## ASA Celebrates House Passage Of Trade Promotion Authority

ST. LOUIS, Mo. - The American Soybean Association (ASA), a commodity trade group that represents U.S. soybean farmers, recently expressed appreciation upon learning that the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 3005, which grants the President Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), on a vote of 215 to 214. Earlier, ASA called on all soybean producers to voice their support for passage of TPA, legislation that is critical to ensure the future profitability of U.S. soybean farmers.

ASA First Vice President Dwain Ford, a soybean and corn producer from Kinmundy, Ill., said "Trade Promotion Authority is extremely important to U.S. soybean producers from the standpoint that one out of every two rows of soybeans grown in the U.S. is exported in the form of a whole soybean or a soybean product. Over 95 percent of the world's population lives outside our borders, and U.S. soybean farmer prosperity is tied to growth in incomes and demand worldwide. Simply put, trade liberalization drives economic growth."

Passage of Trade Promotion Authority is essential if U.S. soybean farmers are to remain competitive in the world market. TPA strengthens the ability of the U.S. to negotiate positive trade agreements. It allows the Administration to negotiate trade agreements and then present them to Congress for an up-or-down vote. In the absence of TPA, other countries have refused to negotiate final agreements with the U.S.

Agriculture makes one of the largest contributions to the U.S. trade balance, and soybeans are

## the highest value farm export. Soybeans are grown on 28 percent of the planted area in the U.S. Exports of soybeans, soybean meal, and soybean oil totaled more than \$7 billion last year. Agricultural exports help strengthen the U.S. economy.

## State Game Lands Maps Now Available On Internet

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — State game lands maps are now available online at the Pennsylvania Game Commission Website to accommodate technology-savvy and nonresident hunters according to Rep. Thomas E. Armstrong (R-98).

The maps can be accessed by visiting the Game Commission Website at www.pgc.state.pa.us and clicking on the "State Game Land Maps" icon.

The topographic maps, available in an Adobe Acrobat package to accommodate printing and viewing, depict contoulines, parking areas, trails, food plots and other useful features. They also have a zoom-in feature.

State game lands are listed on

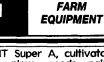
the Website by county. If portions of a game land are situated in more than county, it will be listed with all involved counties. From the table of contents, visitors can select either a low or high-resolution map. The highresolution maps offer better quality, although they take longer to download.

The online maps showcase most of the more then 300 state game lands. As new maps are created or updated, they will be added to the Website.

The Game Commission began buying state game lands in 1920. In 1936, the game lands system topped 500,000 acres. In 1965, the agency's land holdings exceeded one million acres. Today, the system is greater in size than the state of Delaware.



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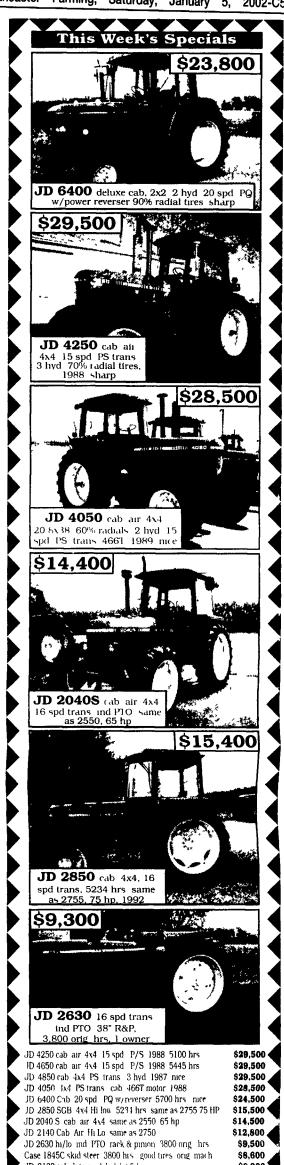
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