



**Rudolf Steiner
College Canada**

for Anthroposophy • Waldorf Education • Arts

BIODYNAMIC FARMING DIPLOMA PROGRAM

**EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION
OF CONSCIOUS FARMERS**

Agriculture is crying out for more people – for real farmers. But the ancient wisdom, traditions and skills are gone, and it would be foolish to try to revive them. What is urgently needed today is people who can bring enlivened thoughts into the reality of a farm through the work of their hands. Our hands need to become guided by a higher understanding. We need to become aware of what we do, and why we do it, because reality is spiritual and physical **AT THE SAME TIME**, just as the human being is a physical-spiritual being. By looking at agriculture from that perspective, every farm can become a School of Consciousness.

To educate the earth as we raise and educate a child. That is the mission of every farmer. But before we can educate and build the earth, we need to educate ourselves. What skills do we need? What sensations and ideas are sustainable in the long run? While organic farming is based on soil biology, biodynamic agriculture is based on an understanding of the human being and its physical and spiritual configuration. The development of our human consciousness is deeply connected to the food we eat. That is why every further human development will be based on the way we farm. I would like to encourage you to join the **RSCC Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program**. For the first time in North America, we can offer an intense learning course that covers every detail of both the physical and also the spiritual aspects of a farm individuality. *Tilo Crass*



Director, Biodynamic Farming Education
Tilo Crass

AGRICULTURE IS CALLING

A farm always reflects the particular soil, habitat, climate, and the animals that live on it. But the most important factor is always the farmer.

What is the farmer's relationship to the animals on the farm and to the people who live and work there? Is the farm run like a factory, or does the farmer form and shape the farmstead like a sculpture – as a work of art? In what spirit does the farmer practice agriculture?

The success of a farm operation depends primarily on the knowledge and attitude of the farmer. But the modern conventional farmer is merely the executive organ of an externally determined intelligence. The consequences for the environment, plant life, the animals, and human nutrition are catastrophic.

If this is to change in the future, we need real farmers. Farmers who understand the historical development of agriculture throughout the ancient epochs, and who gain certainty about where agriculture actually wants and needs to go in the future.





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**FARMERS ARE NOT JUST BORN
THEY ARE MADE BY OTHER FARMERS**

Tilo Crass



Photo: Farmers and specialists exchanging insight in a biodynamic study session

The ability to start and operate a complete, diversified farm, with field crops, a variety of domestic animals, market gardens, pasture management, processing, value adding and marketing, is not taught at any university. It takes farmers to make new farmers: people who have their hands in the soil and have many years of practical experience.

Rudolf Steiner College Canada offers, for the first time in North America, a comprehensive online course that includes everything you need to know in order to operate or work on a biodynamic farm.

The online class focuses on practical know-how AND on the life-giving and form-shaping forces which are working beyond the physical. Only by gaining deep insight into those driving forces can farmers be enabled to inaugurate future development into the farm organism and the food it produces: food that people urgently need to support our personal development.

Organic, regenerative, sustainable, ecological, and biodiverse farming methods all have one thing in common: they are more or less focused on soil biology. The terms healthy soil, healthy plants, healthy animals and healthy food for human beings come out of this context.

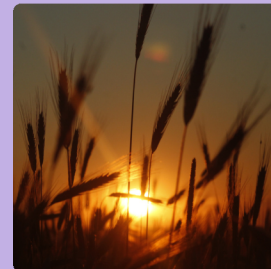
In every aspect of a **biodynamic farm**, the human being is the starting point. We extend scientific research methods towards the driving forces that work beyond the physical, without drifting into mystical esotericism. This requires a comprehensive understanding of the whole human configuration. We are not only physical beings. We are enlivened and ensouled AND we are conscious of it. We are aware of who we are.



A well-diversified farm in its origin is a mirror of the whole human being. In 1924 Dr. Rudolf Steiner gave eight lectures to farmers; these are the foundation of Biodynamic Agriculture. The content in its width and depth, and the application of the biodynamic preparations, can be understood ONLY out of a profound understanding of Anthroposophy.

The intense study of Steiner's Agriculture Lectures, in combination with other material, will be the foundation of this **Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program**.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN, WILL MAKE YOU GROW



RSCC is proud to offer a comprehensive Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program.

This two-year, distance-learning course is approved as a vocational diploma program under the Ontario Career Colleges Act, 2005. Our comprehensive curriculum covers every aspect of biodynamic agriculture. It will give each student deep insights into the inner workings of a biodynamic farm organism.

To gain hands-on experience during the time of study and to improve practical skills, all students are required to do practicums on accredited biodynamic farms.

Upon successful completion of all program requirements students will receive the Biodynamic Farming Diploma.

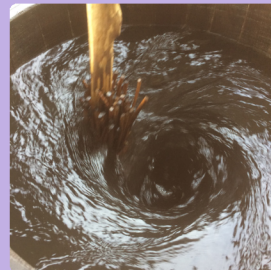
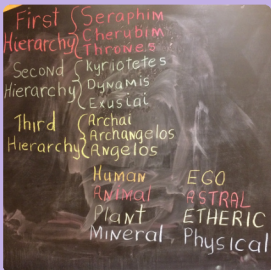
This qualification prepares learners to:

- start and operate a biodynamic farm
- work at any biodynamic enterprise worldwide
- take a position as farm manager, head gardener or livestock manager
- work in post-harvest roles such as biodynamic food processing
- work in biodynamic and organic certification services
- work in food advocacy and environmental protection agencies.

The Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program is open to participants in North America and worldwide who would like to deepen their knowledge of biodynamic agriculture.



A CURRICULUM FOR FARMERS BY FARMERS



The curriculum for the RSCC Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program covers every aspect of a working biodynamic farm.

The first year focuses on the farm as an organism and individuality.

This includes an understanding of the development of the human being through ancient time epochs, the principle of the ancient village with "centre and surroundings" starting in the 6th century, the three- and four-folding of the human being and its relation to a farm, and the intrinsic role of livestock on biodynamic farms.

The second year focuses on the three pillars of soil fertility:

- Soil cultivation in connection with the cycle of the year
- Crop rotation, cover cropping, seed saving, etc.
- Fertilizing.

The Biodynamic preparations are perhaps the biggest riddle in agriculture. The preparations are a living technology based on the highest spiritual insights. They can only be understood from a profound understanding of spiritual science.

Recognizing that substances change depending on their origin, and that they are carriers of forces, is crucial to understanding the nature and significance of biodynamic preparations. Farmers today need to understand thoroughly how to make and apply the preparations. They must be able to rationally explain the process in full detail.

Anthroposophical foundations are studied thoroughly and systematically during the two-year course. The resulting insights will pave the way for understanding the Agriculture Lectures by Rudolf Steiner, delivered in Koberwitz in 1924.

While the online Zoom lectures can teach a wide spectrum of theoretical knowledge, the practical know-how will be learned on biodynamic farms. Each student will need to complete four 2-week practicums during their two-year journey through the program.

This guarantees that all participants can gain essential practical experience corresponding to the subjects of the curriculum.

The practicums can be completed at Bear River Farms in Nova Scotia, or at any other biodynamic farm that can showcase the required activities and is approved by RSCC.

Summer Practicum

- Daily farm chores, feeding, milking, barn cleaning, pasture management
- Making of the stinging nettle & valerian preparation
- Hay making
- Grain harvest and post-harvest activities
- Product marketing (Farmers Market, CSA, Whole Sales, etc.)

Fall Practicum

- Daily farm chores, feeding, milking, barn cleaning, pasture management
- Setting up a compost pile and applying the compost preparations
- Making of the horn manure preparation
- Burying of the yarrow, chamomille, oak bark and dandelion preparation
- Field cultivation and seeding of winter crops
- Application of the horn manure and horn silica preparation

Winter Practicum

- Daily farm chores, feeding, milking, barn cleaning
- Preparing the barn manure with compost preparations
- Hay-flower and leaf-hay making
- Added value (cheese making, butchering, baking, milling flour, etc.)
- Create a detailed written "farm-profile" that showcases all details of the farm

Spring Practicum

- Daily farm chores, feeding, milking, barn cleaning, pasture management
- Repair and construction of new fences
- Unearthing the preparations
- Making of the yarrow, chamomile, dandelion and horn silica preparation
- Digging of a soil profile for soil analysis
- Applying horn manure and horn silica on fields and gardens



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500 YEARS OF ACCUMULATED EXPERIENCE

All RSCC instructors have a background in practice or current research. They are experienced in conveying the content and have a keen interest in engaging with the program participants. Students will benefit from over 500 years of accumulated experience.



Tilo Crass
RSCC Director for Biodynamic Farming Education
25 years of experience



Michael Schmidt
Biodynamic Farmer
50 years of experience



Peter Lundgard
Farmer and Agricultural Consultant
50 years of experience



Chris Boettcher
Biodynamic Farmer
30 years of experience



Cory Eichman
Biodynamic Farmer
30 years of experience



Robby Gass
MSc in Organic Farming
30 years of experience



Allan Kuhn
Biodynamic Farmer
25 years of experience



Thomas Schneider
Biodynamic Farmer
20 years of experience



Natalie Forstbauer
Biodynamic Farmer and Publisher
30 years of experience



Susan Beal
Holistic Veterinarian
35 years of experience



Gabe Cipes
Certified Viticulturist
15 years of experience



Marc McKerracher
Biodynamic Fruit Producer
10 years of experience



Paul Goodyear
Waldorf Teacher
50 years of experience



Philippe L'heureux
Independent Writer and Researcher
40 years of experience



Michael Cox
BSc, Waldorf Teacher
35 years of experience



Grant Davis
Teacher of Anthroposophy
30 years of experience



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Prerequisites:

You must be at least 18 years old and have a Secondary School Diploma or equivalent.
You must have physical strength and stamina appropriate for farm work during the practicums.
You must have access to an internet connection with sufficient bandwidth for video conferencing.

Registration:

Please visit: www.rsc.ca, fill out and submit the registration form and provide all required documents.
After evaluating your application we will contact you for a Zoom interview.
The first tuition fee instalment is due after the contract is signed.

Biodynamic Farming Diploma Program:

100 Zoom sessions at predetermined times
200 hours of live lectures by 15 expert faculty teachers
Intense study of the Agriculture Lectures
Access to video recordings after each session
Review of video recaps to monitor learning progress
4 x two-week practicums on a biodynamic farm (included in tuition fee)
Direct contact with the Program Director when necessary

Tuition:

\$100 one-time registration fee
\$13,900 for the full 2-year program
or
\$1,799 quarterly instalments

Not included in tuition: travel costs and books
Limited tuition loans available upon approval

**REGISTER NOW!
NEXT DIPLOMA PROGRAM
STARTS
JANUARY 2026**



Email: info@rsc.ca

Tel: 905-764-7570

Website: www.rsc.ca