2027 SOYBEAN SUMMIT
ALL IN • ALL SOY

ILLINOIS SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION
FUNDED BY THE ILLINOIS SOYBEAN CHECKOFF

DAY 1: TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2027

7:00 AM	**Registration Open** • A complimentary hot breakfast will be served from 7:00 – 8:00 AM
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	**Welcome Session** • Kevin "KJ" Johnson, Director of Government Relations & Strategy • Todd Main, Director of Market Development • Abigail Peterson, Director of Agronomy
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	***High Impact Meteorology*** • Eric Snodgrass, Senior Science Fellow & Atmospheric Scientist, Nutrien Ag Solutions
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	***What Global Buyers Want from U.S. Soy, and What it Means for Illinois Farmers*** • Michelle French, Senior Director Global Sustainability Programs, ADM
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	**Networking Break**
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	***Profitability and Patience: What Hybridizing On-Farm and On-Campus Research Trials Tell Us About Fertilization, Liming, and Carbon Credits*** • Andrew Margenot, Professor of Soil Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	***Navigating a Changing Marketplace: The Strategic Role of the Illinois Livestock Development Group*** • Annie Hadden, Director of Livestock Development, Illinois Livestock Development Group
12:00 PM	**Lunch**
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	***Geopolitics on the Farm: How Global Conflict & Trade Wars are Reshaping Agriculture*** • Jim Wiesemeyer, Washington Policy Analyst for Ag Bull Media and Author of Wiesemeyer's Perspectives Podcast
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	***Panel Discussion: The Future of Farm Inputs: What's Real, What's Next and What Pays?*** • Todd Gleason, Ag Information Producer, WILL/Illinois Public Media • Kevin "KJ" Johnson, Director of Government Relations & Strategy, Illinois Soybean Association • Westin Rink, Director of National Accounts, SUL4R-PLUS • Jenny Webb, President, Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM ***United Soybean Board (USB) Update***
- Courtney Knupp, Chief Executive Officer, United Soybean Board

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM **Networking Break**

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM ***Illinois Legislative Update***
- Kevin "KJ" Johnson, Director of Government Relations & Strategy

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM ***Panel Discussion: Launching Illinois' Soybean Yield Contest***
- Jim Isermann, Farm Manager, Illinois Soybean Association
- Abigail Peterson, Director of Agronomy, Illinois Soybean Association
- 2026 Yield Contest Pilot Farmer Participant

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Illinois Soybean Growers Reception, Dinner & Auction**
This event is held exclusively for Illinois Soybean Grower Members

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2027

7:00 AM **Registration Opens**
- A complimentary hot breakfast will be served from 7:00 – 8:00 AM

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM ***Panel Discussion: Soy Innovation in Action***
- Paul Burke, Partner, Commodity and Cooperator Services, Inc.
- Lindsey Hermes, Chief Executive Officer, BioSpan Technologies
- Brady Holst, Vice Chairman, Illinois Soybean Association
- Barry McGraw, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Airable Labs

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM ***Session Title: To Be Announced***
- Speaker to be announced

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM **Networking Break**

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM ***How World Events Impact Domestic Fertilizer Markets***
- Josh Linville, Vice President of Fertilizer, StoneX

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM ***From Gut Feel to Revenue Management: How Grain Marketing Has Evolved***
- Mike Rusch, Sales Director, Total Farm Marketing

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM ***Understanding the Market with ProExporter***
- Marty Ruikka, President, The ProExporter Network

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM ***Right Variety. Right Management. Revealing the Path to Soybean Success***
- AJ Woodyard, Commercial Product Insight Lead, Beck's Hybrids

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM **Lunch & Awards Ceremony**

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ***Panel Discussion: From Farm to Food: Navigating MAHA, Consumer Trust, and the Future of Seed Oils***
- Kevin "KJ" Johnson, Director of Government Relations & Strategy, Illinois Soybean Association
- Ryan Locke, Vice President of Engagement, National Oilseed Processors Association