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Rail companies, unions find middle ground

the country Manv across breathed a sigh of relief Sept. 15 when a tentative agreement was reached between the National Carriers' Conference Committee and 12 unions representing railroad workers. In the week leading up to the agreement, the situation had railroad companies bracing for an impending strike, lockout or slowdown starting Friday, Sept. 16 if no agreement came to fruition.

It is not a new situation - negotiations have been ongoing since 2020 with no agreement reached. The negotiations picked up speed in July when President Biden appointed three individuals to develop a set of non-binding recommendations, which were given to the parties involved in the bargaining in August. Sept. 16 marked the deadline for accepting the recommendations or reaching a different arrangement with threat of a strike or lockout looming.

According to Mike Steenhoek, executive director for the Soy Transportation Coalition, the tentative agreement reached includes a 24% wage increase for railroad workers over five vears. The railroad companies had proposed a 17% wage increase over five years and the unions had proposed a 31.3% increase over five years in prior negotiations.

President Biden released a statement following the agreement, calling it a win for the economy and rail workers keeping the rail lines operating, "the hard work done to reach this tentative agreement means that our economy can avert the significant damage any shutdown would have brought."

Significant damage, indeed. Railway stoppage would be detrimental to the economy, costing an estimated \$2 billion per day. It would stall more than 7,000 long-distance freight trains - the equivalent of 460,000 long-haul trucks, a difference the trucking industry could not have covered.

With harvest already underway across much of Kansas, ending railway transportation of grains had many agricultural groups and farmers concerned. The American Sovbean Association shares that 20% of all soybeans and 40% of biodiesel moves on freight rail, and called a potential strike "catastrophic."

Our nation's railroads are integral to the success of the American farmer," Steenhoek says. "Without cost-effective, reliable rail service, so much of what farmers produce will never connect with our domestic and international customers. American farmers are responding to the challenges of global food insecurity. We need our nation's railroads to be a reliable partner in this effort."

ASA and other ag groups, including the Agricultural Transportation Working Group, have actively advocated for resolution throughout the negotiations.

At the time of preparing this article, the situation stood that the rail worker unions still needed to ratify the agreement and all parties had agreed to operate with regular service until the ratification is finalized. ASA reported that it could be mid-November before the ratification is determined in full.

In related news, the Freight Rail Shipping Fair Market Act is up for debate in the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation, first introduced August 3, reauthorizes the Surface Transportation Board and aims to create a fairer and more competitive marketplace. The National Grain and Feed Association shared a statement in support of the bill citing how rail service issues have caused supply chain disruptions and negatively impacted U.S. Grain Exports. ASA collected farmer testimonies on how rail service issues have impacted operations to share those stories at the committee hearing on the bill Sept. 21.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Teresa Brandenburg, Russell

Greetings! Fall is my favorite time of the year, and not only because of pumpkin-spice everything! Don't misunderstand - I love to make a big pan of cream cheese frosted pumpkin bars to tuck in our lunch boxes, but watching the combines roll into the field is the best part of the whole year.

Some of my best memories have been made in harvest fields, and I continue to feel optimistic about the harvest approaching, but I'm also not ashamed to admit that this year has been hard. Friends, everyone I talk with is facing something – and a severe drought isn't helping anyone. Farmers are having to make hard decisions about the future of their operations, and the pressure can feel overwhelming.

Volume 27, Issue 2 | September 2022

STRAIGHT ROWS

is published bi-monthly by the

Kansas Soybean Association

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I just want to take a moment to remind each of you that you are more than what you do, and that your family needs you to be okay. Make sure you take time to sleep occasionally and eat something (not just pumpkin bars!) Don't overlook basic maintenance or cut corners to save time - your life and the lives of those around you are worth a few extra minutes. Finally, as we move into this season, please remember that being okay extends beyond your physical health. If things feel particularly heavy or hard, if you don't find joy where you used to, or if you are spending most nights unable to sleep, please seek help.

If you need help immediately - call 988. If you need more resources, visit https://www.kan-sasagstress.org/, and remember to talk to your family, friends, neighbors and fellow farmers. We must continue to support one another as we do the important work of feeding the world.

