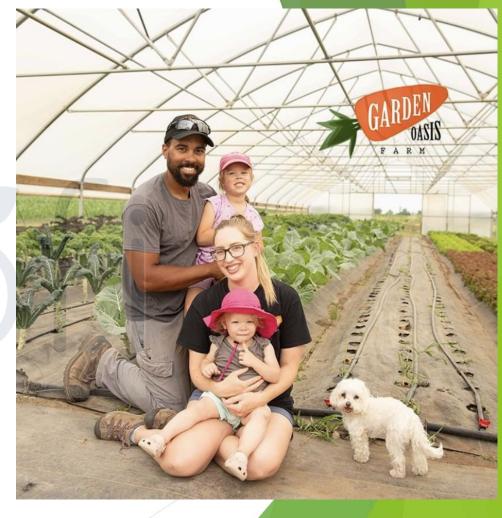
Garden Oasis Farm Owners: T.D. & Sarah Holub

- Started in 2012 (½ Acre)
- Now 10 acres (Produce on 6 acres)
- 4 High Tunnels, 1 Greenhouse
- Crops sold through CSA, Wholesale, On-Farm Sales
 - 35+ Types of Vegetables
- High Tunnel & Greenhouse Construction and Repair
 - Added in 2021 to help producers scale up their operations



How has our farm's production system changed?

- Crops have shifted into high tunnels
 - Early and Late Season
 - Lettuce, kale, chard, Choi
 - Cut greens (spinach, greens mixes)
 - Carrots, beets
 - Turnips, radishes
 - Full or Summer Season
 - Fennel, kales, chard
 - Tomatoes
 - Head Lettuce, Salanova Mix
- Nearly all field crops are transplants
- Almost all direct seeded crops done in tunnels
 - Better germination
 - Control over moisture, early season cond.



How have tunnels helped?

- Season extension with some control
 - Mitigates the effects of weather events, extreme temperature shifts, pests.
 - Higher yields
 - SPRAY DRIFT!
- Produce is cleaner!
 - No dirt splash, easy to clean quick
 - No battling weeds (hopefully)
 - Higher quality
- Better work and cash flow
 - Can work in the winter and fringe times of the season
 - Crops are raised and sold during periods of inactivity outdoors



Variety Specifics

- Kale- Winterbor, Redbor, Black Magic
- Spinach- Auroch
- Lettuce Mix- Salanova
- Head Lettuce
 - Red- Vulcan, Magenta, Ruby Sky
 - Green- Grazion, Starfighter, Muir
- Tomatoes- BHN-589, Geronimo
- Carrots- Mokum
- Beets- Red Ace, Boro
- New 2025 possibly: Sweet peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, broccolini (early)



Field Production

- Shift away from rototiller for soil prep
 - System change to prep fields
 - Mow, chisel, disc, perfecta
 - Reduces crusting
 - Less weed pressure (Stale bedding)
 - Healthier soil, more organic matter
 - Perfecta allows to work in wetter soils (unpredictable rain, weather events). Fast to use, beat the rain!
- Mechanically maintained
 - Waterwheel transplanter
 - Tine weeder, Cultivator
 - Ensures speed, ability to work in less than ideal conditions



Field Crops

- Broccoli vs. Broccolini
- Determinate vs. Indeterminate Tomatoes
- Direct seeded vs. transplants
- Baby vs. full size crops
- Mulching vs. Open field with cultivation
- Planting before May vs. after May 10
- Low fields in Fall vs. low fields in Spring
 Flooding, frost
- Hand weeding vs. mechanical cultivation



Crops we grow less of or none at all

- Less of:
 - Broccoli, cauliflower, early brassicas, onions, field tomatoes, winter squash, Brussels Sprouts
- None:
 - Green beans, tomatillos, storage cabbage, melons, field root crops, field lettuce, spinach and direct seed greens
- Succession Planting
 - More large plantings vs. smaller succession plantings
 - Fall Broccoli- planted twice, end of July
 - 5 years ago-15+ seedings/season
 - Now- 8-10 per season



Other Changes

- Working with other producers more to cover crop gaps
- CSA size
 - Less restrictive markets for crops
- Smaller farm staff
- Shifting to working indoors
 - Can harvest in all weather conditions
 - Family can be involved!
 - Comfortable=work performed more efficiently
 - Higher morale, no working in rain
- Evolving planting schedules
 - Garlic in December!



More Changes

- Smaller seed purchases throughout season
 - Allows more variability in what is planted
 - Reduces production waste
 - Planting is easier than maintaining! Especially when field conditions are bad
- High priority on weed management
 - One rain away from no control in the fields
 - Makes maintenance and harvest easier!
- Off-farm work?
 - Not drawing all income from volatile growing conditions

