# Presentations teaching soybean farmers about sustainability

Board help educate soybean farmers on how the management systems they are using can meet the sustainability expectations of international customers.

The interactive presentations, Sustainability Assurance Protocol, were introduced for the first time at the Farm Progress Show in

U.S. soy exporters will be able to go to a website and get an acthe amount of soy they want to ex-

sustainable farming practices for tocol. international customers.

Measurement of sustainability is based on analysis of existing data that the National Agricultural Statistics Service and other agenwhich highlight the U.S. Soybean cies collect regularly from U.S. soybean farmers. The protocol contains no additional requirements or demands of U.S. farm-

Following Farm Progress, the Soybean Board posted the presen- components of sustainable soy tual certificate of sustainability for tations on its own website along production: sound environmen- Board director and soybean farm- operate, the protocol ensures that

New interactive presentations port. The certificate will confirm other organizations to ensure soying, promoting economic growth organization not only wants inter-our product will remain strong. developed by the United Soybean that the soy was produced with bean farmers understand the pro-

The U.S. soy family, consisting of the American Soybean Association, U.S. Soybean Export Council, United Sovbean Board and state soybean boards, has developed the Sustainability Assurance Protocol to help define and document sustainable performance in soybean production for international customers.

The protocol covers four key with making them available to tal objectives, social responsibil- er from Mill Shoals, Ill., says the global demand and acceptance for

and continuous improvement in technology and cultural practices. The protocol also addresses how sustainable performance by U.S. soybean farmers is measured and verified by various government

ers who run the nation's 279,110 soybean farms pledge they are committed to ensuring that U.S. soybeans continue to be produced in a sustainable manner.

national customers to be aware of It is a promise that U.S. farmers the sustainable performance of U.S. soybean farmers, but also for farmers to know that the protocol provides a competitive advantage for U.S. soy.

"I know in my part of the coun-Through the protocol, the farm- try, and from talking to other farmers around the country, 90 percent of the farmers are probably doing 90 percent of the practices and things that are in the protocol," he says. "In addition Doug Winter, a United Soybean to protecting farmers' freedom to

can keep, because we are committed to responsible production and

continuous improvement." For information on the United Soybean Board, go to www.unitedsoybean.org.



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