Volume 25, Issue 4 | Summer 2021

Industry celebrates Johannes' retirement

Many who have worked alongside Kenlon Johannes during his 40 years in the soybean industry gathered Saturday, June 19 for a "Soylute to Kenlon" retirement party.

Johannes received many special recognitions during the event. Bob Haselwood, Kansas Soybean Commission chairman, presented a plaque on behalf of the Commission and Kansas Sovbean Association to announce the dedication of the boardroom in Johannes' name. Johannes' former colleague from Nebraska Soybean, Victor

Bohuslavsky, presented a certificate appointing Johannes as an admiral in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. A video compilation of taped farewell messages was also shared with Johannes. Over 100 friends and family members joined in the afternoon of fun.











TOP LEFT: Former and current farmer-leaders gathered for a group photo. Front row, L-R: Bob Henry, Bill Niemann, honoree Kenlon Johannes, Craig Gigstad, Kent Romine; back row, L-R: Bill Wiley, Terry Reschke, Neil Martin, Jerry Jeschke, Dwight Meyer, Ron Westervelt, Scott Gigstad, Gail Kueser, Charles Atkinson, Lance Rezac, Brett Neibling, Bob Haselwood, Kurt Maurath, Kim Kohls, Lucas Heinen, Jim Zwonitzer, Jared Nash and George Royer. Note: Not all farmer-leaders in attendance at the event are pictured. TOP RIGHT: Victor Bohuslavsky, former Nebraska Soybean excutive, presents Johannes with an appointment as an Admiral in the Great Navy in the State of Nebraska as Steve Howell looks on. BOTTOM LEFT: Johannes learns that the board room at the Kansas Soybean building has been named in his honor. BOTTOM CENTER: Former Kansas Soybean Association board members Bob Henry (left) and Terry Reshke (right) share a laugh with American Soybean Association director Charles Atkinson (center). BOTTOM RIGHT: Johannes and National Biodiesel Board Director of Outreach and Development Tom Verry pose beside the new boardroom plaque.

Members play a valuable role in KSA

Greetings! I hope that this issue of Straight Rows finds you well and in the middle of a productive summer! This issue is packed with information about the happenings of these past few months, and I'm so excited for you to read it.

velop strong partnerships with those that represent us. One reason I became involved with KSA was the chance to influence positive change by working with those that govern, and it is more important today

than ever.

We've faced many challenges recently, but I am

proud of the work that has

been done to further de-

It's easy to get bogged down by life in our own corner of the world- the work on a farm never stops, and then we add in kids, off-farm jobs, and community involvement. The days are full, and while it may not be the first thing we think about when looking at the profitability of our operations, maintaining a voice in both Topeka and Washington D.C. is just as important to making a living as anything we do in the farm office or the cab of a tractor. Not everyone can leave the farm to meet with legislators in D.C., but all members play an important role in this work.

In Kansas, we are fortunate to have a strong working relationship between the KSA and the Kansas Soybean Commission, and the work of both organizations adds value to Kansas soybeans. The Commission carefully manages the checkoff dollars collected to add value to our beans through a variety of important projects, including research and market development, but that



money cannot be spent to influence policy. That is why your support of the Association is so important, because the necessary work in the policy arena is accomplished with funding from partnerships and membership dollars.

Thank you so much for supporting that work by being a member of the Kansas Soybean Association. I encourage you to read the articles in here, as well as the emails that come periodically from both ASA and KSA, to keep apprised of issues that arise and then take action. That might look like calling or emailing your representatives, or even just bringing it up over coffee in town to make sure your neighbors are aware of the work that is being done. In fact, when you are finished, pass this along to a sovbean farmer that isn't a KSA member and encourage them to join us in the work being done for our generation and the ones to come.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns! I'm always happy to speak with our famer-members and can be reached at lukeandteresa@gmail.com or 785-324-1570.

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Corporate partners and advertisers are extremely important to the overall effort of the Kansas Soybean Association. They provide the Association with financial support and are links to the allied industries that provide soybean farmers with inputs and capital to manage our enterprises. KSA also relies on corporate partners to keep us up-to-date with the latest breakthroughs in production technologies, and we all work together to create and implement environmental and trade policies that benefit the soybean industry.









































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Pesticide disposal, property tax abatement bills pass

Concerns related to large gatherings of lawmakers, staffers, lobbyists and the general public due to the Covid-19 virus altered the way legislative business was conducted this year.

