

- APRIL 11, 2018 -

# Raising Pigs in an Agroforestry System



- PRESENTED BY -

Weston Lombard  
Solid Ground farm  
Millfield, Ohio

- HOSTED BY -

**FACT**

Food Animal Concerns Trust

# Introductions



**Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)** is a national nonprofit organization that advocates for the safe and humane production of meat, milk, and eggs.



## **Larissa McKenna**

Humane Farming Program Director

Email: [lmckenna@foodanimalconcerns.org](mailto:lmckenna@foodanimalconcerns.org)

Website: [foodanimalconcernstrust.org/farmer](http://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/farmer)

FACT's services for livestock and poultry farmers include:

- **Fund-a-Farmer Grants**
- **Conference scholarships**
- **Free webinars**
- **Humane Farming Mentorship Program**

# Our Presenter



Weston Lombard

Solid Ground Farm

Millfield, Ohio

Web: [solidgroundfarm.com](http://solidgroundfarm.com)

Facebook: @SolidGroundFarm

# Hogs in an Agroforestry System at Solid Ground Farm



Moving Towards a Regenerative Agriculture



# Outline

- Need for Agroforestry
- Soil Degradation
- Benefits of Trees
- Types of Agroforestry
- Silvopasture at Solid Ground Farm



## The need for change

“A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.”

-Franklin Delano Roosevelt

# The need for change

## Prediction 1:

Following conventional practices, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations estimates that we will run out of topsoil in the next 60 years.

## Prediction 2:

The FAO also estimates that by 2050 we must increase agricultural production by 70% to feed a growing population.

# Soil Formation

- mechanical and chemical weathering
- interactions with living organisms
- organic matter accumulation
- 100 years to create 1 inch





