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Funding Source: CAFNR On Campus Research Internship

An opportunity for small scale soybean processing

Tim Anderson & Joe Parcell

Missouri is the 6th largest soybean producing state according to the USDA, producing 194.18 million bushels in 2006. US soybean production in 2006 approached nearly 3 billion bushels. As the US soybean production increases, decision makers are seeking to assess new market opportunities for soybean. Bio fuels are an opportunity for soybean. Currently, Missouri lawmakers are considering a 5% biodiesel mandate, and the US government is providing a biodiesel blenders credit. While substantial biodiesel production is under development in the US, one of the primary bottlenecks in the supply chain is access to soy oil for soy diesel production. Therefore, there may be opportunities for smaller scale soybean processing.