

Topics covered in the book include:

- Major problems of contemporary industrial agriculture
- Historical roots of sustainable agriculture
- Definitions of sustainable agriculture
- Politics of sustainable agriculture
- Ways to demonstrate sustainable agriculture practices
- Changes needed to encourage a sustainable agriculture
- Eight steps to a sustainable agriculture which address:
  - Soil health and erosion
  - Water quality and use
  - Organic waste management
  - Crop and livestock adaptation
  - Biodiversity
  - Environmentally benign pest management
  - Energy use
  - Farm diversification and profitability

# The Next Green Revolution Has Arrived!

Following the symposium, there will be a late afternoon reception to celebrate the publication of *The Next Green Revolution: Essential Steps to a Healthy, Sustainable Agriculture*, the new book by Kerr Center President James E. Horne and Communications Director Maura McDermott.

Refreshments will be served and conference attendees are invited to stay and visit with each other and conference speakers. Copies of the book will be available to purchase and the authors will be on hand to sign them.



## What Others Are Saying About The Next Green Revolution...

Modern industrial agriculture, authors Horne and McDermott tell us, is deservedly on trial. Although it has given us an abundance of food, in the process it continues to cause serious environmental, health, and safety problems that endanger our natural resources, future food supplies, and the well-being of farmers, rural communities, and eventually all citizens. The remedy, their book describes with conviction and clarity, is what people now call a 'sustainable agriculture.' Written in an honest, down-to-earth

style, this highly readable book gives us an insightful account of the struggles now underway to make sustainable agriculture a truly viable alternative to conventional farming. The authors' conviction is understandable and contagious."

*Neill Schaller, PhD  
Former Associate Director,  
Henry A. Wallace Institute  
for Alternative Agriculture,  
Greenbelt, MD*

## What Others Are Saying...

“What kind of agriculture do we need, and how can farmers provide it? These are the two questions addressed in Horne and McDermott’s book, *The Next Green Revolution*. The book begins with an indictment of our current industrial agriculture for failing to fulfill its fundamental responsibilities to the farmers who use it, to the natural environment that supports it, and to the society that depends upon it. While their case against industrial agriculture is convincing, this book is really about the remedy, a treatment that can cure the ills of industrialization – a sustainable agriculture.

The authors refer to sustainable agriculture as revolutionary thinking, which it truly is. They suggest that we can and must find ways to meet our needs while leaving equal or better opportunities for others, both of this generation and for all generations in the future. Pursuit of individual short-run self-interests will not protect the natural environ-

ment or ensure long-run societal well-being. We must make conscious, purposeful decisions to take care of other people, the natural environment, and ourselves as well.

The bulk of the book is devoted to eight practical steps that farmers can take to ensure a healthy, enduring agriculture. Perhaps the greatest contribution of this book is its down-to-earth, step-by-step approach to developing more sustainable farming systems. It gives farmers practical suggestions for increasing profits and reducing risks while regenerating the soil, protecting the environment, and being good neighbors. Horne and McDermott show us that sustainable farming is not only possible, it is also very practical.”

*John E. Ikerd, PhD  
Professor Emeritus,  
University of Missouri, Columbia*

“*The Next Green Revolution* by Jim Horne and Maura McDermott is a very timely, informative, and readable contribution to the future of agriculture and rural communities in the United States. This book speaks to mainstream farmers in a very effective manner. It offers a vision of a more successful agriculture that supports both farmers and rural communities, and an eight-step plan for achieving it.

The heart of the book is the eight chapters that spell out the eight steps, from conserving and creating healthy soil (step 1) to increasing profitability and reducing risk (step 8). Each chapter covers, in a very informative and engaging manner, the principles behind the recommended step (both scientific and practical) and the basics of implementation, including handy how-to-checklists for farmers. The specifics of implementation have to be tailored, of course, to the individual farm, which will require considerable on-farm experimentation.

This book provides an excellent and very accessible starting point and guidebook for any farmer who is considering making changes. It is richly illustrated throughout with first-person examples from Horne’s lifetime of experience in farming and consulting on both conventional and alternative methods, and with scientific findings from the USDA and other sources.

In short, the book is a very readable overview and blueprint for farmers who want to improve both profits and stewardship, but should also be read by researchers, policymakers, and anyone who has an interest in the future of agriculture or rural America.”

*Jill Shore Auburn, PhD  
Former Associate Director,  
University of California  
Sustainable Agriculture Program;  
Currently with USDA*

“James Horne tells his own story of how a sharecropper’s son became a PhD agricultural economist and how his work with farmers led him to become a teacher, practitioner, and advocate in the search for more sustainable agricultural systems. By telling his personal story and vision, sandwiched with layers of practical information, Horne breathes life into the story of American agriculture, its history, triumphs, and tragedies.

Horne finds the full-time, small farmer – Jefferson’s ideal citizen – “as rare today as a Cadillac on an Oklahoma country road.” He builds a convincing case to show what America is losing by ignoring the social, economic, and ecological costs of these long-term and current trends in agriculture.”

*Lorraine Stuart  
Merrill, BS  
Farmer and  
Agricultural  
Journalist,  
Stratham, NH*



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