S.B. 295 was supported by the KSA during the 2020 legislative session. It prohibits valuation increases in real property as the result of normal repair, replacement or maintenance. The provisions in the bill were found in this session's S.B. 13, which became law on April 1.

The KSA presented written proponent testimony on S.B. 23. The measure would allow a taxpayer who has made an "agricultural improvement" to a farm building or structure that is destroyed or substantially destroyed by a natural disaster as declared by the governor to request up to a three-year property tax abatement from the local county commission.

The bill was passed by the Senate Tax Committee but was not

considered in the House. The chair of the House Tax Committee told KSA staff that the bill would be taken up next year.

S.B 38 was successfully supported by the KSA by the way of written proponent testimony and discussions with individual legislators throughout the entire 2021 legislative process. The bill was signed into law by the governor on April 2 and became effective on May 6.

S.B. 38 establishes a Kansas pesticide waste disposal program and allows up to \$50,000 to be transferred annually from the Kansas agricultural remediation fund to a new Kansas pesticide waste disposal fund.

If you need help in disposing of pesticide waste contact Judy Glass at the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, at 785-564-6688 or by email at judy.qlass@ks.qov.

The Kansas Soybean Commission presented a report to the House Ag Committee on Feb.27

and the Senate Natural Resources and Agricultural Committee on Feb. 4. Bob Haselwood, chair of the commission, told committee members that the commission collected over four million dollars, up \$200,000 over the previous year, and expended \$3.9 million on education and research programs.

Kenlon Johannes and Kaleb Little gave an informational presentation on biofuels before the House Ag Committee in February.

Considerable attention was devoted to H.B. 2335, establishing a Kansas cotton commission. The KSA wanted to insure there were no amendments added to the bill that would negatively impact the Kansas Soybean Commission and that any cotton commission is not part of statutes dealing with crop commodity commissions that would bring about changes through that route. The bill was never heard.

Four ASA awards currently accepting nominations

Each year, distinguished individuals are recognized during the American Soybean Association annual awards banquet. The three recognition awards – Outstanding State Volunteer, ASA Distinguished Leadership and Pinnacle – are currently accepting nominations through Oct. 25.

The Outstanding State Volunteer Award recognizes individuals who have given at least three years of volunteer service to any area of their state soybean association. The Distinguished Leadership Award

honors visionary leadership within ASA or a state association by a soybean farmer-leader or staff leader with at least 5 years of service. The **Pinnacle Award** recipient demonstrates the highest level of contribution and lifetime leadership within the soybean industry.

These awards are to be presented at the March 11, 2022 banquet at Commodity Classic in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The **2022 Conservation Legacy Awards** are also open for submissions. This set of awards is

presented in four regions – Midwest, Upper Midwest, Northeast and South – with one overall winner. Winners demonstrate outstanding conservation techniques on their farm, including reduced tillage, cover crops and energy efficiency.

Regional winners receive a trip to Commodity Classic, plus a magazine and video feature. Conservation Legacy Award applications are due Sept. 1.

The award information and nomination forms are available at soygrowers.com/awards.

ASA leaders firing on all cylinders during session

Halfway through President Biden's first year in office, ASA and its farmer leaders are firing on all cylinders as they work and advocate on behalf of U.S. soy.

Bipartisan Infrastructure

On Jun. 24, the White House announced a Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework to overhaul the country's "traditional infrastructure" and make transformational investments in clean transportation, water, and power infrastructure, universal broadband, remediation of legacy pollution, and resilience to the changing climate.

While soy growers applauded the bipartisan infrastructure legislation, concern remains about the President's proposed "soft" infrastructure priorities in his American Families Plan. With this package, there is an increased risk of eliminating stepped-up basis as one of the pay-fors. The bipartisan infrastructure deal does not at this time include these changes as proposed pay-fors; however, there is the potential it could be incorporated later in a reconciliation package. ASA will continue to urge passage of the

bipartisan infrastructure package and educate Congress about the negative impacts a change in stepped-up basis would have on the ability for farming operations to remain in the family and be competitive.