The Kansas Soybean Association continues to work to be your voice in both Topeka and Washington, D.C., and this publication is full of information about everything that is happening. This past August, I got the opportunity to sharpen my skills by participating in ASA's Agricultural Communications Team (ACT) Training. Prior to this program, I had experience communicating with policymakers, consumers, and media, but I was interested in the intense nature of this program and its history of preparing agriculture leaders to communicate well for the industry in tough situations. This year's cohort consisted of 10 individuals with diverse backgrounds, and I enjoyed getting to know them during our three days together.

One of the first things we did was practice on-camera interviews. These were something I wanted to improve on, be-



cause often in a crisis, leaders are needed to speak in front of the camera. The trainers really pushed us to think about the things we consciously say, as well as the things we do unconsciously. We learned that often, communication is more about what we do than what we say.

Since this training, I am better equipped to serve the members of Kansas Soybean. I have always been passionate about this work, but now I am confident that I can share our story and communicate our values even in tricky or tense situations. I learned how to take my belief in what we do and share it in a way that will help others believe as well.

We also spent a large amount of time working on developing a well thought out theme that we can always be prepared to speak about. Our class chose things ranging from cover crops to sustainable practices to water quality to feeding a growing population. I would encourage anyone that wants to grow in their communication skills to think about the story they want to tell and spend time thinking about how to share it with others. Once you know what you want to say, spend time practicing how to say it. Record yourself - I know it isn't fun, but you will learn so much!

Thank you so much for putting your trust in me to serve this organization. As always, reach out to me or our fantastic staff if you need anything. I can be reached at 785-324-1570. I wish you all a safe and plentiful harvest!

Inflation Reduction Act becomes law; opinions mixed

Last year, the Build Back Better Act died in the U.S. Senate. This year, its slimmed-down relative, the \$740 billion Inflation Reduction Act, found success and passed in the Senate and U.S House of Representatives. President Biden signed the bill into law August 16. The budget reconciliation bill includes measures on climate change, energy and healthcare.

"There are some good points within the Inflation Reduction Act," Brett Neibling, KSA second vice president, says. "There are some things that could be concerning for us, as well."

All Right for Agriculture

Agriculture spending in the bill amounts to \$82 billion over the 10-year span of the legislation – about \$38 billion of that is divided among agricultural conservation, credit, renewable energy and forestry, according to the Congressional Research Service.

"Anything from Washington, D.C. that invests in agriculture and rural communities has benefits for us," Neibling says. "A big part of the funding is for conservation programs, and that influx of money will allow farmers to adopt practices like cover crops. Some of these practices have been around a long time, but may not be widely used because of cost concerns."

Conservation programs comprising the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) receive a boost in funding, though not as much as originally proposed in Build Back Better. Much of the funding is aimed at incentivizing farmers to adopt climate-smart practices. American Soybean Association Economist Scott Gerlt emphasizes that the permanent, baseline funding for these conservation programs are not changing; the programs are receiving a one-time injection of funds spread over the 10-year life of the legislation.

Biofuels also received some attention in the Inflation Reduction Act. The Biodiesel Tax Credit was extended through 2024 and will eventually morph into a Clean Fuel Production Credit reserved for biodiesel producers rather than blenders like in the BTC. The reconciliation package provides \$15 billion for Farm Bill energy titles and Rural Energy for America Program initiatives.

Partisan Politics at Play

The vote in both houses of Congress split on party lines. Democratic Rep. Sharice Davids of Kansas' 3rd District voted with her party to pass the bill. Davids applauded the legislation, calling it "fiscally responsible and people-focused," citing lower energy and healthcare costs for Kansans.

Republican opponents expressed disappointment at the price tag attached to the legislation and questioned how it would effectively slow the nation's rising inflation rate.

A majority of Kansas' elected officials were among those opposed to the bill. Soon after it passed in the Senate, Dr. Roger Marshall called the vote "disappointing," alleging that passage "will lead to a less free and less competitive America."

Rep. Ron Estes of Kansas' 4th District asserted online that the bill would do nothing to address inflation and Kansas

Senator Jerry Moran released a statement saying the legislation "will raise taxes on small businesses and working families."

