

FARMER SPOTLIGHT

SWEET FERN FARM, PLEASANTVILLE, NS



Mhari Lamarque and Chris Pyke run Sweet Fern Farm in Pleasantville, Nova Scotia. On their small mixed farm they grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers, as well as raise pastured chicken and eggs. Sweet Fern Farm serves the Lunenburg and Chester farmers' markets and sells flowers to businesses in Halifax.

For the 2019 Carbon Sequestration on Agricultural Lands Project, Sweet Fern Farm installed rows of perennials (cold-hardy fruit and nut trees) along the contours of a slope with selected successional intercropping of raspberries. Their system makes use of sloped land that is too steep to use for growing annual crops or grazing livestock .

As their trees mature, they hope to have them act as windbreaks for annual crop beds, provide forage for native pollinators and honey bees, as well as produce fruit for value-added products (jams, jellies, preserved peaches).



FARMER SPOTLIGHT

WAYWARD FARM, WEST NORTHFIELD, NS



Casey Vaasjo and Steven Wieler run Wayward Farm located in West Northfield, Nova Scotia where they serve the West Dublin farmers' market and sell their products off the farm. They produce 100% grass-fed heritage beef, pastured eggs, and pastured poultry.

For the Carbon Sequestration on Agricultural Lands Project, Wayward Farm installed a silvopasture farming system which integrates perennial tree crops (cold-hardy fruit and nut trees), with grazing animals (cows, laying hens, and meat birds).

As their tree crops mature, they hope to grow into fruit and nut production and manage their systems to create reciprocal relationships to reduce maintenance and foster co-benefits.

