#### Laura Foell





#### United Soybean Board United States

Laura Foell serves on the United Soybean Board and is a member of the Iowa Soybean Association.

USB administers checkoff activities focused on soybean research and market development.

Foell and her husband have been recognized by the lowa Governor's office, Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and Department of Natural Resources as local leaders in environmental stewardship for utilizing best management practices at their corn and soybean farm in lowa, USA.





#### Conservation & Soy Production A Sustainable Solution

Laura Foell
United Soybean Board
and U.S. Soybean Farmer



Laura Foell, United Soybean Board and U.S. Soybean Farmer

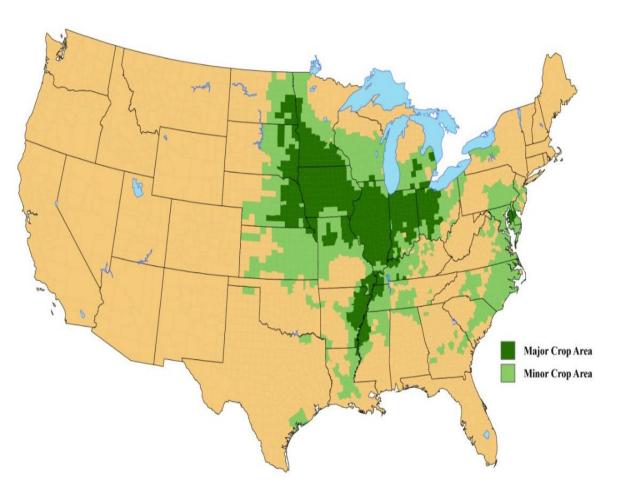




- ➤In 1880 my husband's great grandfather started our farm
- **≻**Today it is 365 ha − a mid-sized U.S. crop farm
- **➤** We always use conservation farming practices

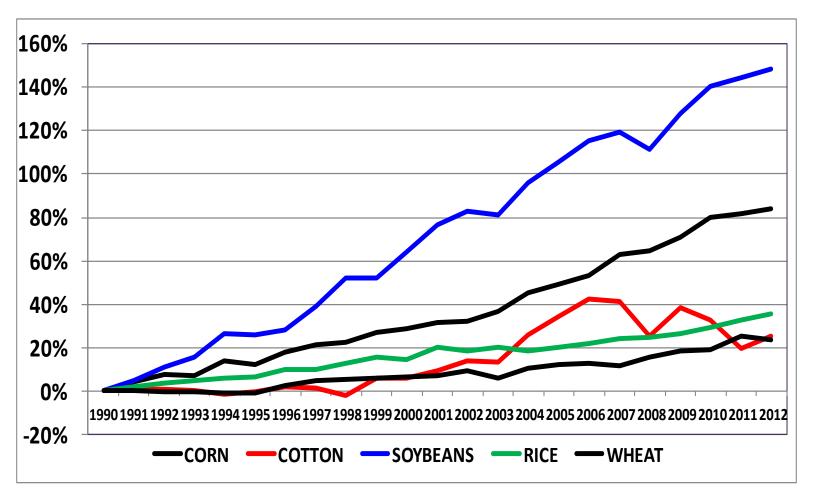
#### **U.S. SOYBEAN PRODUCTION**

**United States: Soybeans** 



- Soybeans grown mainly in 29 states
- Approximately 55% of U.S.
   soy production is exported

## SOY DEMAND INCREASED FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY



Soybean demand up 148%

## WHY DO U.S. FARMERS CHOOSE SUSTAINABLE FARMING?



- Sustainable farming is a way of life We care about the future
- Family owned businesses
  - 84% of farmland is family owned
- Crop rotation improves diversity and reduces inputs
  - Soy is 23% of U.S. cropland
- Meeting customer demands
- Improved profitability!

### NO TILL SOY PRODUCTION ON OUR FARM More Profitable And More Sustainable

- No-tillage planting
- -Fuel savings on our farm
  - approximately 9000 litres a season
  - Herbicide savings
  - Smaller tractors
  - Narrow row planting
    - increased soy productivity
  - Labor savings