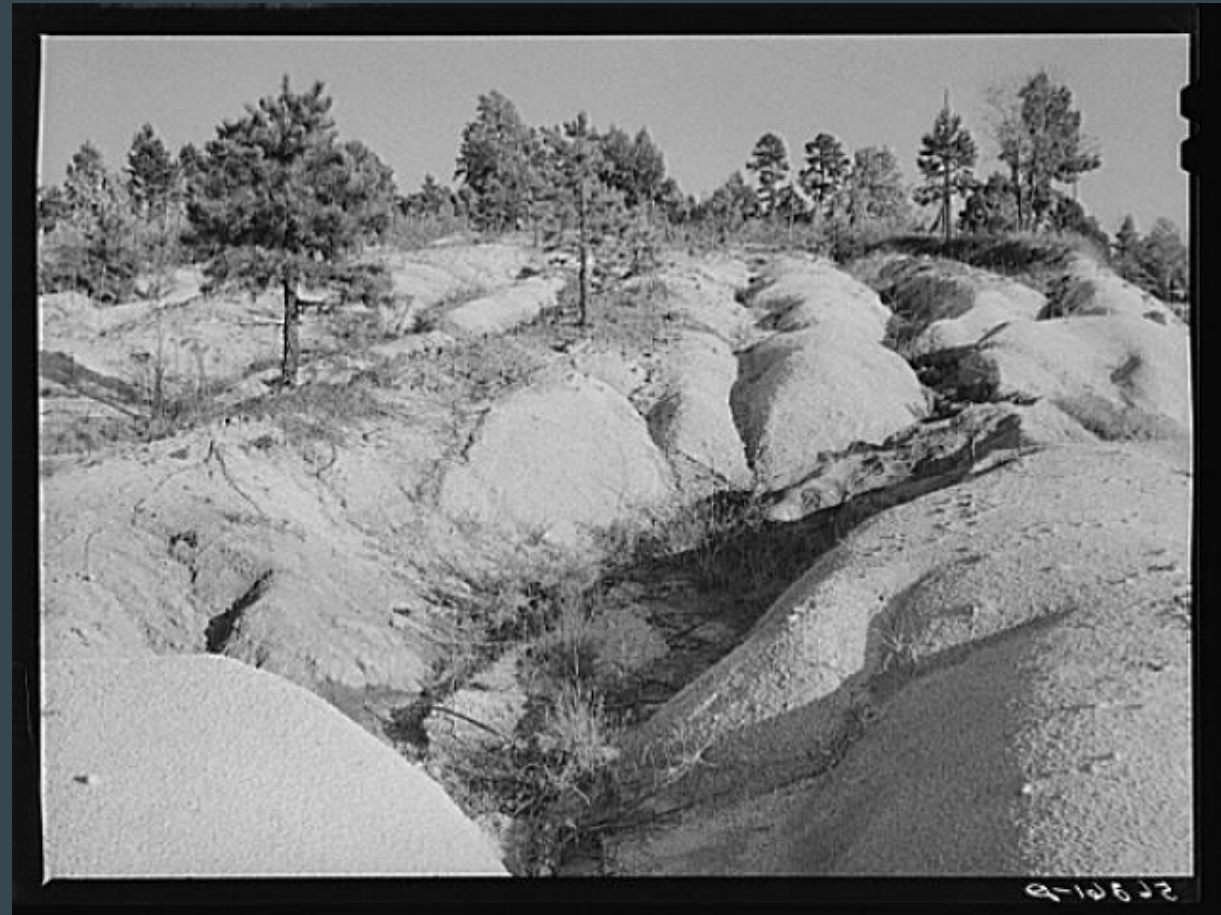
# Recipe for Soil Loss

## Land Conditions

- Sloped
- Bare
- Dry/Unprotected

## Contributing Factors

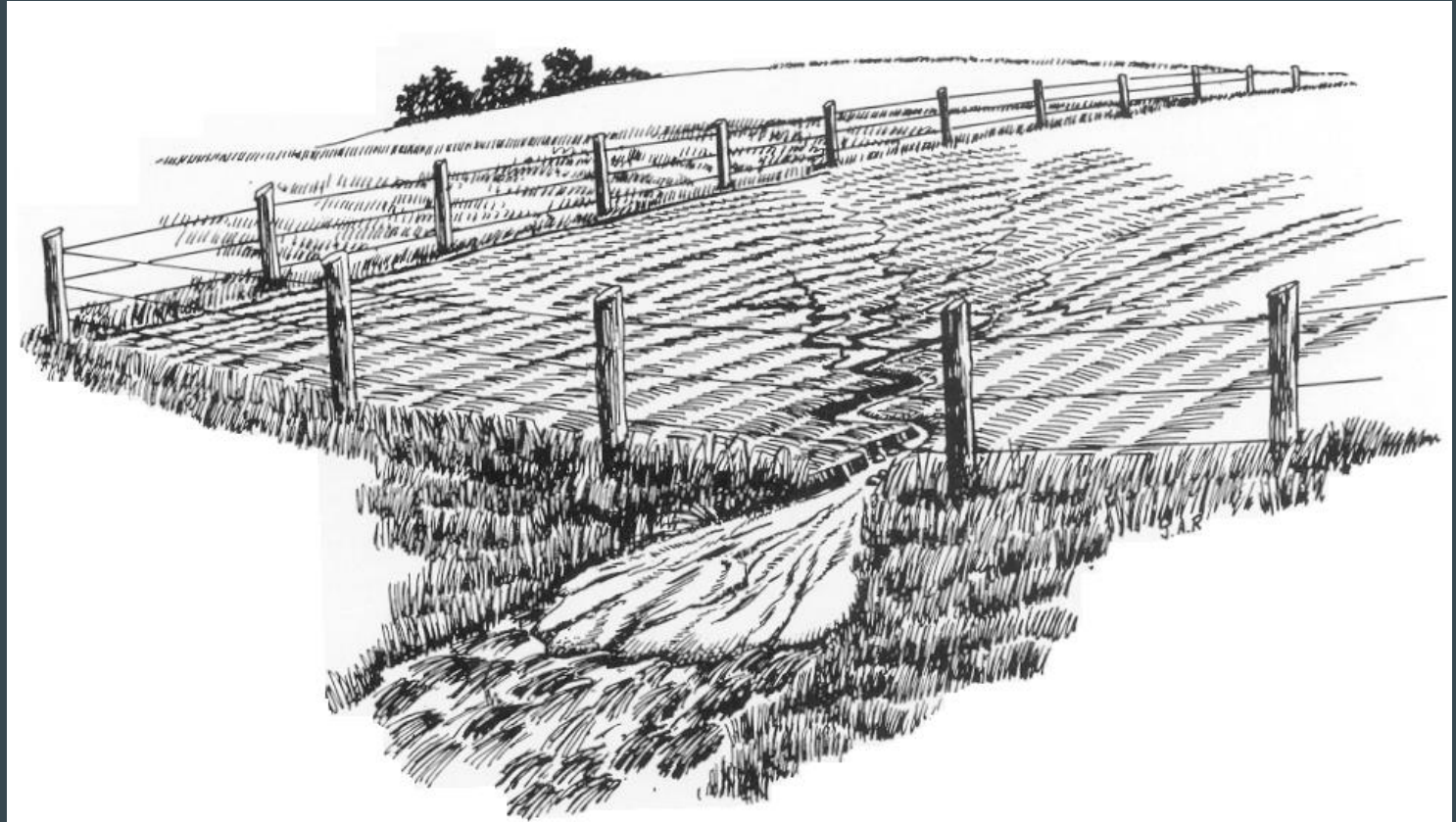
- Heavy rains
- High winds
- High chemical application