Forget the Farm Bill?

A resounding concern about the Inflation Reduction Act is that it might negatively affect future Farm Bills.

Senate Agriculture Committee ranking member John Boozman (R-Ark.) said on the Senate floor that the legislation sets a bad precedent for creation of Farm Bills, "we very well may be looking at reconciliation packages as the only way future Farm Bills get written."

Neibling has heard some of that concern as well, but says he plans to continue researching the relationship between this bill and the Farm Bill.

"I don't know how extensively the agriculture community was brought into discussions," he says. "There is concern that the influx of funds to farm programs might affect the next Farm Bill. It seems like when there is some type of investment in agriculture, there's a thought that 'they have money for these programs and don't need funding later,' but I don't think this injection of funding makes the Farm Bill any less important."

ASA in Action

ASA remained neutral on the bill itself through the creation process, but did advocate for specific provisions. While voicing support for biofuel and pro-farmer investments, ASA voiced opposition for steppedup basis and a few other farm tax pieces – which did not make the final bill.

The Inflation Reduction Act is just in its infancy; only time will tell how it plays out.

Who is on the ballot in November? Key races, more

The 2022 mid-term elections are coming up Nov. 8, and this race looks to be extremely important in determining the balance of political parties in power.

Taking a look at the U.S. Senate race for Kansas, incumbent Senator Jerry Moran (R-Manhattan) is challenged by Mark Holland (D-Kansas City), former mayor of Wyandotte County Unified Government.

U.S. Rep. Tracy Mann (R-Salina) of Kansas' first congressional district faces off against Jimmy Beard (D-Garden City), a teacher at Garden City High School. In District 2, U.S. Rep. Jake LaTurner (R-Topeka) is opposed by Patrick Schmidt (D-Topeka), a former U.S. Naval intelligence officer. In District 3, U.S. Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Shawnee) is being opposed for the second time by Amanda

Adkins (R-Overland Park), former chairwoman of the Kansas Republican Party. To round out the U.S. House of Representatives races, U.S. Rep. Ron Estes (R-Wichita) from District 4 is running against Bob Hernandez, (D- Wichita), owner of Kansas Amigos, a janitorial service company.

In the contentious Kansas governor race, Governor Laura Kelly (D-Topeka) is facing current Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt (R-Independence).

Kris Kobach (R-Lecompton) and Chris Mann (D-Lawrence) are vying for the vacant office of attorney general. Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab (R-Olathe) will duel challenger Jeanna Repass (D-Overland Park); State Treasurer Lynn Rogers (D-Wichita) squares off against Steven Johnson (R-Assaria); and Insurance Commis-

sioner Vicki Schmidt (R-Topeka) battles Kiel Corkran (D-Olathe).

The current composition of the Kansas House of Representatives is 87 republicans and 38 democrats. The lineup for the upcoming general election shows 69 incumbent republicans running; 43 run unopposed.

Conversely, 32 incumbent democrats are trying for reelection; 19 run unopposed. Democrats would need to win a net total of four seats in to erase the republican super majority of 87.

The current count in the Kansas Senate is 28 republicans and 12 democrats, another super majority.

The Kansas Soybean Association only lobbies for policies and does not endorse candidates.

USDA announces details for upcoming ag census

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will soon ask farmers and ranchers across Kansas to complete the 2022 Census of Agriculture. The Census of Agriculture is the nation's only comprehensive and impartial compilation of agricultural data for every state and county across the country. The USDA will mail the Ag Census to producers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, including about 80,000 in Kansas.

The 2022 Census of Agriculture will be mailed in phases. An invitation to respond online will be mailed in November, followed by a paper questionnaire in December. Farm operations

of all sizes, including urban and rural, will be included in the Census.

Conducted every five years by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census of Agriculture tells the story, and shows the value, of U.S. agriculture. Census data highlights include land use and ownership, production practices, income and expenditures, and characteristics of the people who operate American farms and ranches. Since the most recent Ag Census in 2017, NASS has added new questions about the use of precision agriculture, hemp production, and hair sheep, as well as making updates to the internet access questions.

