



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board Invests \$15,000 to Cultivate Industry's Next Generation of Leaders



Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board and Arkansas Corn & Sorghum Board are sponsoring Arkansas FFA and 4-H students with a \$15,000 investment to attend Commodity Classic in Orlando, Florida. **Pictured (L-R):** Jonah Savell, Arkansas FFA State Eastern District Vice President; Haden Richardson, Arkansas FFA State Reporter; Noah Young, Arkansas FFA State Secretary; Tommy Young, Arkansas Corn & Grain Sorghum Board member; Josie Wilkins Arkansas FFA State President; Rainlyn Trawick, Arkansas FFA State Northwest District Vice President; Lea Ellison Phelps, Arkansas FFA State Southern District Vice President.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 27, 2025 – The <u>Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board</u> (ASPB), in partnership with the <u>Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Board</u>, is investing in the future of agriculture by sponsoring the Arkansas FFA and 4-H state officers' attendance at the 2025 Commodity Classic. This \$15,000 investment underscores ASPB's commitment to supporting agriculture-driven Arkansas students. Through this sponsorship, ASPB is providing industry exposure to Arkansas college-level delegates while fostering the recruitment and retention of future agricultural leaders.

"The Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board is always seeking new ways to promote our commodity" said Brad Doyle, a soybean producer from Poinsett County and chairman of the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board. "The Commodity Classic provides an excellent opportunity for students to learn while proudly representing Arkansas on a national stage."

Attending Commodity Classic on behalf of the Arkansas State FFA Association: Arkansas 2024-2025 State Officer Team

- Josie Wilkins, President | Lamar
- Noah Young, Secretary | Jackson County

- Haden Richardson, Reporter | Mayflower
- Lea Ellison Phelps, Southern District Vice President | Sheridan
- Jonah Savell, Eastern District Vice President | Salem
- Rainlyn Trawick, Northwest District Vice President | Quitman

Attending on behalf of Arkansas State 4-H: Arkansas 2024-2025 4-H State Officer Team

- Connor Henry, President | Arkansas County 4-H
- Daley Rogers, First Vice President | Grant County 4-H
- Sylvana Bugess, Secretary | Jefferson County 4-H
- Channing Ashworth, Reporter | Washington County 4-H
- Caitlin Cooper, Delta District Vice President | White County 4-H
- Christian Trombley, Ouachita District Vice President | Howard County 4-H
- Sulli Schaffer, Ozark District Vice President | Benton County 4-H

Held in March, the NCGA Commodity Classic is America's largest farmer-led, farmer-focused agricultural and educational event. Arkansas FFA and 4-H officers will gain practical, agriculture-based education from top industry leaders while exploring the latest technology.

"These students are future ag leaders and supporting them is an investment in the industry's future," said Tommy Young, a producer from Jackson County and member of the Arkansas Corn and Grain Sorghum Board. "The Commodity Classic provides a unique opportunity for them to experience grassroots advocacy and innovation firsthand."

ASPB was established to improve the sustainability and profitability of the soybean industry in Arkansas. As the state's largest row crop, soybeans contribute an annual economic impact of \$2 billion, ranking Arkansas among the top 10 soybean-producing states. Learn more about the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board by visiting TheMiracleBean.com.

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About the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board

The Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board is led by nine volunteer farmer-leaders appointed by the Governor. Soybeans are Arkansas's top row crop with approximately 3 million acres planted each year, generating an annual economic impact of \$2 billion. Arkansas is consistently ranked among the top ten soybean producing states nationally, exporting 50% of its crop. ASPB invests more than \$2.2 million in research each year as part of its commitment to the continued sustainability of the Arkansas soybean industry. Learn more by visiting TheMiracleBean.com.