



The Carbon Farming Solution

A Global Toolkit of Perennial Crops and
Regenerative Agriculture Practices for Climate
Change Mitigation and Food Security

Eric Toensmeier

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“ **An inspirational book providing the tools and shovel-ready solutions to transform degraded lands around the world into productive carbon-storing landscapes.** ”

In this groundbreaking book, author Eric Toensmeier offers a Big Idea: That agriculture, often blamed as a major culprit of our climate crisis, could be harnessed as part of a global solution to avert disaster, heal our planet, and provide real food security.

Toensmeier (*Paradise Lot*, *Perennial Vegetables*) argues that “carbon farming” has the potential—when combined with a massive reduction in fossil fuel emissions and in concert with adaptation strategies to our changing environment—to return our atmosphere to the “magic number” of 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide.

Carbon farming is a suite of agricultural practices and crops that sequester carbon in the soil and in aboveground biomass, which includes modifications to current cropping systems, the use of perennial crops, new approaches to animal grazing, agroforestry, and more. Toensmeier brings together these powerful strategies in one book including in-depth analysis of the available research and, where research is lacking, a discussion of what we need to understand better and the steps that can get us there. The book includes in-depth information on:

- Perennial staple and industrial crops including those that can provide us with starches, sugar, oils, fiber, energy, and more
- Improved grazing and livestock practices
- Measurements of a project’s impact on carbon reduction and sequestration
- Details on how to scale up existing carbon farming enterprises
- Effective financing models for communities and the private sector
- An overview of international policy barriers to expanding carbon farming

Using *The Carbon Farming Solution* as a guide, farmers, communities, and governments large and small can successfully launch carbon farming projects with the most appropriate crops and practices to their climate, locale, and socioeconomic needs. Along the way it can help address food security, social and climate injustice, women’s empowerment, environmental degradation, and some of the core problems with the global food system.



Eric Toensmeier is the award-winning author of *Paradise Lot* and *Perennial Vegetables*, and the co-author of *Edible Forest Gardens*. He is an appointed lecturer at Yale University, a Senior Fellow with Project Drawdown, and an international trainer. He presents in English and Spanish throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, and the Caribbean. Toensmeier has studied useful perennial plants and their roles in agroforestry systems for over two decades, and cultivates about 300 species in his urban garden. His writing can be viewed online at perennialsolutions.org.

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