



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 8, 2010

Teams Register for ISA's Soybean Yield Challenge

BLOOMINGTON, IL – Plans for the 2010 Yield Challenge are commencing full speed ahead as teams continue to register throughout the state. Funded by the soybean checkoff, the Yield Challenge was created to make Illinois soybean growers the global leader in soybean yields by developing new and innovative farming practices. The information acquired from the Challenge, which was developed by the [Illinois Soybean Association \(ISA\)](#), promises to be valuable to Illinois growers and researchers alike.

"The 2010 Yield Challenge is a statewide effort to unify farmer research," said Jim Nelson, ISA Yield Challenge coordinator. "It's an opportunity to influence the impact of our state's soybean growers and enhance soybean yield for many years to come."

The More Involved, the Better the Research

During March, members of the Yield Challenge planning committee hosted training sessions in Normal, Mt. Vernon and Malta, IL to educate teams about this exciting new program.

"The turnout was great," Nelson said. "We had many people and teams sign up as a result of the training. Plus, we enjoyed taking the Yield Challenge on the road and meeting area farmers. The response has been good... the more plots we have, the better and more accurate the results. If you've put off registering and want to be involved, now is the time to register!"

Sponsors throughout the State

Many companies, schools and FFA chapters have already registered or intend to register, with some – like BASF, GROWMARK, Monsanto, Pioneer and Syngenta – sponsoring multiple teams throughout the state. Other team sponsors include: Bayer, Blackhawk College, Bo-Jac Seed, Brandt Consolidated Inc., Brimfield Ag Service, Dwight FFA, Elburn Coop, Illinois Central College, Illinois State University, Illini West High School (Carthage FFA), Joliet Junior College, Kaneland FFA, Kitchen Seed Company, Lakeland College, Lincoln Land College, Marshall FFA, Midwest Agri-Service, MWS Seeds, Scates Farm, Southern Illinois University, Spoon River College, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Western Illinois University and Winfield Solutions.

Individual growers and teams can register before April 15 by going to www.soyyieldchallenge.com, contacting Jim Nelson at (309) 825-7542 or seedsolutions@comcast.net, or calling the ISA office at (309) 663-7692.

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For more information, please contact:
Amy Roady, ISA Communications Manager, at (888) 826-4011 or roadya@ilsoy.org.



11 Olt Ave., Pekin, IL 61554 | 309.346.0512
btomlinson@mcdmarketing.com | www.mcdanielsmarketing.com

