Ankeny. Robison discussed the importance of the partnership between ISA and ISU and answered questions from ISA board members.

SCN Coalition Wins Top Ag Marketing Award



The National Agri-Marketing Association, the largest U.S. association for marketing and agribusiness, named the SCN Coalition as a 2019 Best of NAMA Award recipient for their "Take the test. Beat the pest." grower education campaign. The catch phrase became a call to action to growers that they needed to test their fields to determine if soybean cyst nematode numbers were being kept in check. It also aided the entire industry in speaking with one voice with the goal of reducing the economic loss that soybean growers face from SCN.

The SCN Coalition is a public/checkoff/private partnership launched in 2018 to increase the number of growers who are actively managing SCN. The coalition is a large team effort that includes university scientists in 28 states and Ontario, Canada, along with state soybean checkoff organizations and other private-sector partners, including BASF, Bayer, Syngenta and Winfield United.

Results from more than 25,000 experimental research plots conducted by Iowa State professor and ISRC director Greg Tylka and staff over 15 years serve as a basis for the SCN Coalition's information and messages. The research was funded by soybean checkoff dollars from soybean growers administered through the Iowa Soybean Association.

"We've been aware that our communications efforts in the SCN Coalition are reaching millions through ag media, but this award is nice external validation that our efforts are considered noteworthy," said Tylka. "I am proud that ISU field research, funded by ISA, is the foundation of information and messages being conveyed by the SCN Coalition."

For more on the award, visit the [SCN Coalition website](#).

August is Soybean Month in Iowa

The ISRC is looking forward to Soybean Month in Iowa as we celebrate Iowa's 40,000+ soybean farmers and the industry, researchers and organizations that support soybean production in the state.



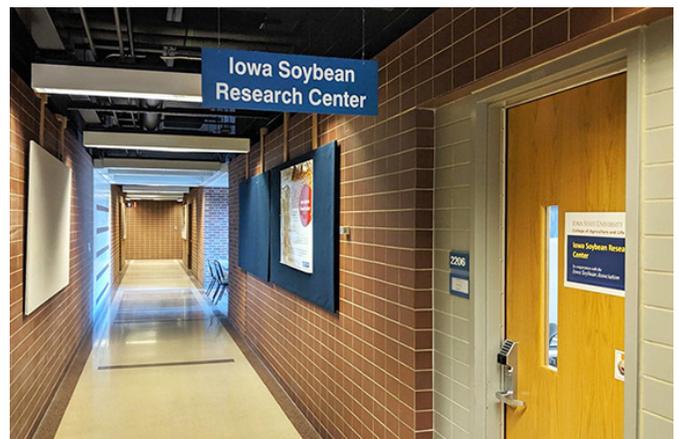
According to the ISA, Iowa routinely ranks first or second nationally in soybean production, accounting for approximately 14 percent of all soybeans grown in the U.S., producing more than 550 million bushels of soybeans annually valued at nearly \$5 billion. Iowa-grown soybeans contribute to the local and global economy through biodiesel production, feeding livestock, research to improve sustainability efforts, and nutritional soy foods that are low in fat and cholesterol.

In August 2020, the ISRC is planning to host SoyFest on central campus at Iowa State in honor of Soybean Month. There will be more details to come as they become available. Stay tuned!

ISRC Brochure and Signage

ISRC staff recently created a brochure to help introduce and promote the center. The brochure also includes a list of faculty affiliates. Hard copies are available and the pamphlet also can be downloaded from the [ISRC website](#).

ISRC staff also created signage to make our office a little easier to find. If you have ever been to Agronomy Hall on the Iowa State campus, then you know how the building can be a little challenging to navigate. Look for the blue sign in the north corridor of the second floor and stop by for a visit if you are ever on campus!



Upcoming Events

- Now-September, throughout Iowa - [ISU Research Farms Field Days 2019](#)
- July 29, Boone, IA - [Crop Scouting Competition for Iowa Youth 2019](#)
- August 27-29, Decatur, IL - [Farm Progress Show 2019](#)
- August 28, Boone, IA - [Ag Engineering and Agronomy Farm Field Day](#)
- October 14-15, Seed Science Center, ISU, Ames, IA - [Global Seed Symposium](#)

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Have an idea for an upcoming newsletter? Contact Kara Berg at kjberg@iastate.edu.

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