

# U.S. Soy is Sustainable

Produced by U.S. soybean farmers who care for the environment and the community



At the heart of U.S. Soy's sustainability are U.S. soybean farmers. They are motivated to care for the land so that it continues to provide for their families and allows them to contribute to their communities.



Multi-generational farming strengthens the connection to the land



Sustainability effects are seen first hand



Family roots on the farm extend into the community

Learn more about how U.S. soybean farmers are addressing social and environmental sustainability on their farms and in their communities to offer a sustainable product for you and your customers.

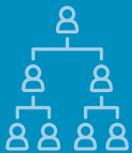


# Sustainability Matters to U.S. Soybean Farmers

Sustainability is always on the minds of U.S. soybean farmers. It affects their land, their livelihood and their legacy, allowing them to provide for their families and continue contributing to their communities.

It's why they're dedicated to creating meaningful environmental, economic and social outcomes through their approach to farming, following laws and best practices, adopting technology and committing to the continuous learning and improvement mindset. For farmers sustainability means protecting their land and their crop for years to come.

## Sustainability is a Family Matter



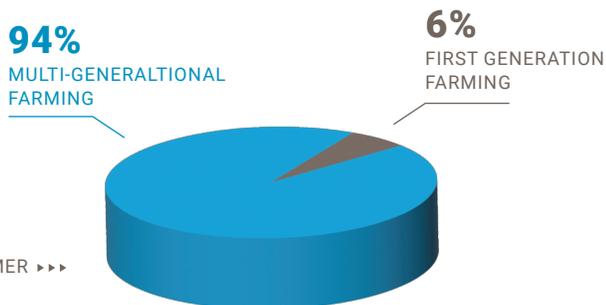
9 out of 10 U.S. soybean producers consider themselves to be "multi-generational farmers."\*



In the U.S., soybean production is influenced by family because family farming operations are the norm. And it's common for one family to care for the same pieces of farmland generation after generation, sometimes with multiple generations working side-by-side. This bond strengthens the farmer's connection to the land and elevates the importance of protecting it year after year to keep the family business strong and successful.

"The know-how passed from generation to generation as well as increased knowledge of the current generation – provides a superior product."

– JOHN PRINGLE, KANSAS FARMER



FIRST GENERATION VS  
MULTI-GENERATIONAL FARMER >>>

## Conservation is a Way of Life



In more than 90% of soybean farms, at least one family member physically lives on the land the family farms.\*



When U.S. soybean farmers live on the land that they work, the importance of sustainability becomes more prominent because it directly impacts their lifestyle. Plus, they can visually assess the productivity and safety of natural resources on a daily basis, enhancing care of that land and sustaining it for future farmers and consumers.

"I believe living on our own farm enhances our awareness of our environment and how it affects the people around us and throughout the world."

– JOHN WEBSTER, MINNESOTA FARMER

## Family Roots Run Deep



83% of U.S. soybean farmers volunteer in their communities and 86% financially contribute to a charitable organization.\*



With many multi-generational farmers, their family roots on the farm also extend into their community. Their involvement includes employing farm workers, volunteerism and charitable donations. A meaningful portion of U.S. soybean farmers also volunteer or work in government to help further support their community.

"With roots on our land since 1876, I am deeply connected to my community and the role my business plays in building a thriving community both locally and globally."

– TIM WESTRUM, MINNESOTA FARMER



## U.S. Soybean Farmers are Taking Action

Since 1980, the U.S. Soy industry has made significant sustainability improvements. And U.S. soybean farmers are dedicated to reaching further sustainability goals set by U.S. Soy.

They're using soil conservation practices, like no-till, conservation tillage and cover crops to protect the land. In addition, they use other practices to protect water quality, like nutrient management plans, grassed waterways and buffer strips. These management practices have become even more manageable thanks to the help of precision ag technology that supports their effort to conserve and protect these resources, create efficient cropping systems and more.

## Conservation Continues at Home

In addition to the conservation practices U.S. soybean farmers use to protect their land and water resources, they're also committed to reusing items when possible, properly disposing of waste and recycling material to keep them out of waste systems.

And those efforts don't stop with their farming operations. Many are actively cutting landfill waste through decisions and actions in their households, often considering their farm roadsides as an important space to care for.

## And the Commitment Doesn't End There

U.S. soybean farmers are also taking the initiative to continue their education and help them farm more sustainably, with the vast majority engaging in additional learning within the past 12 months.

\*U.S. Soybean Export Council. (2023). Social & Environmental Sustainability Survey (Unpublished raw data).

## 2025 sustainability goals set by U.S. Soy



**Reduce land use impact by 10%**  
(measured as acres per bushel)



**Reduce soil erosion by 25%**  
(measured as tons per bushel)



**Increase energy use efficiency by 10%**  
(measured as BTUs per bushel)



**Reduce total greenhouse gas emissions by 10%** (measured as pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent gasses emitted per year)



83% of farmers gather and properly dispose of non-recyclable trash.



97% of U.S. soybean farmers have engaged in some learning opportunity at least once since beginning to farm.\*



Scan the code or visit,  
<https://solutions.ussoy.org/sustainability/>  
to learn more about U.S. Soy's sustainability.

