

Good Morning!

3/16/21

I am introducing myself as a lifelong resident of Kendall Township in Lafayette Co. (S.E. of Belmont Wi). Myself and my wife Debbie have operated our farm since 1971. This farm was purchased by my parents in 1963. Being a fertile farm & quite a level laying acreage it has curb appeal, as city folks say. Being of that description it is at the forefront of an operator <sup>to</sup> maintain that quality. Percentage of slope can't be changed, but conservation practices can be implemented to increase production, longevity & land value. Being a livestock producer for most of my past there was always a need for alfalfa & corn production. Changes come about as we now have our land rented to a dairy producer. Over seeing the operation is now more important, because his needs include cutting corn silage & removal corn stalks from other fields. That brings about a reason to make some practice changes to protect from natural environmental harm. The location of the farm is on a high altitude thus wind erosion is a concern as well is water runoff. Farmers learn listening and watching other alike operations. That's when our operation was introduced to the Lafayette Co. organization known as Tala by our County Ag. instructor Josh Kamps.

It was brought forth that there was money available to implement different or new (to our operation) practices relative to ones needs. The money that was allotted for our operation was to implement using rye fall seeded on ground where sludge was removed. Seeded at a time so it could reach the green-up stage before frost. The second part of the plan is to seed in alfalfa as early as possible in the spring without disturbing the established rye to any extent. A quality feed can be harvested multiple times throughout the summer growing season. Alfalfa being the sole survivor for years to follow. At the date of this writing things look ~~very~~ very acceptable. ~~██████████~~

It would be my hope that I as a Con continue to aid those in many ways to pursue conservation practices for long term family farms.

The generosity concerning our operation from these hands to our hands is much appreciated.

Farmers are always in competition with them selves to get better as time moves on.

The "old saying" is theres always next year -- we hope?

Let's work together

Best of Debby Miller