Sustainable Agriculture Reading List

“4 Per 1000” Initiative, https://www.4p1000.org/


Rick Cruse, “Soil Erosion – What will the future bring?,” Iowa State University, Robert Goodland and Jeff Anhang, “Livestock and Climate Change: What if the key actors in climate change are . . . cows, pigs, and chickens?,” www.worldwatch.org, November/December 2009


“Can organic reduce cancer risk?” Cedar Rapids Gazette, October 26, 2018, reprinted from Los Angeles Times


Dave Swenson, Selected Measures of the Economic Values of Increased Fruit and Vegetable Production and Consumption in the Upper Midwest, Leopold Center, Iowa State University, March 2010

Dick Sloan, “Dividends from a new view of soil”, Cedar Rapids Gazette, March 31, 2018

Dennis Anderson, “Reports of species die-offs are scary, but public’s indifference is scarier”, Cedar Rapids Gazette, October 28, 2018, reprinted from the Star Tribune

"Eating Animals", Film, director Christopher Dillon Quinn, Based memoir by Jonathan Safran Foer, 2017


Erin Jordan, “Are golf courses contributing to nitrate runoff? Iowa survey shows courses don’t contribute significantly”, Cedar Rapids Gazette, October 21, 2017

Erin Jordan, “Food waste study diverts 1,000 pounds from landfill,” Cedar Rapids Gazette, November 29, 2014

1 This is also referred to as the Marsden study.


Alice Park, “A Mother’s Exposure to Pesticides During Pregnancy May Raise Children’s Autism Risk”, Time, March 20, 2019

Tom Philpott, “High Steaks – Our power to stop climate change may depend on what’s for dinner”, Mother Jones, May/June, 2019


Francis Thicke, A New Vision for Iowa Food and Agriculture, Mulberry Knoll Books, 2010


Fred Kirschenmann, “Is optimization the answer?,” Leopold Letter, Iowa State University, Fall 2014

Grant Gerlock, “Food waste weighing down U.S. food system,” Harvest Public Media, September 21, 2014

“Gulf’s ‘dead zone’ is biggest ever: Farm runoff key factor in creating algae bloom”, Cedar Rapids Gazette, reprinted from Washington Post, August 5, 2017


Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council Final Report, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, December 23, 2008


Jeff Schahczenski and Holly Hill, “Agriculture, Climate Change and Carbon Sequestration”, National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service, 2009


Mark Hertsgaard, Hot: Living Through the Next Fifty Years on Earth, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011


Maryn McKenna, “After Years of Debate, the FDA Finally Curtails Antibiotic Use In Livestock”, Newsweek, 1/13/17

Grass-fed beef. Photo courtesy USDA NRCS, Lynn Betts


Tom Philpott, “No, Giant Farms Are Not Feeding the World. They’re Feeding Canada,” Mother Jones, October 5, 2016

Tom Philpott, “The Fault in Our Starch”, Mother Jones, January/February, 2020

Tom Philpott, “Oats and Dreams. How a milk trend could stoke an agricultural revolution,” Mother Jones, May+June, 2018


Kate Cox and H. Claire Brown, “Academics across the country say agribusiness has outsize influence on their research”, New Food Economy, January 31, 2019

Tom Philpott, “Will California’s Drought Bring about $7 Broccoli?” Mother Jones, May/June, 2014


Wennonah Hauter, Foodopoly - The Battle Over the Future of Food and Farming in America, New Press, 2012


Wilbur Wood, “From Dirt to Soil – How carbon farming can reduce emissions, restore ecological balance, and offer hope to the rising generation”, The Nation, May 20/27, 2019

Tom Philpott, “There’s an amazingly simple, beautiful way to fix Midwestern farmlands”, Mother Jones, April, 2019

Caroline Brooks, “Solving the mystery of fertilizer loss from Midwest cropland”, MSU Today, Michigan State University, April 15, 2019

Bruno Basso, Guanyuan Shuai, Jinshui Zhang, G. Philip Robertson, “Yield stability analysis reveals sources of large-scale nitrogen loss from the US Midwest”, Scientific American 9, Article 5774, 2019