# Soil Loss

Erosion

- Wind
- Water
  - Sheet
  - Rill
  - Gully



# the BENEFITS OF TREES



Without trees, we cannot inhabit the earth. Without trees we rapidly create deserts and drought, and the evidence for this is before our eyes. Without trees, the atmosphere will alter its composition, and life support systems will fail (<http://agroforestry.net/overstory/overstory92.html>).

**"Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets. To plant a pine, one need only own a shovel."**

**-- Aldo Leopold**





**"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.**

**The next best time is now."**

**-- Chinese**



**"By means of trees, wildlife could be conserved, pollution decreased, and the beauty of our landscapes enhanced. This is the way, or at least one of the ways, to spiritual, moral, and cultural regeneration."**

**-- E.F. Schumacher**





**"People who will not sustain trees will soon live in a world  
that will not sustain people."**

**-- Bryce Nelson**



**“Suburbia is where the developer bulldozes out the trees and then names the streets after them.”**

**Bill Vaughn**



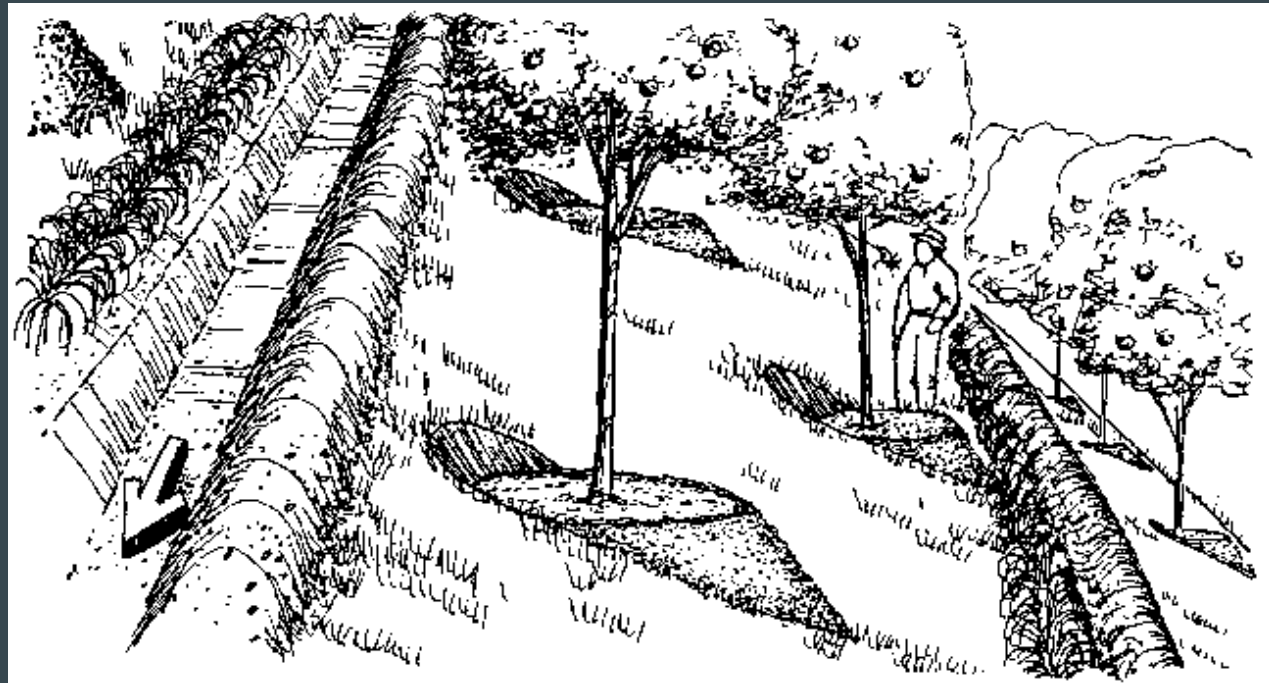
# What is Agroforestry?