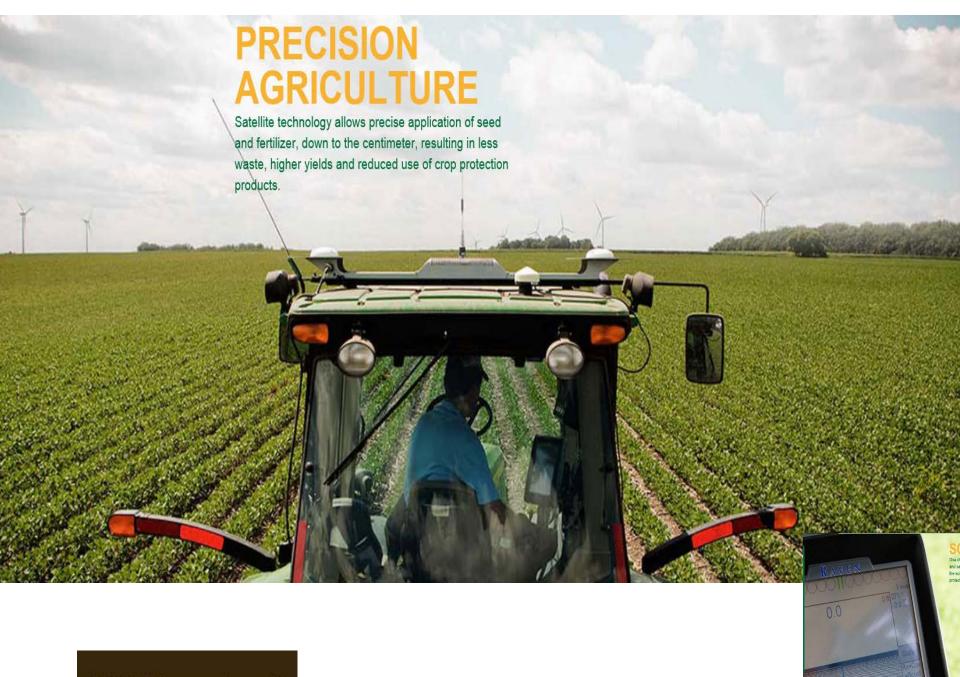


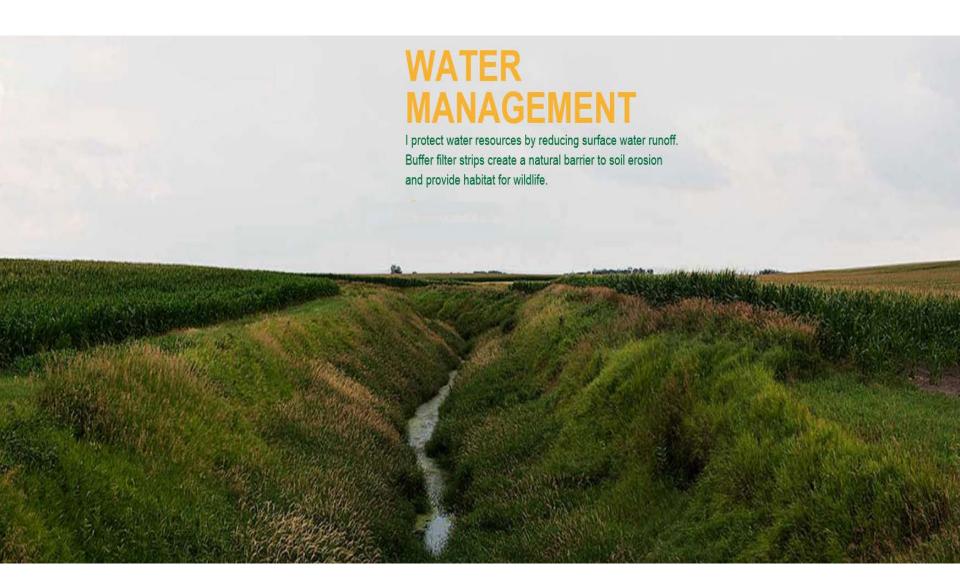


### 65% OF U.S. FARMERS PRACTICE CONSERVATION TILLAGE

#### **Conservation at a National Scale**

- 66% decrease in soil erosion
- 70% reduction in herbicide/pesticide run-off
- 326 million pound reduction in CO2 emissions
- 80% reduction phosphorus seepage into surface waters
- Annual soil moisture evaporation loss reduction of 18 centimeters, serves to make soybean fields more drought tolerant
- Greater than 50% reductions in fuel use





## **BIODIVERSITY** U.S. laws limit crop production on wetlands, peatlands and grasslands. Additional laws protect endangered animals and plants along with their habitat.

## U.S. SOYBEAN SUSTAINABILITY ASSURANCE PROTOCOL (SSAP)



A Sustainability System That Delivers



- Based on U.S. national system of conservation laws
- Includes Best Production Practices by 275,000+ U.S. soybean producers
- Aggregate approach
- Quantifiable results
- Third party audit
- Certification
- Benchmark with RTRS





## U.S. SOY SUSTAINABILITY PROTOCOL

### Four Directives with Control Measures & Regulations



• Wetland, grassland, forest, biodiversity

Production Practices

Conservation tillage, crop rotation, precision farming

Public and Labor Health and Welfare

• EPA, EEO, OSHA

Continuous Improvement

CRP, Conservation programs, training and info sharing



## U.S. SOY SUSTAINABILITY PROTOCOL



### Measurement, Audit, Certification

- Annual measurement system of environmental impacts
  - Life Cycle Analysis
  - Field To Market reports
- Audits includes producer self-audit and independent third party audit by USDA-FSA of 8-11% of producers participating in Farm Program
- Certification done on mass balance system by Soy Export Sustainability (SES)

#### Certification



U.S. Soy sustainability certification



# The U.S. Soy Sustainability Assurance Protocol .....A Sustainability System That Delivers











