

Farms with Integrated Agroforestry



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An aerial photograph of a farm landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, there are several long, straight rows of young trees planted in a field, creating a striped pattern of green and brown. To the left, there are more established trees and a dirt road. In the background, there are rolling green hills, a few farm buildings, and more fields. The sky is clear and blue.

Agroforestry: farming with trees

- Multifunctional landscapes
- Diversify income sources
- Build soil
- Reduce water runoff
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Sequester carbon
- Aesthetic and cultural benefits

Hoch Orchard – La Crescent, MN

An aerial photograph of a large pecan orchard at sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the landscape. The orchard consists of many rows of mature pecan trees, their green foliage contrasting with the lighter ground. In the background, a winding river or lake is visible, surrounded by more trees and distant hills. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Five USDA Agroforestry

Practices:

1. Windbreaks
2. Riparian Buffers
3. Alley Cropping
4. Silvopasture
5. Forest Farming

Pecan Orchard, Shepherd Farm
Clifton Hill, MO

1. Windbreaks

Strips of trees and shrubs designed to enhance crop or livestock production while providing conservation benefits.



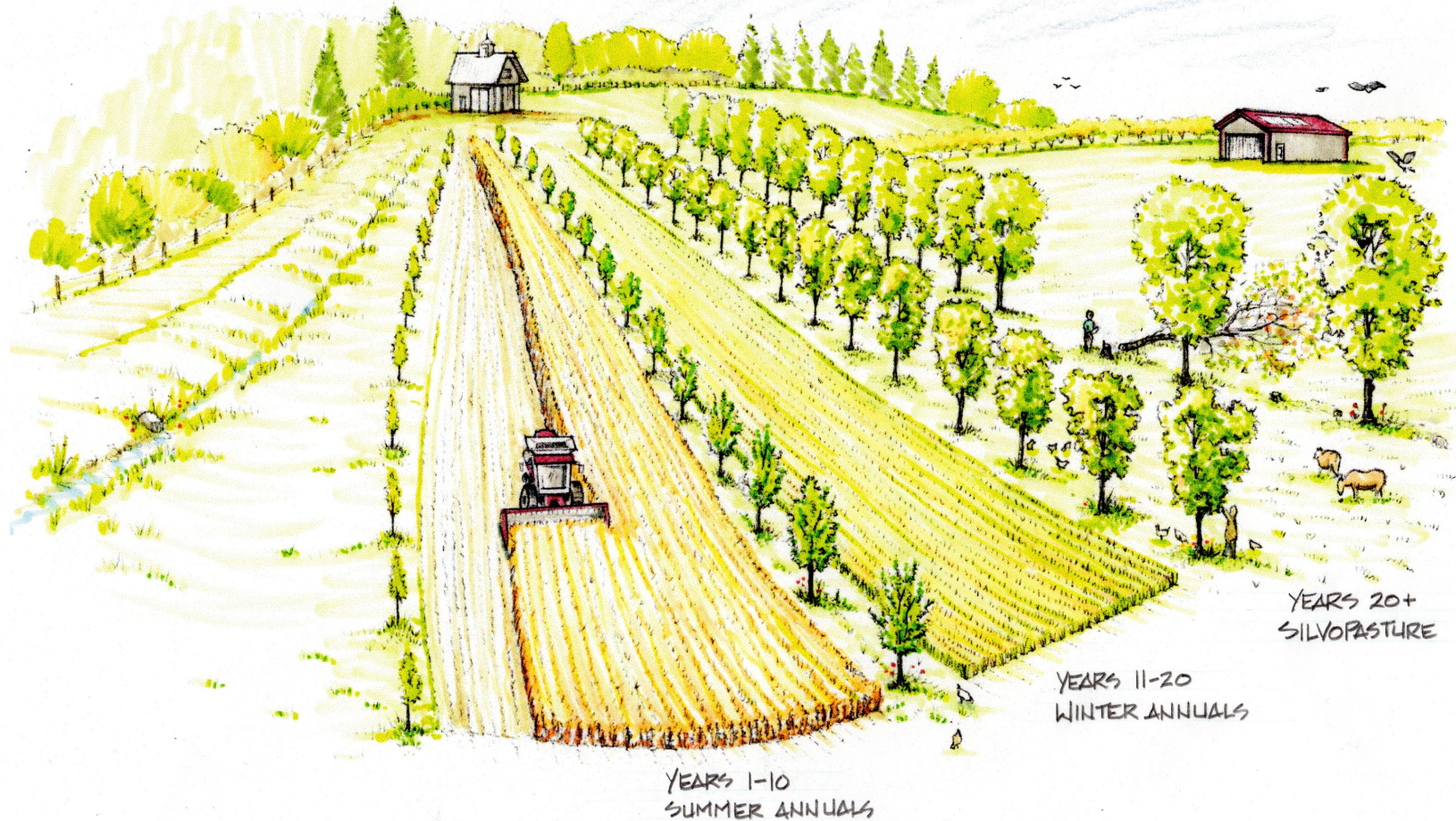
2. Riparian Buffers

Strips of permanent vegetation alongside a stream, lake, or wetland.



3. Alley Cropping

The cultivation of crops in the alleys between regularly spaced rows of trees or shrubs.



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Savanna Institute Demonstration Farm
Allerton Park – Monticello, IL

4. Silvopasture

The intentional integration of trees, pasture, and livestock, managed as a single system.



