

Transportation

Transportation issues of soybeans

Learn about the way flooding affects soybean transportation from Ohio to China in this NPR story link below. Late fall and winter are the peak times for American farmers to get their soybeans to overseas customers before Southern Hemisphere soybeans reach the market in the spring. [npr.org/2015/12/31/461627703/record-water-levels-shut-down-miles-of-mississippi-river](https://www.npr.org/2015/12/31/461627703/record-water-levels-shut-down-miles-of-mississippi-river)

After reading, answer the following questions:

1. Briefly explain the travel process for soybeans going from the US to Asian markets.

It will involve transportation by truck to one of our major rivers, predominantly the Mississippi, than a 900- to 1000-mile journey via barge. All barges will be connected together with a tow boat pushing from the back. The barges and their load will travel to an export terminal in Southern Louisiana near New Orleans where the soybeans will be loaded onto an ocean vessel.

2. What countries are our biggest soybean export competitors?

Argentina and Brazil