

Dry Bean checkoff

Purpose: To provide funding for dry bean research

Impact/Need:

- Research
 - Dry beans are a crop that has few granting opportunities, so funding for applied research that addresses current and future Wyoming production issues must be generated from other sources.
 - A bean checkoff is a way for the industry to self-support and direct research to current needs rather than topics dictated by federal granting opportunities.
 - Research needs to maintain Wyoming's seed and commercial dry bean production opportunity
 - Dry bean variety development, selection, and testing for Wyoming environments
 - Dry bean agronomic research, irrigation and harvesting techniques, pesticides
- Wyoming Production and Value
 - Dry beans are an important production opportunity for Wyoming producers, both as a commercial crop and a seed crop in terms of acres and income¹.
 - 42,000 harvested acres in 2012 for all dry beans
 - 36,400 harvested acres in 2012 for pinto beans
 - Big Horn county 12,100 acres, Park County 10,100 acres, Fremont County 3,500 acres, Other Counties 16,300 acres
 - Cash receipts for dry beans totaled \$35.9 million in 2012.
 - Value of production for dry beans was \$37,460 million in 2012, ranking fourth behind hay, corn and sugar beets and ahead of wheat, barley, and oats.
 - Dry bean value of production was 85% of the value of production for sheep and lambs.
 - Certified Seed – Value added income
 - There were 8,108 acres of certified seed produced in Wyoming in 2012². Wyoming seed is considered a premium product in Minnesota, Michigan, North Dakota, and Canada, as our environment supports the production of seed free of seed borne diseases. Most of the seed produced in the state is destined for those markets.
 - 2013 seed grower average income was \$42 per cwt.³ compared to the 2012 average market price for beans of \$37.20.
 - 2013 seed price paid to Wyoming companies was \$91 per cwt.³, adding \$49 per cwt. in value.

¹ Wyoming 2013 Agricultural Statistics

² Wyoming Seed Certification Service

³ Mike Moore communication with a Wyoming bean seed contractor

Support:

- The Wyoming Crop Improvement Association (WCIA) voted to pursue a dry bean checkoff at their 2014 Annual Meeting.
- Other dry bean producing states in the region generate research dollars via checkoff programs. Specifically, those states are Colorado, Nebraska, and Idaho.

Key Checkoff details

- The proposed legislation creates a bean commission, consisting of four growers and two dry bean handlers, which reflects the proportion of the checkoff assessment rates, and giving control over the use of funds to those who are generating them.
- The Crop Research Foundation of Wyoming could be a vehicle for management of these funds.
- Recommend funds be collected by the state, and distributed to the governing body based on an MOU.
- Checkoff amount
 - Colorado is considering a \$0.12 per cwt. checkoff, with the producer paying \$0.08 and the receiver paying \$0.04. This assessment in Wyoming would have generated \$89,662 based on an average of the last ten year's production figures.
 - Suggest a Wyoming checkoff amount of \$0.15 (producer paying \$0.10 and receiver paying \$0.05), which would have generated \$112,077 based on an average of the last ten year's production figures.
- Refunds
 - The bill provides a mechanism whereby growers can request and receive a prompt refund of the assessment. Handlers may also request a refund, but only on a settlement for which a grower has received a refund.

¹ Wyoming 2013 Agricultural Statistics

² Wyoming Seed Certification Service

³ Mike Moore communication with a Wyoming bean seed contractor