"Ag Census data inform decisions that impact our communities and businesses," Doug Bounds, NASS Kansas State Statistician, says. "The data cover categories important to our industry, and make it possible to compare national, state, and county level statistics. By responding, Kansas ag producers ensure the best data are available to make better decisions."

To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit <u>www.nass.usda.gov/agcensus</u> or call (800) 727-9540.



You're where the rubber meets the road. And the engine. And the interior.

All soybean farmers, including you, are busy replacing petroleum with your soy oil. How? By pooling your resources through your soy checkoff. Learn how your soy checkoff is bringing tangible returns back to you and your operation at unitedsoybean.org/hopper.



Moving Soy Forward. Moving You Forward.



WISHH graduates entrepreneurs from global training for high-quality foods and feeds.



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Biden executive order emphasizes 'bioeconomy'

One of many initiatives laid out in an executive order signed by President Biden Sept. 12 focuses on "expanding market opportunities for bioenergy and biobased products and services." Soy is equipped to meet these market opportunities head on.

Soybeans are a highly useful commodity in the industrial space. Plastic composites, coatings, adhesives, asphalt, paints and more can be made using soybean components, in addition to the more well-known uses in human food, animal feed and fuel.

The Kansas Soybean office in Topeka, which was constructed in 2010, serves as an example of soy-based products in action. A walk through the office features soy foam in the board room chairs, soy-based wood stain, soy paint on the walls and soy-based insulation behind the walls. Many more industrial soy products have been developed since, and there are an estimated 1,000 soy-based industrial products currently on the market.

The USDA's BioPreferred Program established in 2002 incentivizes federal agencies and contractors to purchase such biobased products. In the executive order, agencies that have not established a biobased procurement program must do so.

The "Advancing Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Innovation for a Sustainable, Safe, and Secure American Bioeconomy" order also calls for a "report assessing how to use biotechnology and biomanufacturing

for food and agriculture innovation, including by improving sustainability and land conservation; increasing food quality and nutrition; increasing and protecting agricultural yields; protecting against plant and animal pests and diseases; and cultivating alternative food sources."

Other key components of the order are to boost sustainable biomass production and create climate-smart incentives for agricultural producers, and support research to accelerate bioenergy science advances.

The American Soybean Association says the organization is well-positioned to aid in further developing soy biobased markets and opportunities that rely on modern biotechnology.



Soy gets \$905M in climate-smart funds nationwide

Is "climate-smart" a trendy buzzword, or an ideal that is here to stay? The United States Department of Agriculture's investment in Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities points to the latter. USDA announced \$2.8 billion in funding for 70 projects Sept. 14, and soybeans are getting a piece of the pie.

On the list of funded projects is a project to "accelerate longterm cover crop adoption" led by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation and Farmers for Soil Health. Farmers for Soil Health is sponsored in part by the United Soybean Board and American Soybean Association. This project worth \$95 million incentivizes farmers by facilitating the sale of ecosystem benefits like carbon credits.

Another project geographically covering Kansas is the five-year Midwest Climate-Smart Commodity Program led by the Iowa Soybean Association. This project, administered through the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund, aims to provide direct incentives for implementing conser-

vation practices to farmers in 12 states. This project receives \$95 million, some of which will also be used for technical assistance, reporting, outreach and enrollment.

The Kansas Black Farmers Association, National Association of Conservation Districts and others partnered on a project "to advance grassroots efforts to ensure producers and local communities are prepared to meet the demand and have access to climate-smart commodity markets." The \$90 million nationwide project focuses on tribal territories.

Truterra, LLC, is leading a \$90 million project titled "Climate SMART (Scaling Mechanisms for Agriculture's Regenerative Transformation)" that "aims to catalyze a self-sustaining, market-based network" and emphasize sustainably-produced grain and dairy commodities. Kansas is one of 28 states included in the proposal.

