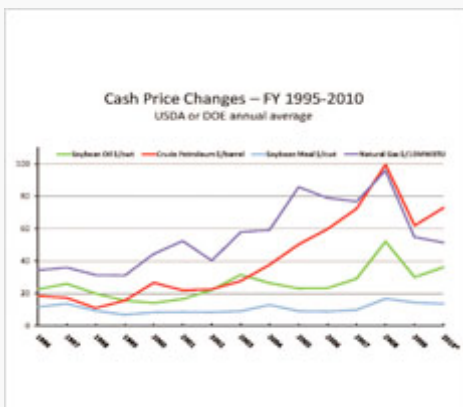




## Innovative New Uses for Soy

### USB-Funded Study of Feedstock Price Trends Optimistic for Soy



A price trend analysis funded by the United Soybean Board (USB) found continued price increases for petroleum and natural gas will lead to heavier use of soy as an industrial feedstock in the future. Economic conditions and performance attributes in many cases favor soy as an industrial product and application substitute in the existing markets that USB has been targeting.

The study, titled "A Survey of Recent Chemical Price Trends," tracks prices for soybean oil, soybean meal, crude petroleum and natural gas between 1996 and 2010. According to the analysis, soy oil prices have tended to follow petroleum prices since 2005. Additionally, between 1996 and 2009, soybean meal prices rose more slowly and with less variability than the other feedstocks. This indicates a potential increase for soybean meal use in the adhesives, fibers and thermoset plastics markets.

USB director Karen Fear, a soybean farmer from Montpelier, Ind., says USB has made a big difference in increasing soy's attractiveness as an industrial feedstock. USB provides funding to researchers and manufacturers to develop new products made from U.S. soy. This research and the resulting products have demonstrated soy's benefits in many product categories.

"There have been some significant strides made in soy industrial product research that now has soy competing on a functional parity or better with its petroleum –based competition," says Fear, one of 11 U.S. soybean farmers who help direct USB's New Uses program. "Soy's environmental benefits – lower volatile organic compounds, less toxicity, and renewability – are what give soy-based products an edge over petrochemical products. If soy can compete economically, as this study shows it can, soy is an even better option for manufacturing."

USB funds research in the areas of adhesives, coatings, fibers, inks, lubricants, plastics, solvents and other markets, and the study analyzes soy's price trends and potential in more detail for each category.

To read the entire study [click here](#). To learn more about USB's efforts to increase demand for U.S. soy as an industrial feedstock, visit [www.soynewuses.org](http://www.soynewuses.org).