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Photo: National Association of Conservation Districts

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Seven Seeds Farm – Spring Green, WI

5. Forest Farming

The cultivation of specialty crops under forest canopy.



5. Forest Farming



Greg Judy, Green Pastures Farm
Clark, MO

Promising Midwest Agroforestry Crops

- Chestnuts
- Hazelnuts
- Elderberries
- Black currants

Twelve “Key Perennial Crop”
fact sheets available for free
on the Savanna Institute website!



Chinese Chest

- “Corn on trees”
- Low pest pressure
- Reliable high yields
- Low maintenance
- Harvest: Sep-Oct
- Years to production: 12-15



Hazelnuts

- “Soy on trees”
- Low input source of oil and livestock feed
- Challenges are machine harvest, winter hardiness and Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB)
- Harvest: Aug-Oct
- Years to production: 5-10



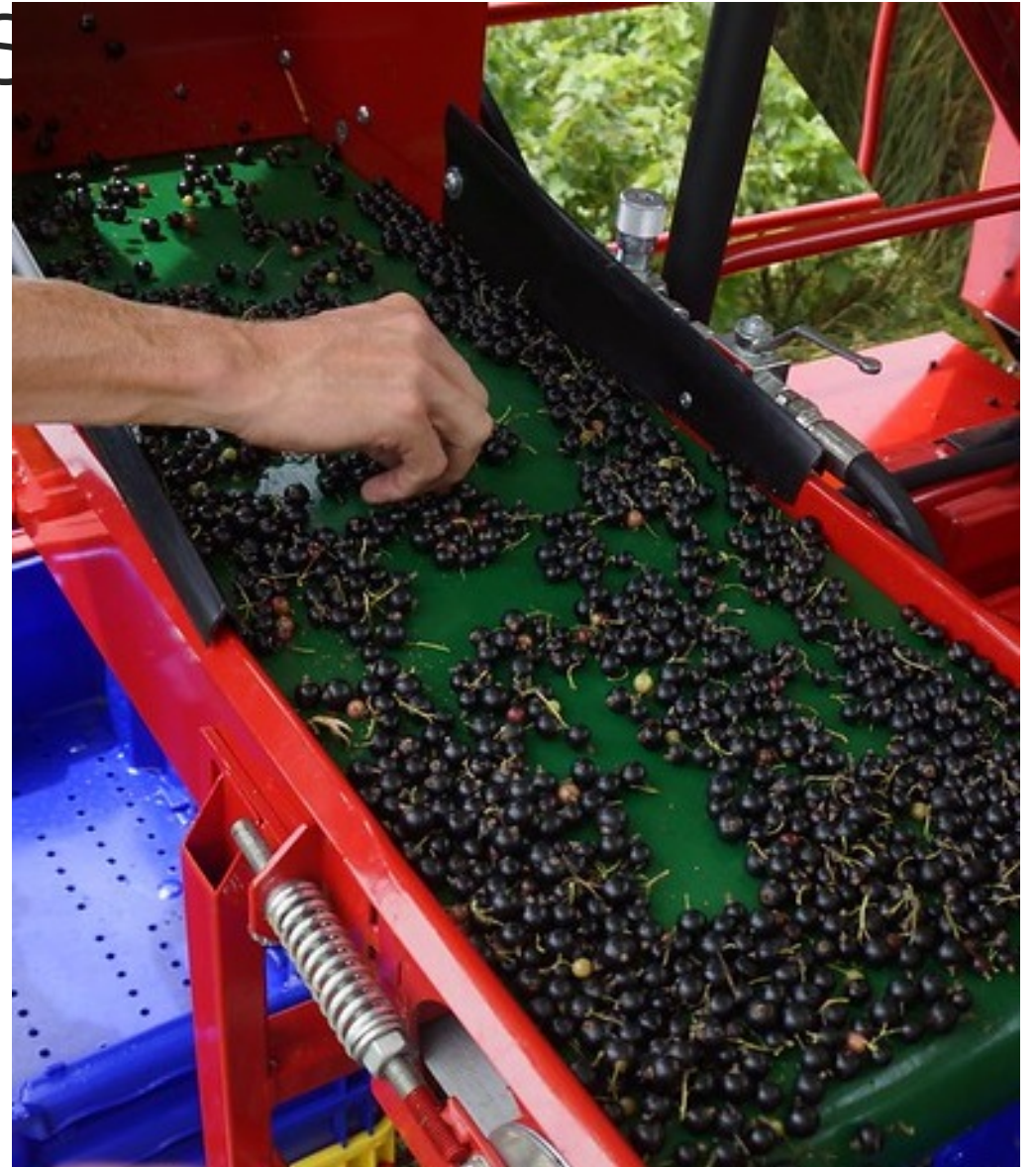
Elderberries

- Hardy native plants
- Easy to propagate and grow
- Good for pollinators
- Strong market for medicinal products
- Harvest: July-Sep
- Years to production: 2-3



Black Currants

- Produce well in partial shade
- Ripe fruit keeps well
- Well-suited for machine harvest
- 3x the vitamin C of oranges, 2x the antioxidants of blueberries
- Harvest: June-Aug
- Years to production: 3-5



More resources at
www.savannainstitute.org!



Red Fern Farm – Wapello, IA