



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2024 IMPACT AWARD WINNERS.

Since 1964, ISA has looked beyond the rows to help farmers grow more opportunities from every acre. But we've never done it alone. Our third annual Impact Awards commemorate the people who have gone above and beyond in their commitment to Illinois soybean farmers and their leadership in the industry.

These distinguished leaders have been diligent in supporting our mission to invest in promotion, advocacy, research and education to create profit opportunities and drive preference for soy from Illinois.

Together, we are truly Better by Association.



VISIT ILSOY.ORG/60-SEASONS TO LEARN MORE

2024 Impact Award Winners

ISA CHAIRMAN'S AWARD WINNER

Mark Gebhards

Mark Gebhards is the Chief Strategy Officer and Adviser to the President of Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB). He works to ensure the IFB and County Farm Bureaus are positioned in the future to deliver the programs and services members want.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Illinois Soybean Association Chairman's Award recognizes an individual who has gone above and beyond to serve the state's soybean interests. It is the highest award given by Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) and is presented in appreciation of one's dedication, leadership and years of service to the soybean industry.



ISA EXCELLENCE IN MEDIA AWARD WINNER

Rita Frazer



Rita Frazer serves as Audio News Manager for the IFB Marketing and Communications Division. Known for her warm, genuine presence, she leads a committed team of broadcasters who devote their days to telling farmers' stories and serving the Illinois ag community.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Illinois Soybean Association Excellence in Media Award recognizes a member of the media who promotes Illinois soybeans and agriculture through coverage in print, broadcast, social media and beyond.



Jonathan Coppess

Jonathan Coppess is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Gardner Agriculture Policy Program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His work specifically addresses contemporary issues related to risk management and natural resource conservation.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Illinois Soybean Association Champion of the Year Award honors an individual in Illinois who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication in advancing the interests of soybean farmers. This award recognizes efforts in shaping policy, influencing regulations and supporting initiatives that benefit the soybean industry. The recipient is celebrated for their proven track record and unwavering commitment to championing the agricultural community and its crucial issues.



The Moore Family



Ron, Deb and Michael Moore farm 1,600 acres of soybeans and corn on their family farm in Roseville, Illinois. Known for their long-standing commitment to agriculture, Ron and Deb have both served numerous organizations dedicated to building strong commerce and strong communities. The family also welcomes urban consumer tours to their farm, showcasing the realities of modern farming and sustainable practices.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Illinois Soybean Association Farm Family of the Year Award recognizes an Illinois farm family who is actively engaged in ISA's membership program, shows commitment to ISA programming and has demonstrated a significant impact in the soybean industry and their communities.



Dr. Aaron Hager

Dr. Aaron Hager is a Professor of Weed Science in the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He develops innovative weed management approaches with an emphasis on addressing contemporary weed species infesting corn and soybeans in Illinois.



ABOUT THE AWARD

The Illinois Soybean Association Friend of Illinois Soybean Farmers Award recognizes a friend to the organization in any capacity. The award is presented in appreciation of one's efforts in championing the success of Illinois soybean farmers.

Jeremy Wilson



Jeremy Wilson has been an independent Pioneer sales representative for 13 years. He owns and operates Wilson Seed, through which he offers agronomy support and serves as a crop insurance agent. As a small business owner, he takes pride in giving back to the community through various foundations.

ABOUT THE AWARD

ISA created the Soybean Master Adviser award in 2016 as part of its mission to help Illinois soybean farmers be the most knowledgeable and profitable soybean producers in the world. The award acknowledges the significant role Illinois Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) play in improving soybean production by offering insight and advice on practices to improve yield and profitability. Any Illinois CCA whose certification is active, is interested and involved in soybean management, and works with farmers can be nominated for the Soybean Master Adviser award.



Brandon Hall

Brandon Hall has been the Location Operations Manager at West Central FS in Wataga, Illinois for more than 11 years. He earned his Certified Crop Advisor certification in 2018, and has studied soils across the United States and around the world. In recognition of his commitment to soil management, Brandon was named Illinois Farm Bureau CCA of the Year in 2023.



ABOUT THE AWARD

The Dave Rahe Excellence in Soils Consulting award is named in honor of 2019 CCA Soy Envoy, Dave Rahe, who authored blogs for Field Advisor covering topics such as soil compaction, micronutrient management, cover crops, and more. Rahe passed away suddenly in 2020.

Looking to the future. Together.

ISA has never been more committed to supporting farmers and forging industry partnerships that drive profitability into the future. Thank you again to our Impact Award winners, and to everyone hard at work supporting soy from Illinois.

Watch how ISA has made an **impact** for Illinois farmers over the last **60 seasons**.





20 UNDER 40 FARMERS

Cody Book ★ Bryce Brockelsby ★ Dakota Cowger ★ Heather Dollinger ★ Rhett Ellis
Shay Foulk ★ Clint Gorden ★ Jonathan Griffel ★ Drew Groezinger ★ Alex Head ★ Lena Head
Kaylee Heap ★ Mathew Heberling ★ Daniel Herriott ★ John Howell ★ Corey Johnson
Blake Lanphier ★ Wyatt McGrew ★ Jenna Severs ★ Benjamin K. Wurmnest

These young farmers operate in a league of their own. They're raising the bar on the farm and in their communities, committed to growing the future of our state and our industry. And they're just getting started.



↙
View Winners



THANKS FOR MAKING US
BETTER BY ASSOCIATION. ↙

