

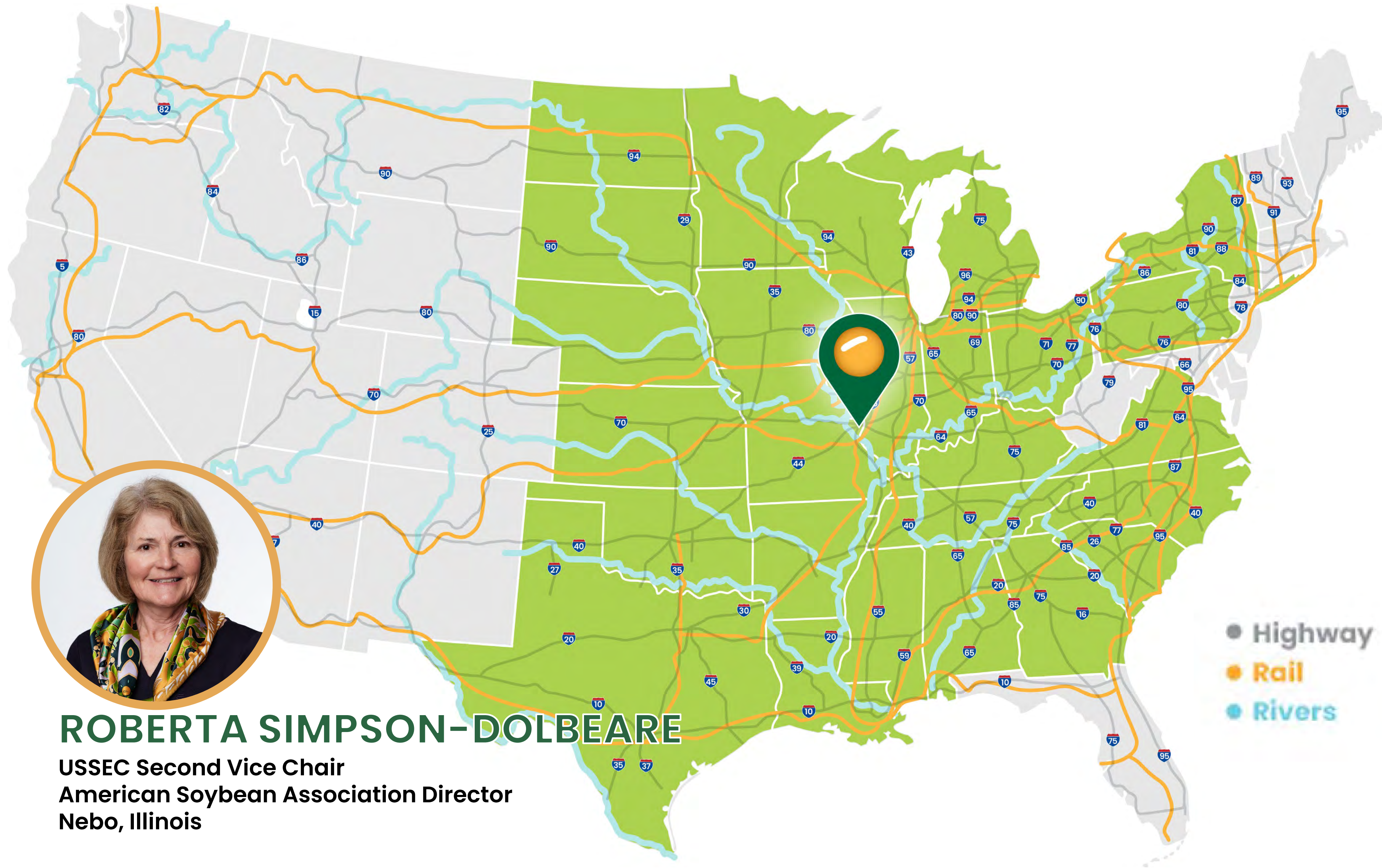
# Trends in Sustainable Farming

Roberta Simpson-Dolbeare

Illinois Soybean Farmer

USSEC Second Vice Chair

American Soybean Association Director



## ROBERTA SIMPSON-DOLBEARE

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# Agriculture in Illinois

- 70,000 farm operations
- 10.6 million hectares farmed
- Top crops produced
  - Soybeans – #1 in the U.S.
  - Corn – #2 in the U.S.
  - Wheat
  - Hay/haylage
  - Pumpkins – #1 in the U.S.
  - Horseradish – #1 in the U.S.



# About My Farm

- Multi-generational farm
- 971 hectares (2,400 acres)
- Soybeans, corn, winter wheat
- Prioritize sustainability



# Why Sustainability?

- Preserve resources for future generations
- Leave the land better than we found it
- Sustain life



# Technology Drives Ag Growth

- **Agriculture has long embraced sustainable practices**
- **New investments are delivered by new technologies**





# Key Technologies On My Farm

# Precision Agriculture Technology

- **GPS**
- **Autosteer**
- **Yield monitoring**
- **Planter monitoring**
- **Data management**



# Variable Rate Technology

- **Map-based or sensor-based**
- **Use only what we need**

## Examples:

- **Seeding**
- **Fertilizer**
- **Weed control**



# Soil Conservation

- **No-till**
- **Minimum till**
- **Crop rotation**
- **Nutrient management**





# The Future of Soybean Farming

- **Genetic innovation**
- **Enhanced vegetable oil characteristics**
- **Continued improvements in crop protection and soil amendments**
- **Greater use of AI on the farm**
- **Increased overall use of technology**

# 2025 Crop Report

- Planting
  - On time with a few rain delays
- Growing Season
  - Scouting
  - Monitoring
- Double Cropping
  - Soybeans into wheat stubble





Thank You

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