

Mission Statement

The August West Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture was formed to promote sustainable agriculture and strengthen our regional food system through research and the use of conventional farming methods.

Our goal is to provide other farmers, as well as youth, families and the public, with educational programs designed to create a healthy foundation for agriculture to thrive.

The August West Seed Depository will serve the goal of agricultural sustainability by guaranteeing that quality, non-genetically modified seed is available for the future.



Foundation Commitment

Founder and Chairman John Ubaldo is fully committed to achieving the mission of The August West Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. During Mr. Ubaldo's 12 years on Wall Street, he funded many small startups. He firmly believes that The August West Foundation is the most important "startup" he has ever undertaken.

Donate

Your tax-deductible donation to The August West Foundation, a 501(c) 3, will contribute directly to all of the programs that advance our mission of promoting sustainable agriculture.

Please make your check payable to The August West Foundation and mail it to the address below.



The August West Foundation

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The August West Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture



*One person, one farmer,
one community at a time...*

Foundation Programs

Education: Families, youth groups and other folks will come and experience a working farm. Days will be spent experiencing every aspect of farming--gathering eggs, weeding, feeding the animals and even grinding our own corn and heirloom wheat for flour. Nights will be spent enjoying good, clean food harvested from that day, and time on the porch sharing the day's events.



Conventional Farming Practices: Today's farmers face many challenges as they try to make ends meet. Some new farming practices introduced in the last two decades have not necessarily benefitted the farmers' yields or profits. We will show farmers how centuries old, "conventional" farming techniques still work best; these methods are not only sustainable but also profitable. Through research we are showing other farmers the economic incentive for growing good, clean food.

New Farming Techniques: In addition to the "old" techniques, John Boys Farm is constantly striving to incorporate the newest, most innovative sustainable farming methods. For instance, we are delving into the use of environmentally safe sugar-based fertilizer, as opposed to petroleum-based fertilizer--a mainstay of US agriculture that has been used for decades with many harmful environmental effects.

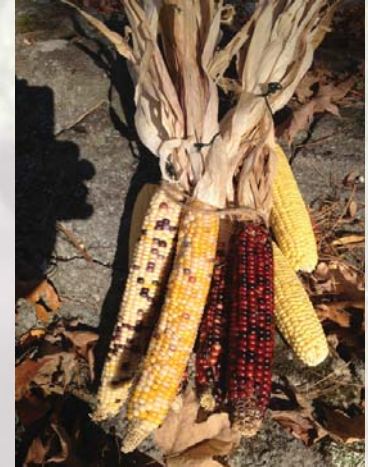
Seed Depository: The indiscriminate use of genetically modified seed has destroyed the biodiversity of the crops worldwide. Because it has become increasingly difficult for farmers to buy non-GMO seed, we are working with a US-based lab that certifies non-GMO seed. This means that lab technicians will test and re-test our seed for purity. It will then be stored in our seed depository, and some seed will be used to replant the following year to further our inventory and farm programs. The seed depository will serve as the showcase of our Foundation.



A Letter From John Boy

I am John Ubaldo, owner and operator of John Boys Farm. I also serve as Chairman of the Board for the August West Foundation, which I founded in honor of our son, August. His future health and well-being are the inspiration for this Foundation.

John Boys Farm is a fully integrated farm, as opposed to a "mono" type industrial farm, which generally relies on a single crop produced for large harvests with minimal labor. In contrast to this environmentally harmful practice, my farm harkens back to an agricultural time where livestock and crop production were integrated. On 185 acres of fertile land, we raise Black Angus cattle, Berkshire pigs, chickens, ducks and geese. We also lease over 350 acres on which we grow crops and grains, and graze cattle, employing farming techniques that were used one hundred years ago, along with newer sustainable farming methods.



Over the past decade, I have studied animal nutrition, husbandry and welfare. I have also studied genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and their negative effects on modern agriculture and our health. My experience has forced me to confront, with increasing frustration, the many challenges facing today's farmers. The creation of The August West Foundation seemed the most natural and obvious way to educate both farmers and the public about "conventional" farming methods.

Today, an alarming 75% of the antibiotics manufactured in the United States are used in livestock operations. We use no pesticides, herbicides or antibiotics whatsoever. On John Boys Farm, we never use hormones, heavy metals, poisons or growth promoters on our animals. Most importantly, we never use, grow or feed our livestock genetically modified grains. Our healthy herds and flocks are raised only through the use of the highest quality grains, vitamins and minerals available, as well as fresh water, clean air and good forage.

My hope is to share my experience on John Boys Farm so that we can all work together to reverse the dangerous direction our current agricultural system has taken. It is my firm belief that our future depends on it.

I invite you to take part in this critical journey.

Yours,

John