Sustainability/Conservation

The ASA-supported Growing Climate Solutions Act (GCSA) overwhelmingly passed the full Senate on June 24. Before passage, ASA worked to successfully defeat an amendment proposed by Sen. Mike Lee that would have gutted the bill's core provisions. The GCSA would create a program at USDA that certifies technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers for the environmental credit markets and allocates funding for the next four years. The bill also includes protections to ensure farmers participating in carbon markets benefit from reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and support climate-friendly practices.

ASA has supported this bill and sees this as a positive step toward climate solutions that considers farmers and allows them to be a key part of those solutions.

Precision Ag

More than a year after the Federal Communications Commission's Ligado decision, ASA continues to support a dependable and free public GPS signal and opposes the use of bandwidth by any company that would compromise the effectiveness of GPS technology for farmers. In a positive step, Sen. Jim Inhofe recently introduced the Recognizing and Ensuring Taxpayer Access to Infrastructure Necessary for GPS and Satellite Communications Act, or RETAIN GPS Act. The bill would require Ligado Networks which has federal approval to launch a telecom network that is widely expected to cause broad GPS interference—to upgrade, repair, or replace any privately owned equipment, including farm equipment, that is impacted by Ligado.

ASA supported the introduction with communications activity and Hill outreach, and we will be working to secure additional Senate cosponsors, as well as getting a House companion bill introduced.

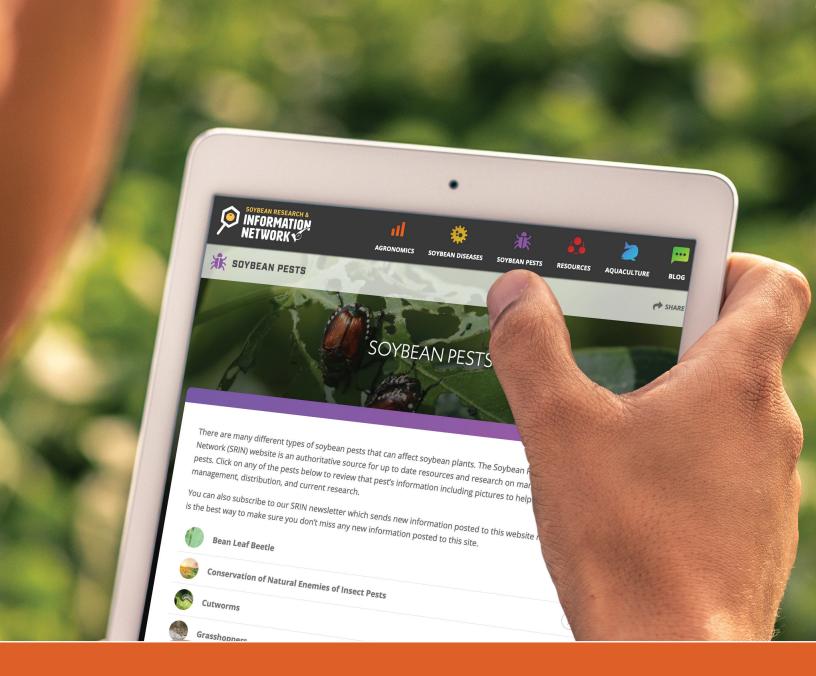
KSA board conducts corporate tour in Topeka area

The annual KSA Corporate Tour and conjunct meeting provide an opportunity for the board and industry partners to connect and build relationships. Location varies by year as the tour focuses on one area of the state to convene, connect with local businesses there and tour regional facilities.

Topeka was the region of choice for the 2021 tour, with facility tours taking place at Goodyear tires, a company which has committed to ramping up soybean oil use in products; the KU Biodiesel program, and pet food and plastics companies. Farmer leaders also benefitted from professional development.

Corporate partners and soybean growers in the area have the chance to met up to socialize at the Friday evening dinner and event, which also featured a presentation on the complementary roles of the association and checkoff.

The KSA board of directors met Saturday to discuss business.



ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT.

Sudden death syndrome, stink bugs, soybean cyst nematodes and many other yield-robbing pests and diseases. It's a rough world out there, costing soybean farmers billions of dollars every year. Fortunately, your state soybean checkoff is on the job with research projects to develop effective traits and practices to get back as much of your yield as possible. To find out more about soybean pests and diseases, visit us at:

soybeanresearchinfo.com

Funded by the soybean checkoff





SRE Saga: Refiners win in Supreme Court

In the latest development of the year-plus court battle over granting small refinery exemptions, the Supreme Court overturned the original ruling against retroactive waivers on blending requirements. The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had ruled in January 2020 that small refineries should not be issued retroactive waivers on minimum volume requirements – move that renewable fuel and soybean advocates celebrated.

