

Agroforestry Extension for the PNW

Chad Kruger WSU Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources



Goal: Discuss the status of sustainable agriculture in the PNW and the role that trees on the farm can play in sustainable agriculture, with particular emphasis on carbon storage.

- 1. Global Grant Challenges related to agriculture and forestry
- 2. A quick snapshot of PNW agriculture and the manifestation of these challenges
- 3. Targeted high-impact strategies for integrating trees into PNW ag systems
- 4. An angle for agroforestry integration not often considered ...



Global Grand Challenges Facing 21st Century Agriculture



On the Edge of a Perilous New World Paul Roberts



ANNA LAPPÉ DIET FOR A HOT PLANET

THE CLIMATE CRISIS AT THE END OF YOUR FORK AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

FOREWORD BY BILL MCKIBBEN



Beyond the Boundary



Nitrogen Climate Change Fossil Fuel Chemical Energy Pollution

Adapted from: Nature, Vol. 461, Sept 24, 2009

Climate Friendly Farming[™]



What does our regional agriculture system look like?







Historical Carbon Loss from Agricultural Soils



soil type near Pullman, WA (0-20 cm).

Portions of these data were published by Purakayastha et al. 2008; Yorgey et al. 2010



Pendleton Long-Term Experiments

Long-term Soil Carbon Trends w/ Mitigation



Albrecht et al. 2008, summarizing data from Rasmussen and Albrecht 1998, Rasmussen and Parton 1994

The importance of perennial plants for soils



Pushing the envelope of C Sequestration

Cropping Method	Global Warming Potential (Ibs CO2 equiv / acre / year)
Conventional	1014.6
No-till	124.6
Organic	364.9
Early Successional	-1877.9

Kellogg Biological Station (Michigan) LTER http://lter.kbs.msu.edu/



Snow Fences, Wind Breaks: Reducing Wind and Water Erosion



Significant \$\$\$ saved for snow removal

Trees for biocontrol habitat enhancement, an under-explored opportunity?





Forage trees as a climate change resiliency strategy for livestock production?





The down-side of integrating trees and agriculture: Someone will have to pay ...



Figure 1. Aerial photograph of the visually apparent tree-crop interaction for winter wheat crops growing adjacent to two rows of trees (each row with a different height) at the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center (CBARC) near Pendleton on June 12, 2003. The boxed diagram highlights an experimental area (55 x 240 ft.) composed of six replicates of 11 seed treatment variables growing in 5 x 40-ft. plots oriented in the east-west direction.

Bioenergy Development: Inter-cropping Switchgrass and Hybrid Poplar



Figure 3. Switchgrass inter-planting on June 9&12, 2011.



Figure 4. Drill rows through poplar harvest debris.



Figure 5. Drill rows through poplar harvest debris. Note N-immobilization.

http://www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/docs.htm?d <u>ocid=10590&page=5</u> Hal Collins, et.al.



GHG sampling began in July, 2011 Monitoring Growth

Estimated Global Economic Mitigation Potentials from Agriculture & Biofuels



A new cluster of specialty forest products? **Connecting trees and agriculture through soil amendments**



World Class. Face to Face.

At least 16.9 Million Dry Tons Biomass in Washington

Soil Carbon *Can Be* Increased Significantly Using Residual Organic Residuals



Jenkinson et al. 1990

Current Generation organic Amendments

- Composts, biosolids, manures, etc.:
- Recovered C, N, other nutrients, microbial activity, etc.
- Agronomically expensive to purchase and land apply



Next Generation <u>o</u>rganic Amendments

- Precise, multi-functional amendments derived through bioenergy systems
- All the benefits of 1st Gen Amendments in a "*drop-in fertilizer*"
- High impact agronomic and environmental benefits







Biomass Derived Fertilizers





Pyrolysis Temperature (°C)

Acknowledgments: Hal Collins, USDA ARS



Science in Action to Improve the Sustainability of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Food Systems

Organic and Biologically Intensive Ag Small Farms / Beginning Farmer Educat Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Biomass Energy and Products Local & Regional Food Systems Environmental & Food Footbrints Mater Quantity and Quality

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Transforming PNW Agriculture

Compost Technology & Use

Parasitoid Biocontrol Next Generation Organic Soil Amendments

Biofumigation

Sustainable Ag Policy

Organic Wheat Variety Release BIOCONTROL

Biodigesters & BioFertilizers

Biological Nitrogen Supply



World Class. Face to Face.



Adapted from Lal 2001, with assistance from Elizabeth Allen

Global Inventories that Include Both Direct and Indirect Emissions from Agriculture



IPCC 2007, Bellarby 2008, World Bank 2007