

## *Wisconsin Soy Scoop*

News from the Wisconsin Soybean Programs

January 2006

### **Biofuels On Tap For Annual EXPO**

Wisconsin farmers are in the Dells next Thursday and Friday, January 26-27, for Wisconsin Corn/Soy EXPO at the Kalahari Conference Center.

This yearly event combines the Wisconsin Soybean Association and Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board annual meetings with an industry trade show, educational sessions and several other association meetings.

Corn/Soy EXPO 2006 starts with an early-bird marketing session at 8 a.m., Thursday, January 26 and officially kicks off with a general session on the burgeoning biofuels market. Featured speaker Ross Korvas, economic policy analyst for the Pro Exporter Network, will explain the marketing impact and change in grain flow that is resulting as ethanol and biodiesel production increases. Other speakers will discuss future opportunities for biodiesel and ethanol nationally, regionally and within Wisconsin.

### **Annual Meetings Slated**

WSMB and WSA hold annual meetings at EXPO from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Thursday afternoon. Educational breakout sessions follow on soybean rust and other diseases, specialty soybean options, marketing, energy efficient grain handling, new nitrogen recommendations, maximizing glyphosate use in crops and bird control. The trade show runs from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday and from 7 a.m. to noon Friday.

On Friday, University of Wisconsin-Extension Economist Randy Fortenbery shares his forecast for soybean and corn prices. During the general session, Agricultural Policy Advisor Barry Flinchbaugh presents a first-hand look at the next farm bill. Author of 100-plus publications including an agricultural policy textbook, Flinchbaugh applies his vast knowledge and experience in agriculture, with a straight forward, tell-it-like-it-is delivery that will leave a lasting impression.

### **Packer Fullback to Speak**

Green Bay Packer Fullback William Henderson is the special guest at Friday's luncheon and he will be available afterwards for autographs. Two Friday afternoon bonus educational sessions cover precision fertilizer placement with veteran strip-tiller Ray Rawson and a Wisconsin grower panel.

Admission to the Pork Producers *Taste of Elegance* reception Thursday evening is included free with every Corn/Soy EXPO registration and the Kalahari has special room

rates that include indoor water park access. Registration materials and a full event brochure are available online at [www.wisoybean.org](http://www.wisoybean.org) .

A special, overnight room rate at the Kalahari for EXPO attendees runs \$99 and includes free water park passes for all registered guests. For hotel reservations call the Kalahari direct at 877-253-5466 and request the Corn/Soy EXPO special rate.

### **Soy Study Underway**

A \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture could jump-start Wisconsin's value-added soybean and biodiesel ventures in coming years. The USDA Value-Added Producer Grant was awarded to the WSMB to study the feasibility of locating a soybean crush plant in Wisconsin and matching funds are being provided through the state checkoff program.

Experts hired to conduct the study will evaluate supply and demand as well as other important issues such as permitting and financing potential associated with such a project. The project is just getting underway and should take about one year to complete.

The Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board (WSMB) administers the soybean grower checkoff statewide and is dedicated to maximizing profitability of Wisconsin soybean producers via research, education and outreach initiatives. Working together with the national United Soybean Board, WSMB directs state soybean funds to statewide, national and international projects as part of the Soybean Promotion and Research Checkoff program.

Additional information about the Wisconsin Soybean checkoff and Wisconsin Soybean programs is available online at <http://www.wisoybean.org> or by calling the Soybean Program office in Madison at 608-274-7522. ###