When the case appeared in the Supreme Court, the decision was overturned. In a 6-3 decision in the case of HollyFrontier Cheyenne Refining, LLC v. Renewable Fuels Association (RFA), the court rejected arguments from the biofuels industry that only small refiners that had received the continuous waivers since 2011 could qualify for new exemptions from the ethanol blending mandates under the RFS.

The American Soybean Association expressed frustration with the final standing, but looks to opportunities to form favorable Renewable Fuel Standards.

ASA president Kevin Scott said, "This just means that the Biden administration needs to administer the RFS in a stable and predictable manner that achieves the biofuel-blending, greenhouse gas-reducing benefits that Congress intended when it passed the RFS."

The Fall 2020 Straight Rows first reported on the saga with the welcomed news that then-administrator Andrew Wheeler had denied 54 out of 68 retroactive waivers following the court's decision, but there was still much to be finalized. A follow-up in the Spring 2021 Straight Rows reported that the Environmental Protection Agency announced support of the 10th Circuit decision. EPA had stated that an exemption to blending requirements would have to exist to extend it.

The RFS program is a national policy that requires a certain volume of renewable fuel to replace or reduce the quantity of petroleum-based transportation fuel, heating oil or jet fuel. Prior to 2011, small refineries could apply for exemptions in cases of economic hardship.

Apply to be a Young Leader

The American Soybean Association's longest-running leadership program, Young Leaders, is currently accepting applications.

Sponsored by Corteva Agriscience, the program offers immersive leadership training to engage sovbean growers ages 21 and older. Participants step away from the program prepared to be a voice for all farmers and often become leaders within state commodity organizations. The program welcomes couples and individuals looking to expand their communication skills and peer network.

The first phase of the 2021-22 program is scheduled for Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in Johnston, Iowa. The second and final phase is March 8-12, 2022, scheduled in conjunction with Commodity Classic in New Orleans, Louisiana. Further information and applications for the 2022 class are available at <a href="https://soy-new-matter-n

growers.com/young-leader.

Austin and Kendall Heiniger were Kansas' representatives for the 2021 Corteva Young Leader class. Though the couple has been unable to meet with the rest of the 2021 cohort due to event cancellations, they look forward to rounding out their training.

"Participating in the Young Leader program is so valuable," Kendall says. "We are very excited to attend Phase 1 in July and network with other leaders in our class."

The 2021 class of Young Leaders meets for the first time face-to-face July 19-23. This interaction will serve as Phase I of the group's training.

The Kansas Soybean Association retains the state's Young Leader representatives on the KSA board for three years concurrent with the start of their program participation.



The Heinger family - Austin and Kendall and three boys, Caleb, Jackson and Simon - live near Fairview, Kansas, where they operate Heinco, Inc. with Austin's family. Kendall participated in the Kansas Soybean Emerging Leaders Academy Class 5 in 2018 prior to being named the 2021 Corteva Young Leader from Kansas alongside her husband.

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Investments in ag research facilities are critical to maintain our global edge.

America stands at a crossroads. Which direction we turn will have a dramatic impact – good or bad - on the future of agriculture, the food system, natural resource management, our nation's economic development, and the health and safety of our citizens.

For far too long a severe lack of funding to modernize agricultural research facilities has been tying our hands in the development of new and better solutions and in preparing the future scientists we need to create those solutions.

Our public investment in agricultural research comes from federal, state and industry dollars. This includes the modern infrastructure required to conduct that research, a funding challenge generally shouldered by individual states since the 1990s. As a result, U.S. investment is below 1980s levels while other countries are investing heavily, outspending us by billions of dollars in agriculture research, according to a report by Gordian released in March.

As these countries outpace us in research investment, they can anticipate increased agriculture productivity and food quality while the U.S. can expect a drop in both agriculture exports, innovation, and pro-

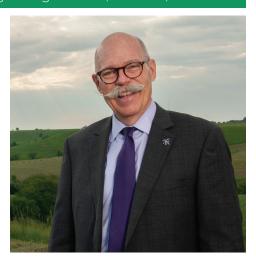
ductivity. This trend could ultimately have dire economic and security implications for our nation.