Kansas is also in the anticipated region for cotton, beef, pork and other commodity-specif-

ic projects funded in the first round of the Partnerships for Commodities Climate-Smart initiative. USDA stated that projects with an emphasis on greenhouse gas mitigation were weighted more heavily and that the slate of projects take different approaches to do so. Another round of projects is expected to be announced later this year with the second pool weighted more heavily on equity and outreach criteria. USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation foots the bill for the projects, which range in value from \$5 million to \$100 million.

In a "by the numbers" infographic created by USDA, corn and soybeans together benefit from 11 projects. Over 50,000 farms and 25 million acres are expected to be impacted and over 50 million metric tons of carbon dioxide are to be sequestered over the course of the projects' timelines.

For further details on the program or funded projects, visit https://www.usda.gov/climate-solutions/cli-mate-smart-commodities.

Senator Moran makes farm stop in Cherokee County





U.S. Senator Jerry Moran and Kansas Farm Bureau President Rich Felts joined farmers for two farm visits in Cherokee County Monday, Sept. 19. Discussion centered on the 2023 Farm Bill with farmers able to provide opinions on the legislation. The Kansas Soybean Association assisted in coordinating the visits.

Matthew Atkinson, KSA District 4 representative, hosted one tour stop on the Atkinson family farm near Columbus. He is pictured on the left with grandfather Marion and Senator Moran.

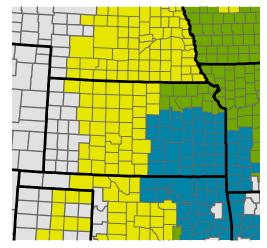
RMA double crop expansion progresses on track

The July Straight Rows newsletter reported on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's announcement that it would expand double crop insurance opportunities for the 2023 growing season. The finalized rules on the expansion are set to lock in November 30.

The American Soybean Association shared with state associations in early September that the finalization remains on track for November. The current step in the process allows for states to review the map of 1,500 counties where double cropping is considered viable and ensure that it accurately reflects insurance needs.

The Risk Management Agency of USDA advises growers to consult with crop insurance agencies about coverage options and share concerns with regional RMA offices. There are 35 counties in Kansas with coverage available, 40 where coverage is available with a written agreement and 13 counties where the written agreement does not require double cropping history.

The expansion issued through RMA greatly reduces barriers to accessing double crop insurance. Areas included in the coverage were designated through analysis of climate data, agronomic requirements, existing insurance availability and historical double cropping acreage data.



2022 yield, value contests feature Classic drawing

The Kansas Soybean Association is calling all soybean farmers in Kansas to enter their competitive soybean crop into the Kansas Soybean Yield Contest by December 1.

"Crop conditions varied across Kansas this growing season, so we are interested in seeing yields soybean producers are able to achieve," Kim Kohls, contest committee member, says. "Also, this year's contest offers great incentives for individuals to submit entries."

New to the 2022 Yield and Value Contests, the Kansas Soybean Association will sponsor three participants to attend Commodity Classic in March 2023. First place in both contests, as well as one randomly drawn participant who entered both contests, earn the trip.

The Kansas Soybean Commission sponsors a monetary prize for the top three finishers in each district, as well as an additional \$1,000 for the over-

all dryland and irrigated winners and any who top the 114.3 bushel-per-acre record. The amounts per district are that first place receives \$300, second receives \$200, and third receives \$100. All participants receive a T-shirt for entering.

Districts are determined by region, tillage method and irrigation status, with a total of 18 districts in consideration. Notill on the Plains supplies additional awards in the no-till categories. Farmers may enter multiple categories, but only one entry per field.

Eligible fields must consist of at least five contiguous acres as verified by the Farm Service Agency, GPS printout or manual measurement. A non-relative witness, either Kansas State Research and Extension personnel or a specified designee, must be present at harvest and should ensure that the combine grain hopper is empty prior to harvest. Official elevator-scale tickets with moisture percentage and foreign matter included must accompany entries to be considered.

The statewide Kansas Soybean Value Contest that analyzes protein, oil and other soybean qualities is also open for entries. Entrants submit 20-ounce samples, which are evaluated by Ag Processing, Inc. to determine the value. Monetary awards are also given to the three highest-value entries. Farmers may enter both the yield and value contests.