Broadly defined, it is Agriculture that deliberately incorporates trees or woody perennials into production systems.



# Types of Agroforestry

- Boundary Systems
- Alley Cropping
- Forest Farming
- Silvopasture
- Forest Gardening





# Riparian Buffers

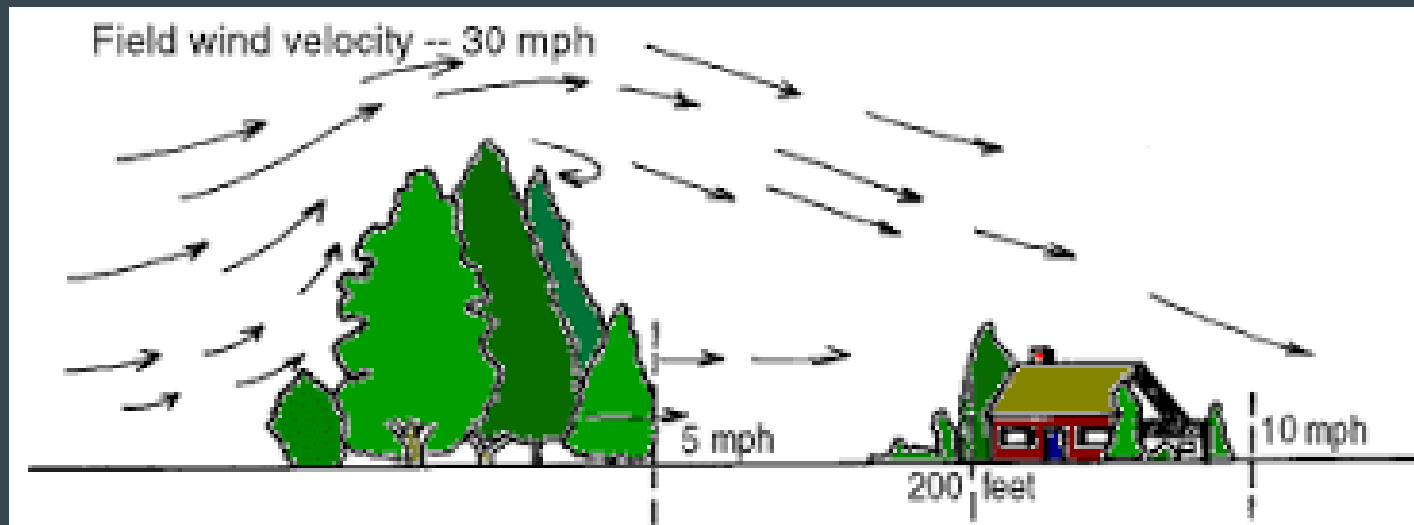


# Hedges and Living Fences





# Wind Breaks



# Alley Cropping



# Forest Farming



# Silvopasture



# Forest Gardening











# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm





# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm









# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm



# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm







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# Spring Pig Forage

- Mulberry and other tender leaves
- Mixed grass and forage
- Spring herbs
- Planted spring veggies like kale, turnips, mangel-wurzel beets, cabbage, etc.