In March, Douglas Steele, vice president of food, agriculture and natural resources for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, said they had received word from every type of institution that deteriorating facilities are interrupting their research and educational excellence. He said these challenges are more than a nuisance - they represent a "national economic threat."

According to Gordian, the initial investment needed to reverse the deterioration of outdated research facilities across the 97 institutions they studied is \$11.5 billion. Colleges and schools of agriculture will need an additional annual investment of approximately \$550 million a year to maintain them.

It is a lot of money, but there is much more to lose if we don't invest. According to the Kansas Department of Agriculture, agriculture, food and industries represent more than half of our state's economy and are responsible for 21% of our workforce. As other countries invest to become more competitive, we must do the same.

More troubling than even the



loss of potential revenue and jobs is the loss of future scientific discoveries. We rely on those breakthroughs to keep people healthy, safe and fed. And for years, our scientists across the country have been making many of these critical discoveries in buildings with leaking roofs, non-functioning HVAC systems and obsolete technology. We can no longer expect 21st century science to come from failing 60-year-old buildings.

With the recent rollout of the proposed American infrastructure plan, we were excited to see it includes a \$40 billion investment in upgrading our nation's research facilities. As congress considers this plan, leaders of the nation's land-grant universities hope for the inclusion of food and research agriculture infrastructure as a priority to rebuild America, protect our agricultural economy and ensure our ability to advance science on behalf of the global food system.

The Kansas Soybean Association signed on to a national letter of support to improve research infrastructure at universities. The letter circulated in April and encouraged a five-year investment into colleges of agriculture across the country.







KSA membership means representation in policy

Back in 1973, a group of Kansans with varying roles in the agriculture industry recognized the need for an organization that would work on behalf of soybean growers in the state. The organization would "bring together all persons interested in the production, marketing, distribution and utilization of soybeans and soybean products" per the article of incorporation, and it would benefit soybean growers and all of agriculture through its work. So came to be the Kansas Soybean Association.

Current day efforts of KSA rely on the membership dues of soybean growers and affiliates to operate as the collective voice of those it serves. Those who do invest in KSA find value in the partnership.

For Everest farmer Jim Becker, membership means representation.

"As a soybean grower, you need a representative," he says, adding that the current climate favors lobbyists and who speaks the loudest when it comes to critical issues. "Having someone to lead the charge on issues keeps soybean production rolling in the right direction."

Becker joined the association about 7 years ago, he recalls. He received information about the association and the work it does on behalf of soybean growers and recognized the importance of joining. It is hard to put a number on the value, he says, but the piece of mind that comes with representation is what provides value to his farming operation, which consists of soybeans, corn and a cow-calf herd.

This sentiment rings true for Nortonville farmer Melvin Nolting, who has been a member for around 50 years. While agricultural policy hasn't been a focal point for Nolting, he appreciates the work that KSA does on his behalf.

"The association ensures [soybean growers] don't get pushed aside in policies," he says, noting how legislation has brought attention to soybean products like biodiesel. Overall, he be-

lieves the whole industry benefits when KSA gets to work.

Nolting farms in Atchison County, one of the few in the state with enough members to have its own representative. Even with the current count, Nolting has neighbors who he says should make the investment to join.

When Nolting first joined, he saw membership as a way to help the collective farmers' cause, put agricultural products in the spotlight and connect those products to markets. He hopes his neighbors recognize that value, as well.

Detach the form below and share it with a friend or neighbor. Inviting others to join the association strengthens the collective voice and expands the opportunities KSA provides.

> To join, complete this form, and mail it with payment to Kansas Soybean Association

1000 SW Red Oaks Place

Topeka, KS 66615-1207

JOIN KSA TODAY

I would like to team up with the Kansas
Soybean Association to help ensure my

□ 3 YEARS = \$190 Soybean Association to help ensure my farm's future in the soybean industry. ☐ Check enclosed (Make payable to KSA) 🗆 Renewal County: Date of birth: ZIP: Name on card (print): □ New Member Expires (MM/YY): □ 1 YEAR = \$70 E-mail address: Soybean acres: Street address: □ Credit card Home phone: Signature: Cell phone: Spouse: Name: State:

detach form here

Join online at soygrowers.com/statesmembership/online-membership-form/

Musselman enjoys serving necessary organizations

I am the newest member of the Kansas Soybean Association board of directors after officially being voted in at the March 2021 meeting. I took the fifth district director position serving the north central region of the state.