Results of the contests are to be shared January 11, 2023, at the Kansas Soybean Expo in Tope-

A full guide of contest rules and regulations, as well as the digital entry form, are available at <u>kansassoybeans.org/contests</u>. Questions may be directed to the Kansas Soybean office by phone at 877-KS-SOYBEAN (877-577-6923) or to local KSRE offices.

EPA opens dicamba risk assessment for input

The Environmental Protection Agency invites the public to share comments on dicamba draft risk assessments by Oct. 17. EPA released the most recent draft risk assessment on human health and ecological effects Aug. 18.

According to its website, "EPA is reviewing whether OTT dicamba can be used in a manner that does not pose unreasonable risks to non-target crops and other plants, or to listed species and their designated critical habitats."

In assessing the ecological risk, "potential adverse effects" to non-target terrestrial plants were identified. The human health risk assessment "identifies occupational handler inhalation risks of concern for mixing/loading of dry flowable formulations," but did not identify any dietary, residential, aggregate or post-application concerns to human health.

The Kansas Soybean Association encourages members to direct comments on dicamba or questions on the draft risk assessment to association staff. Responses can be sent to Dennis Hupe, director of field services, at hupe@kansassoybeans.org.

The proposed interim decision is expected to be completed in 2023.

board members KSA earn media features

One of the responsibilities upon joining the Kansas Soybean Association board of directors is accepting the occasional media request. Several board members have shared their stories and experiences with media in recent months.

Brett Neibling, second vice president from Highland, was joined on his farm by a journalist from InvestigateTV, a Gray company, to discuss the Market Facilitation Program from 2019 and its significance nearly three years later. That segment is expected to be released in October.

James Moreland, 2022 Corteva Young Leader from South Haven, spoke with Slade Wiley on WIBW 580's morning Ag Issues radio segment September 8. He covered his involvement in the Young Leader program, crop conditions across the state and the international soybean market.

Kendall Heiniger, 2021 Corteva Young Leader from Fairview, represents Kansas as a farmer ambassador for U.S. Farmers & Ranchers in Action with her husband, Austin. The Heinigers received a feature in USFRA's July 27 newsletter where they shared how technology plays a role in their operation, Heinco Inc. That feature is available at https://usfarmersandranchers.org/ stories/our-farmers/tech-on-the-farm-is-business-as-usual/.

Help Kansas Corn; tell the EPA you need atrazine

The National Corn Growers Association and Kansas Corn invite farmers to submit public comment to the Environmental Protection Agency on proposed revisions to the atrazine herbicide registration. In June, EPA announced it would evaluate its 2020 decision to set the level of concern threshold, which is a number used to determine potential risk of a chemical to non-target organisms, at 15 parts per billion. The 15 ppb LOC, according to Kansas Corn, is backed by credible science and acceptable to the grower community. A reconsideration

would set the LOC at 3.4 ppb.

The significantly low proposed level of concern threshold is alarming and reduces the herbicide's efficacy. Kansas Corn says the proposal would negatively affect 89 percent of Kansas corn and sorghum acres. Scanning the QR code opens a pre-written comment through NCGA that explains the value of atrazine as a tool on farming operations. Consider submitting your commentary in order to preserve your ability to apply effective amounts of atrazine. The comment period closes Friday, Oct. 7.





INVESTING IN NEW MARKETS FOR U.S. SOY

From promoting the profitability of using high-quality soybean meal in India to training animal producers on nutrition in Colombia, the soy checkoff is working behind the scenes to develop more market opportunities for U.S. soy. We're looking inside the bean, beyond the bushel and around the world to keep preference for U.S. soy strong. And it's helping make a valuable impact for soybean farmers like you.

See more ways the soy checkoff is maximizing profit opportunities for soybean farmers at unitedsoybean.org



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International efforts share value of soy worldwide

A key facet of the Kansas Soybean Commission's goal to improve farmer profitability is building international markets to boost soybean exports. The U.S. Soybean Export Council is crucial in building international partnerships and finding market opportunities.

Lance Rezac, a commissioner from Onaga who represents Kansas on the USSEC board, headed to Lima, Peru, Sept. 7-8 for the Americas Agricultural Cooperators Conference. Rezac reports there were 82 organizations, including from other U.S. grain commodities, representing 12 countries.

