



Dirt to Soil

One Family's Journey into
Regenerative Agriculture

Gabe Brown

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***Dirt to Soil* reveals how one farmer's quest to regenerate the soil has inspired a global movement**

He just wanted to save his farm by saving his soil. But in the process, Gabe Brown has become the voice and face of regenerative agriculture around the globe—inspiring a movement that is giving new hope to farmers and consumers alike.

It's hope that's rooted in our living and life-giving soil.

His new book, *Dirt to Soil*, chronicles Brown's remarkable farming journey from desperation to experimentation, innovation and transformation.

"I wrote this book to tell the story of how my family and I changed from farming and ranching with an 'industrial' mindset to farming and ranching in nature's image," he said.

But like other innovators, Brown's quest to restore his soil was born more out of despondency than of epiphany.

"Our soil was broken. Our farm was broken. Our spirits were nearly broken. But when we transformed our soil, we transformed our lives and our future," he said. "One of my goals in life is to help other farmers do the same. Hopefully, *Dirt to Soil* will help many more farmers, and even consumers, discover the hope in healthy soil."

Now operating a diversified 5,000-acre farm and ranch near Bismarck, North Dakota, Brown understands that agricultural transformation, and farming profitability, begins with the soil.

"The story of my farm is how I took a severely degraded, low-profit operation that had been managed using the industrial production model and regenerated it into a healthy, profitable one," Brown said. "All of us—whether farmer, rancher or home gardener—have the ability to harness the awesome power of nature to produce nutrient-dense food. We can do this in a way that will both regenerate our resources and ensure that our children and grandchildren have the opportunity to enjoy good health."

Brown's book underscores how the enormous benefits and potential of soil regeneration, both on and off the farm, are derived from a humble and tiny source: soil microbes. These microbes have become his unseen, but powerful, business partners.

"Human existence is made possible by the trillions of unseen microbial partners below the ground that enable carbon cycling, and improve plant and animal health, nutrition and productivity—all of which can support feeding a lot of people," Brown said.

Through his work on his own farm, Brown is reshaping the future of agriculture and the way farmers, consumers and policy makers think about sustainability.

"Everyone talks about 'sustainable,'" Brown said. "Why do we want to sustain a degraded resource? We need to be regenerative."



Gabe Brown is a pioneer of the soil-health movement and has been named one of the twenty-five most influential agricultural leaders in the United States. Brown, his wife, Shelly, and son, Paul, own Brown's Ranch, a holistic, diversified 5,000-acre farm and ranch near Bismarck, North Dakota. The Brown family has received a Growing Green Award from the Natural Resources Defense Council, an Environmental Stewardship Award from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and the USA Zero-Till Farmer of the Year Award.

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