

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arkansas Students Curious About Science Can Win Cash



Prizes

Soybean Science Challenge rewards Arkansas students for creative, agriculture-focused research.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., October 15, 2025 – Arkansas students in grades six through 12 can now register for the [2026 Soybean Science Challenge](#), a statewide education program that pairs science learning with hands-on research.

Sponsored by the [Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board](#) and managed by the [University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service](#), the Soybean Science Challenge rewards student innovation with cash prizes for top projects.

Since 2014, the Soybean Science Challenge has reached thousands of students and educators through online learning, in-service training, virtual field trips, classroom labs, mentoring and awards for independent research. The program highlights the impact of soybeans on the Arkansas economy and global food and fuel supply.

“This competition shows students that agriculture is full of opportunities,” said [Julie Robinson](#), administrator of the Soybean Science Challenge. “They discover that agriculture is not just farming, but science, research and innovation.”

Eleven students were recognized as [2025 Soybean Scholars](#) for projects that explored plant science, environmental systems, energy, transportation and crop sustainability.

Students complete six online modules, then enter a soybean-focused science project at a regional fair, the Arkansas State Science and Engineering Fair or the [Arkansas FFA Agriscience Fair](#). Projects are judged for innovation and relevance, with awards given at both junior and senior levels.

Award categories and cash prizes include:

- Regional Senior Level: \$300 cash award
- State Senior Level: \$1,000 for first place; \$500 for second place; \$250 for honorable mention



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- Regional Junior Level: \$200 cash award
- Teacher Mentor Awards: \$200 to \$300 for state winners; \$100 to \$200 for regional winners

Projects may focus on areas such as animal science, engineering, energy, plant science and environmental science.

“Young people bring fresh ideas and energy to our industry,” said [Brad Doyle](#), Poinsett County soybean producer and ASPB Chair. “Their curiosity and creativity help us build a stronger future for Arkansas agriculture.”

The Soybean Science Challenge gives students an engaging way to expand their education by learning from Arkansas scientists, applying the scientific process to real-world challenges and competing for meaningful recognition.

Learn more at www.TheMiracleBean.com and UAEX.UADA.edu.

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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 www.themiraclebean.com.