USSEC shared that soybean, corn, wheat, and rice farmers convened to strengthen relations with customers, importers, and other stakeholders in the food, feed, and livestock industries from the Americas.

Food security and nutrition goals were points of discussion at the conference.

Rezac spoke on a producer panel to share a soybean crop update, something he was also able to do at Soy Connext in San Diego, California, in August.

Soy Connext, formerly the Global Trade Exchange, brought together 615 soybean buyers and sellers from 60 countries to discuss the value of U.S. Soy. U.S. Soy touts an advantage in the world marketplace because of its quality and sustainability.

Commissioner Gary Robbins enjoyed international trade discussions a little closer to home. A team from Turkey visited Robbins on his farm Aug. 18 to look at the crops and talk about sustainability. Participants on the USSEC tour reported the visit was valuable and they took note of the U.S. soybean quality.

For more on USSEC and its work internationally, visit <u>www.us-sec.org.</u>

In other KSC news, the commission election process opened across the state. Districts four, five and six — making up the central third column of the state — are up for election in the 2023 cycle. Interested individuals in these districts have until Nov. 30, 2022 to meet the filing deadline. Candidates must gather 20 signatures from peers with no more than five signatures from any one county to qualify. Signatures may be submitted online, on paper or both.

Full details are available at www.kansassoybeans.org/forms.

To round out the year in December, Commissioners will convene to hear checkoff funding proposals and select investments for the 2024 fiscal year.







Top: Lance Rezac (second from left, speaking) spoke on a producer panel covering crop conditions at Soy Connext in San Diego. Bottom left: Gary Robbins (in hat) hosted a trade team from Turkey on his farm in August. Bottom right: A map shows the Commission districts up for election.

Have lunch on us!

Kansas Soybean CEO & Administrator Kaleb Little invites you to stop by one of four grain elevators during harvest for a meal and information about how the soybean checkoff is working on your behalf. A bag lunch and checkoff materials will be shared.

Tentative dates and locations for the Kansas Soybean Road-show are:

Oct. 21 Parsons | Oct. 26 Emporia
Oct. 28 Hiawatha | Nov. 3 Wichita

Watch the Kansas Soybean Facebook and Twitter pages and website for updated information on times and locations for the roadshow.

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The voice and advocate for soybean-farmer-members

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Calendar of Industry Events

Oct. 1-6	AGP's Mexico + Midwest Tour
Oct. 3-4	Kansas Energy Conference; Manhattan
Oct. 18-20	Kansas Association of Counties Annual Conference; Overland Park
Oct. 21	Kansas Soybean Roadshow; Parsons
Oct. 26	Kansas Soybean Roadshow; Emporia
Oct. 28	Kansas Soybean Roadshow; Hiawatha
Nov. 3	Kansas Soybean Roadshow; Wichita
Nov. 8	General Election Day
Nov. 8-10	Grass and Grain Farm and Ranch Show; Manhattan
Nov. 9-11	USMEF Strategic Planning; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Nov. 14-16	Clean Fuels Alliance America member meeting; Washington, D.C.
Nov. 15-18	Agri-Business Expo; Wichita
Nov. 16-17	Kansas Water Office Water Conference; Manhattan
Nov. 18	Kansas Soybean Association board meeting; Topeka
Nov. 20-22	Kansas Association of Conservation Districts Convention; Wichita
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	Kansas Livestock Association Convention; Wichita
Dec. 1-3	Wichita Farm and Ranch Show; Mulvane
Dec. 4-8	United Soybean Board meeting; St. Charles, Missouri
Dec. 11-13	Soy Transportation Coalition board meeting; Savannah, Georgia
Dec. 11-14	Big Apple Bioheat Tour; New York, New York
Dec. 12-14	U.S.A Poultry and Egg Export Council meeting; Washington, D.C.
Dec. 15-17	Kansas Soybean Commission meeting; Topeka
Jan. 10-12	Topeka Farm Show; Topeka
Jan. 11	Kansas Soybean Expo (Save the Date); Topeka

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