I received a call from a friend who serves on the Kansas Soybean Commission who informed me of the vacant seat in my district. I decided to fill the role because I believe that it is important to serve others, especially in groups that fill a need in the community.

I call Clifton, Kansas, home and

have my farm there as well. My farm consists of soybeans, corn, wheat and cattle. I returned to farming in 1999 after serving as a county extension agent, an agronomist and then manager at an elevator.

My wife, Melanie, and I have been married 27 years and have four children – Michaela, Luke, and twins Lane and Levi.

In the community, I am active in Knights of Columbus for SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Clay Center and also serve on the Clay County fair board.

Your membership in the Kansas Soybean Association gives you a meaningful voice on critical state and national issues impacting your farm's profitability. Our collective effort promotes and protects the interests of each Kansas soybean farmer and ensures your farm's future in the soybean industry.

I believe that when a person invests in something, like an association, that person becomes more actively connected to what is happening and becomes more involved. KSA is a great investment and I would encourage my peers to become part of our work.



Luke, Lane, Michaela, Michael, Levi and Melanie Musselman.



Musselman attends his first meeting on the KSA board in March 2021.

detach form here

Membership (continued): joining has benefits

A legislative voice is not the only incentive to joining KSA. Members also receive the following benefits:

- Biodiesel coupon for \$20.
- Chrysler, Ford and GM discounts.
- First access to KSA news through the quarterly Straight Rows newsletter.
- National news delivered by the eBean newsletter and quarterly American Soybean

magazine.

- Cabela's discount of 10%.
- Discounted Commodity Classic registration, plus discounts for other educational workshops.
- One seed coupon from one of these partners:

AgVenture, Croplan Genetics, Fontanelle, Hoegemeyer, Midland Seeds, Ohlde Seed, Phillips Seed, Pioneer Seeds, Taylor Seeds or Willcross Soybeans See all membership benefits and more at kansassoybeans. org/membership.

You have been invited to join the Kansas Soybean Association.

Mail this form to the Kansas Soybean office or join online to receive these benefits and further the work of the KSA.

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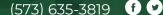
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Calendar of Industry Events

July 14	WIBW Farmer Appreciation Dinner, Herington
July 15-17	Kansas Soybean Association Corporate Tour, Topeka
July 17	Kansas Soybean Association summer meeting, Topeka
July 19-23	American Soybean Association board meeting, St. Charles, MO
July 19-23	2021 Corteva Young Leaders Phase 1
July 19-23	U.S.A. Poultry and Egg Export Council meats lab module, Manhattan
July 21	WIBW Farmer Appreciation Dinner, Wamego
July 26	Kansas Soybean Commission annual meeting, Topeka
July 27	KDA Ag Growth Summit – Soybeans and Other Oilseeds, virtual
July 28	WIBW Farmer Appreciation Dinner, Ottawa
Aug. 1-3	Soy Transportation Coalition board meeting, Louisville, KY
Aug. 3-4	U.S. Soybean Export Council Asia Trade Exchange, virtual
Aug. 3-5	North Central Soybean Research Program meeting, Souix Falls, SD
Aug. 3-6	Camp Biodiesel, Lake of the Ozarks, MO
Aug. 9-10	Kansas Grain and Feed Association annual meeting, Topeka
Aug. 11-14	Aquaculture America 2021, San Antonio, TX
Aug. 16-19	ASA Action Partnership summer retreat, Rapid City, SD
Aug. 16-19	Biofuels Tour, Iowa
Aug. 17-18	No-till on the Plains board meeting, Topeka
Aug. 19-20	Risk and Profit Conference, Manhattan
Aug. 23-25	Research Forum and Think Tank, Indianapolis, IN
Aug. 26	Kansas Governor's Summit on Agricultural Growth, Manhattan
Sept. 10-19	Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson
Sept. 27-30	National & State Soybean Staff Meeting
Sept. 29-30	Grass & Grain Farm and Ranch Show, Manhattan

SAVE THE DATE

Wichita Farm and Ranch Show



DEC. 2-4, 2021

Kansas Star Casino Arena Mulvane, Kansas

Topeka Farm Show



JAN. 11-13, 2022

Stormont Vail Events Center Topeka, Kansas

