



# The U.S. Sustainability Alliance



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## DID YOU KNOW?

Peanut roots can reach two meters into the soil allowing access to large banks of water, thus reducing the amount of irrigation water needed.

### **Science from the Field to the Benefit of the Planet: Action is NOW**

By Pam Johnson, sixth-generation farmer

Many of us know the huge agricultural challenge that is before us. We must feed a growing world population. We must produce more food in the next 50 years than has been produced in the last 10,000 years so that we can feed nearly 10 billion people by 2050. And we need to produce this food sustainably, respecting and improving our environments. It may not be easy to grasp abstract numbers such as 10 billion people, or thirty-two years into the future. To make it more manageable - by the time you read this sentence 10 people will have been added to the world's population. By the end of this article that number will be 1,500. If we are to provide food, feed, fiber and renewable energy for our future generations [we need to act now.](#)



### **Here's How America Uses Its Land**

American farmers are feeding more people from less land thanks to new technologies and more efficient farming. An innovative infographic from Bloomberg based on a report by the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service on major uses of land shows the degree to which the country uses land for food production. To see the impressive infographic, visit [Bloomberg.com](#). The USDA report is updated annually using a combination of state data, years of Census of Agriculture data and newer technologies [such as satellite imaging.](#)

### **Soil in Sustainability**

Achieving environmental sustainability requires many moving pieces. One of the most critical pieces-- that often appears deceptively simple-- is maintaining soil

### **Cotton Farmer Focus [Video]**

For Nathan Reed, global positioning satellite technology, precision agriculture which allows optimum use and placement of nutrients and water, and the increasing

health. Yes, the "dirt" beneath our very feet is a big factor in sustainability. [But why?](#)



## **Sustainability in Five Languages**

The U.S. Sustainability Alliance has worked for four years to share the sustainability highlights from the work of our member organizations through stories and fact sheets-- work our members have done on their own, with the U.S. Federal government, and on an international scale to preserve natural resources. This fall, in phase one of our full site language expansion, we've included a site translation option; now when viewing the fact sheets, use the upper right flag icon to choose: French, Spanish, Italian or German to transform the entire section into [a language of choice](#). Happy Reading!



use of cover crops to protect the soil and prevent erosion, brings many environmental benefits on his cotton farm parallel with sustainable production. As the fourth generation on the family farm in Arkansas, Nathan explains in this video that to him farming is not simply a job, but is a deep connection with the land, his heritage and [looking to future generations](#).



## **U.S. Peanuts Fact Sheet**

Peanuts were introduced to the U.S. by American scientist Dr. George Washington Carver in the late 1860s to improve soil and break the cycle of disease hampering soil fertility in the southeast of the country. Dr. Carver discovered more than 300 uses for the peanut plant, many of these forming nutritious components of the American diet. The U.S. peanut industry continues to improve on Dr. Carver's vision today with further advancements in the [sustainability of peanuts](#).

The U.S. Sustainability Alliance strives to provide current and important stories about America's farmers, fishermen and foresters. Please let us know how we're doing by taking our 1-minute survey.

[SURVEY](#)



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The U.S. Sustainability Alliance (USSA) is a group of American farmers, fishermen and foresters who have come together to explore and share our values, regarding sustainable practices and conservation programs.

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