# Summer Pig Forage

- \*Mulberry fruit
- Peaches, plums
- Early apples (Pristine) and pears (Magness)
- Sun Chokes
- Giant Ragweed
- Garden veggies
- More mulberry leaves
- Summer grasses



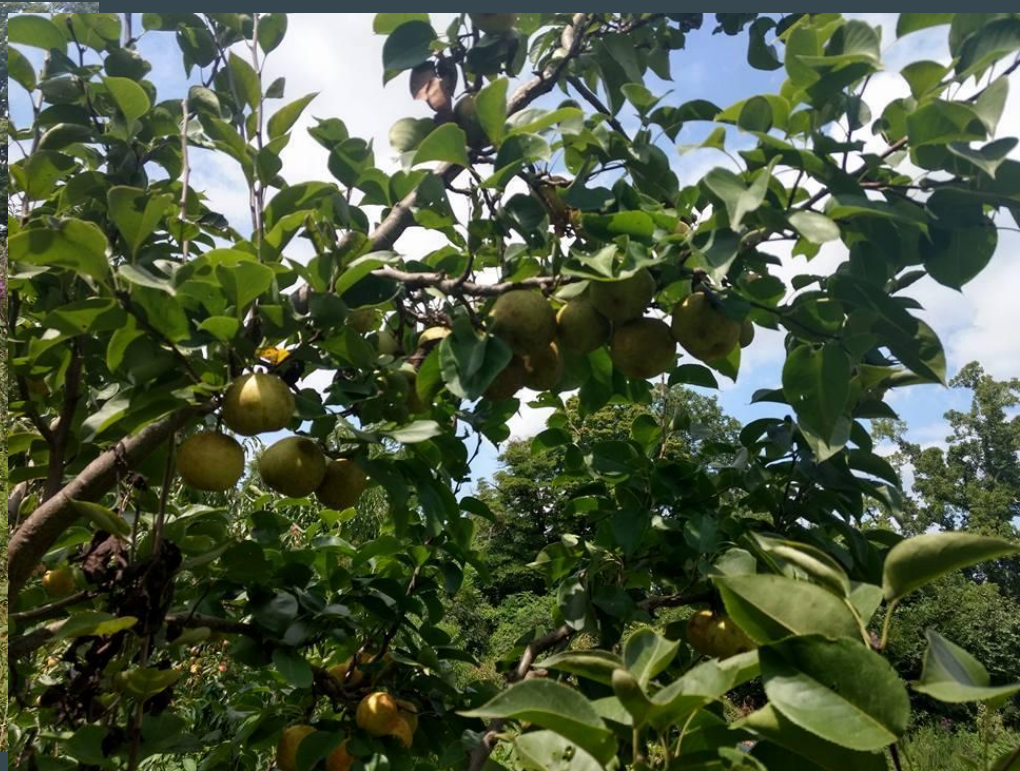
# Winter and Fall Pig Forage

- Walnuts
- Hickories
- Acorns
- \*Chestnuts
- \*Hazelnuts
  
- Late apples and pears
- Squash and root veggies
- Cool season grasses and forage
- \*Persimmons and Pawpaws





# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm





# Agroforestry at Solid Ground Farm



# Why Mulberry?

- Some native varieties, many naturalized
- Few pests and diseases
- Tolerates wide range of soils and moisture requirements
- Easy to grow, transplant, and propagate
- Wood good for fence posts and firewood
- Leaves are high quality livestock feed
- Bare fruit early and consistently
- Produce in full sun and partial shade



# Why not Mulberry?

- Very short shelf life
- Labor intensive to harvest
- Ripen over a long period instead of all at once
- Birds love them
- Morus alba considered invasive in some areas
- Children end up looking like this -->





















# Thanks you

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# Questions & Answers

Please type your Q's!





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**May 2:** Land Access for Livestock Farmers

**May 15:** Nutritional Benefits of Pasture-Raised Animals

**May 30:** Creating a Forage Chain for Your Livestock

Register @ [foodanimalconcernstrust.org/webinars/](http://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/webinars/)

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