



What's Wrong with Working 35 Hours (or less) Per Week?
Using the Lean System to Cut Out Waste, Increase Value and Work Less on Your Farm

Saturday, Jan. 26th 1:45pm

About the Session:

Thousands of farmers burn out from overwork after just a few seasons. While hard work is a virtue, so too is finding a healthy life-work balance. Ben Hartman, author of *The Lean Farm* and *The Lean Farm Guide to Growing Vegetables*, will explain powerful concepts from the Lean System (whose origins date back to ancient Japanese rice farms) that food producers of any size and type--from ranchers to crop farmers to home gardeners--can use to create more value with less waste and work. He will provide examples from Clay Bottom Farm where he and his wife earn a living from 1/2 acre of cultivated land working less than 35 hours per week.

About the Speaker:

Ben Hartman is the author of *The Lean Farm* and *The Lean Farm Guide to Growing Vegetables*. He and his wife operate Clay Bottom Farm in northern Indiana, where they earn a living working 35 hours or less per week selling specialty crops to restaurants, at a farmers market, and through a CSA. Hartman has adapted the Lean Principles of value stream thinking to agriculture using innovative techniques to create a viable business, healthy lifestyle and sustainable future from 1/2 acre of cultivated land.

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