

# *Is Biodynamic Agriculture the Solution?*

By Tilo Crass, Director, Biodynamic Farming Education

**W**hen the development of the human consciousness depends on the inner quality of the food we eat, it urgently needs more people who are able to start, run, and operate fully diversified biodynamic farms that are able to provide life-giving food.

But what skills are necessary for this? What perceptions and ideas are sustainable in the long run?

***Every farm is unique. Soil, climate, landscape, and animals play a role—but the most decisive factor is always the farmer.***

Does the farmer possess true knowledge of his craft? Entrepreneurial competence? A living relationship to the animals, the soil, and the people?

Today, Canada's 62 million hectares of farmland are largely specialized, chemically sustained, and demand massive financial inputs through subsidies. Farmers often serve as mere executors

of an externally imposed intelligence. The ecological, social, and nutritional consequences are devastating.

*If agriculture is to serve life again, we need farmers who combine practical know-how with an awareness of the central responsibility agriculture bears for the soil, the plant realm, the animal kingdom, and human health.*

## **The New Diploma Program**

To meet this need, Rudolf Steiner College Canada is launching the first 2-year Online Diploma in Biodynamic Agriculture in North America. This pioneering program is designed for organic farmers, young people aspiring to enter agriculture, those seeking professional development, and anyone wishing to deepen their understanding of biodynamic agriculture.

The course combines 200 hours of live online instruction with four on-farm practicums at biodynamic farms. Graduates will receive a government-accredited diploma, a milestone in the



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professional recognition of biodynamic farming. 15 expert faculty teachers from diverse fields will bring their deep expertise to guide students through specialized subject areas, ensuring both breadth and depth of knowledge.

### Year One: The Farm as an Organism and Individuality

Students explore the philosophical and historical foundations of agriculture, the polarity between industrial production and agriculture, and the farm as a self-contained individuality. Practical modules cover soil, geology, cosmic influences, plant development, crop rotations, animal husbandry, veterinary homeopathy, and the social dimension of farming.

### Year Two: The Three Pillars of Soil Fertility

The focus shifts to advanced practice: soil cultivation through the seasons, sustainable crop rotations, on-farm seed

production, and biodynamic preparations. Students study composting, manure management, cover crops, weed control, and the formative forces behind fertility. The year concludes with business, marketing, and certification topics, as well as reflections on the farmer as an artist and mediator of the farm individuality.

### Looking Ahead

Only by understanding and working with the life-shaping forces behind the physical can farmers contribute to an evolutionary development of agriculture—one that delivers the quality of food humanity urgently needs today. This diploma program offers not just training, but a path toward renewal: the cultivation of farmers who can carry the torch of biodynamics into the future.

*This program is offered in collaboration with [Demeter Canada](#).*

For more information and to apply, please visit: [rsc.ca/biodynamic-diploma](http://rsc.ca/biodynamic-diploma)



## about Tilo Crass

Tilo Crass, Director of Biodynamic Farming Education, is a seasoned biodynamic farmer, educator, and consultant with over 25 years of hands-on experience. He is the founder of Bear River Farms in Nova Scotia and CEO of Bear Consulting Limited. Born and raised in Germany, Tilo studied under leading biodynamic mentors at the Dottenfelder Hof. He combines practical farming knowledge with a deep commitment to anthroposophy, offering a visionary yet grounded approach to biodynamic education at Rudolf Steiner College Canada.



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