



- Created a partnership with Lehigh University to host a campus garden and hold educational programming on-site in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.



- Partnered with Delaware Valley College to launch a one-year Organic Farming Certification Program specifically designed for military veterans and their families.
- Collaborated with The Pennsylvania State University, North Carolina State University, Iowa State University and Farm Aid to support a series of hands-on farmer workshops on organic soil improvement, organic no-till production and use of organic cover crops to manage weeds and provide nutrients to crops.

- Grew our Honeybee Conservancy to include "Sister Conservancies" throughout the United States. This allows us to better share our healthy beekeeping practices with a wider audience and create more backyard beekeepers.



- Hosted a two-day conference in partnership with Shumei Natural Agriculture. Throughout this conference we shared the philosophy, basic principles, scientific theories and how-to of Natural Agriculture.



- Re-launched New Farm magazine as a quarterly print publication. A longtime staple of farmers, New Farm provided valuable information on profitably producing and marketing healthy, honest food in ways that improve soil and nurture the environment.



- Continued to develop our Your 2 Cents program. Your 2 Cents is an innovative program that unites producers, consumers, researchers and educators to launch the next generation of organic farmers. This program was formed with the idea that companies donate two cents per case good sold to the Your 2 Cents Fund which awards scholarships to students of organic agriculture, assists new organic farmers, helps veterans establish new careers in organic farming and supports research projects on organic agriculture.



*Radical Root Farm - a Your 2 Cents grant recipient*



*Veterans in our Organic Farming Certification Program*

# ON THE FARM

- Expanded our Board of Directors. In 2013, we were proud to add the following individuals to our Board: Corby Kummer, a senior editor at *The Atlantic*; Grant Lundberg, CEO of Lundberg Family Farms; Roberta Lang, Vice President of Legal Affairs and General Counsel at Whole Foods Market; and Maya Rodale, a fourth generation Rodale family member and author.
- Entered into the 2nd year of our Agriculture Supported Communities program. The Agriculture Supported Communities (ASC) program at the Rodale Institute brings fresh, high-quality organic food to underserved communities and provides a viable business model for new or established farmers who want to enter these markets. In the 2013 growing season, we harvested over 40,000 lbs of food and fed over 150 families.



- Expanded our farm infrastructure to include a new greenhouse for organic food production, a geodesic dome and a high tunnel.
- Hosted our 3rd Annual Organic Pioneer Awards, a farm to table fundraising dinner held here on our farm. We use this event as an opportunity to honor several individuals who have led the organic movement. In 2013 we honored Alice Waters, Bob Quinn and David Pimentel.
- Added several new positions to our team. Hue Karreman, VMD joined Rodale Institute as Veterinarian; Aaron Kinsman, Media Relations Specialist; Rick Carr, Compost Production Specialist; Ross Duffield, Farm Manager; Sam Moll, Seasonal Greenhouse Sales and Marketing Coordinator; Molly Sweitzer, Marketing and Sales; and Kevin Breen, Animal Husbandry Coordinator.

- Received a one million dollar grant to support the Farming Systems Trial (FST)<sup>®</sup> and research efforts.
- Expanded our heritage breed livestock demonstration projects to include an oxen team, heritage breed hogs, a poultry operation with broilers and layers and Nigerian Dwarf goats.
- Worked with Applegate<sup>™</sup> to create a model that can be used to bring new hog farmers into the market.
- Prepared print materials based on research, including a handbook for vegetable growers supported by NE SARE, entitled “Beyond Black Plastic – Cover Crops and Organic No-Till for Vegetable Producers,” and a Soil Health fact sheet series prepared in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and PA Farm Link.
- Partnered with USDA to study the use of multiple-species, perennial, low-growing, Pennsylvania native plants to provide farmers with innovative crop production strategies that reduce erosion and compaction, eliminate the need for herbicides, and improve soil structure, drought resistance and overall soil health.
- Completed the first year of our collaborative work with Rutgers University to identify effective stink bug trap crops and study the effectiveness of these trap crops in protecting corn and soybeans from stink bug damage.



- Continued our work with ARS BARC and North Carolina State University to study the benefits of nutrient management practices in organic no-till systems.
- Developed research on utilizing high-quality compost and compost extracts to suppress weed growth and improve plant production, plant nutrient content and soil quality.
- Analyzed the results of milk samples we took from a neighboring dairy farmer who transitioned to organic in 2012 and partnered with USDA ARS to submit the results to industry journals.
- Finalized an agreement with Organic Valley to collaborate in a two-year study of three common organic methods of soil building to track chemical, physical and biological properties of the soil.



# RESEARCH