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| Project Number:  | 2020-172-0162 |
| Project Title:  | Partial support for key NCSRP research projects aligned with USB strategies |
| Organization:  | North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP) |
| Principal Investigator Name: | Ed Anderson |
| **National Soybean Checkoff Research Database** [**https://www.soybeanresearchdata.com/**](https://www.soybeanresearchdata.com/) **(public website funded by USB). Please include a non-technical summary along with your project status. The non-technical summary will be published to the website. If a non-technical summary is not provided, the contents of this entire report will be published.** |
| Project Status - What key activities were undertaken and what were the key accomplishments during the life of this project? Please use this field to clearly and concisely report on project progress. The information included should reflect quantifiable results (expand upon the KPIs) that can be used to evaluate and measure project success. Technical reports, no longer than 4 pages, may be included in this section.  |
| * The research project co-funding partnership with USB and NCSRP in FY20 went exactly as agreed upon and extremely well. NCSRP was the primary contract supporter and USB gave support and staff were great to work with and the partnership flourished.
* The NCSRP monitored, through communications and the National Soybean Checkoff Research Database and the Soybean Research and Information Network website, project execution for the 11 co-funded contract research agreements with 8 primary contractor universities that began on Oct 1, 2019 and will end on Sept 30, 2020.
* The programs and projects have PIs and co-PIs from 12 of the 13 NCSRP member states and 3 co-PIs from non-NCSRP member states and all PIs continue to provide on-time updates, demonstrate good progress, and develop and deliver farmer-friendly communications on their projects.
* Information for all 11 programs and projects exists in the National Soybean Checkoff Research Database, which is also mined for farmer-focused information on the Soybean Research and Information Network website.
* Semi-annual (Mar 31, 2020) reports were received for all projects and second semi-annual reports are being submitted at this time. These are not final reports, as Covid-19 caused university closings and project delays. Therefore, all projects have been requested and approved for no-cost extensions for 6 to 9 months. Some budget revision requests have also been made. We look to USB for flexibility and support for completing these projects. Final reports will be entered into the database and accessible by all when projects ultimately are completed.
* Program and project highlights, milestones and major accomplishments will be published to the Soybean Research & Information Network website, and communicated via other websites, peer-reviewed articles, field days, symposia and other forums and outlets.
* The USB funded an FY21 request for co-funded projects at a level of $178,500. All of these funds will be directed at one project that addresses breeding for yield gain and quality improvements.
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| Did this project meet the intended Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)? List each KPI and describe progress made (or not made) toward addressing it, including metrics where appropriate.  |
| Yes, this project met and exceeded expectations and KPIs to support high priority and broadly beneficial soybean production-focused research that will benefit many soybean farmers and the industry in the short- and long-term.Each of the eleven proposals had clearly defined and well-described objectives and deliverables. These projects and programs had technical, communication and economic impact goals and milestones described. The National Soybean Checkoff Research Database allows all participants, leaders and stakeholders to monitor, track and evaluate each program’s progress and success. The broad, diverse and user-appropriate sharing of results and information is paramount and constantly promoted and promulgated for broad awareness and benefit. As above, Board members are asked to consult each proposal or contact Ed Anderson at NCSRP for questions regarding individual project or program monitoring, metrics and progress. |
| Expected Outputs/Deliverables - List each deliverable identified in the project, indicate whether or not it was supplied and if not supplied, please provide an explanation as to why. |
| Some of the projects and programs deliver new knowledge, new information, new traits, new technologies or new tools for other scientists to build upon in developing advances and solutions for soybean farmers and the soybean industry. Examples of these projects include aspects of the soybean genetic gain project, the influence of climate on soybean trends project, the discovering and understanding gene function project and the non-transgenic generation of herbicide resistance in soybean project. Other projects and programs will deliver short- and long- term benefit to soybean farmers and the soybean industry via improved understanding and management of diseases, insects, weeds and improved cropping systems derived from on-farm research and demonstrations. Examples of these projects include aspects of the breeding for genetic gain and quality (protein markers) project, the two complementary but non-overlapping SCN projects, the soybean entomology and the soybean gall midge projects, the developing next generation decision tools project, the on-farm partnership project, the soybean oil, protein and yield project and parts of the CRISPR for non-transgenic herbicide resistance project. The long-term potential impacts on the soybean industry and on soybean farmers will be to drive efficiencies and reduce inputs for increased profitability, the production of the highest quality, abundant and most reliable soybean supply in the world, and the promotion of soybeans and the soybean brand for existing and new markets and uses. |
| Describe any unforeseen events or circumstances that may have affected project timeline, costs, or deliverables (if applicable.) |
| Covid-19 caused university closings and project delays. No-cost extensions and some objective and budget revisions were submitted and approved. Semi-annual reports were submitted and final reports extended. Important results and highlights for farmer benefit are being shared with the Soybean Research and Information Network website and other outlets. |
| What, if any, follow-up steps are required to capture benefits for all US soybean farmers?Describe in a few sentences how the results of this project will be or should be used. |
| Broad communication via many platforms and partners. |
| **List any relevant performance metrics not captured in KPI’s.** |
| This successful partnership between USB and NCSRP set a very nice precedence. |
| **Non-technical summary:** |
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