

Climate Smart Farming “20/20” Vision

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3Gen Organics

Carl Israel Farms Ltd.



Introduction to Carl Israel Farms

- Multi Generation Family Farm
- 750 acres managed under Organic Standards starting in 2015
- Located South of Drayton
- Heavy Clay to Clay Loam Soils
- 180 Sow Organic Farrow to Finish Hog Operation
- Launched 3Gen Organics Brand May 2019

3Gen Video

Why Climate Smart?

- Primary Producers at Greatest Risk to Climate Change
- 2018 was tough... then came 2019... what about 2020?
- Whole System Resiliency = Key Competitive Advantage
- With Risk, Comes Opportunity

Don't End up
Like "Ole Billy
Bob"



What Does this Look Like?

- *Systems Approach to Agriculture*
- *Diversity, Diversity, Diversity*
- *Limit Off-Farm Inputs/Build On Farm Value*

CIF System

- Integrate Livestock and Cropping
- Root of all Health is the Soil
- Feed the Soil, Feed the Plant, Feed the Pigs















Diversity- The Only Free Lunch

- No such things as a Free Lunch- Except for Diversification
- Climate Change Increases Risk
- Diversity Decreases Risk
- What Will 2020 bring? Rain or Drought?
- No Crystal Ball, but a Diverse Farming System Reduces Exposure





On Our Farm

- Plan Rotation on a Field to Field Basis
- Integrate Cover Crops Whenever Possible
- Reduce Tillage and look to “Plant Based Alternatives”





















“Plant Based” No-Till Organic Soybeans

- Part of a Soil and Crop Trial
- Cereal Rye Drilled in Fall, Left to Over Winter
- Soybeans Drilled into Standing Rye
- Rye Crimped Post Soybean Emergence











Conventional Organic:
47 Bu/Ac

However Highest Yielding Strip
was on No-Till: 53 Bu/Ac

No-Till Organic:
41 Bu/Ac



Build On-Farm Value

- Mitigate Risk by Improving Bottom Line
- Two Ways:
 - 1) Decrease Costs
 - 2) Increase Value (not same as volume) of Farm Production

Decrease Costs

- Conventional Producers told More Inputs=Better
- Not Always the Case
- “Cultural Practices Should Inform Foundation of Weed Control”







Increase Value of Farm Production

- Today's Consumer Needs an Eating Experience
- They Want to Know Your Story
- Build Equity of Farm Brand
- Connect and Share



Never Stop Learning!



Thank You!

