

# Fields of Green



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## Holiday Update

This year has gone by quicker than most as we are already into the month of December. We completed a successful harvest and got most of the field work done we were hoping to accomplish this fall thanks to the dry conditions. Until this week's snow we haven't had much moisture in the last 3-4 months. Our annual precipitation as been about 16 inches this year which is about 10 inches or so less than normal. Thank goodness for irrigation in our area or we would be in much worse shape. This fall has been a bit different than normal as we no longer have any cattle to take care of. We decided to exit the cattle business in September and sold the last of our herd back in October. This decision has been made easier now with the cold temperatures we have had recently and knowing we don't need to go feed or thaw waterers. We have rented out our pasture ground to another young producer from the Edgar area and a neighbor to one of the pastures. We may get back into cattle someday when the economic conditions for raising cattle improve but for now, we are using our extra time to grow our other lines of business in ag sales selling Pivot Bio and Beck's Seeds to area farmers.



## Using Less Synthetic Nitrogen has Climate Benefits

One feature of utilizing Pivot Bio’s products in replacing synthetic Nitrogen being able to generate Nitrogen credits due to Pivot Bio being a biological form of nitrogen. Through Pivot Bio’s N-Ovator program we provide our planting, application, and harvest data to them proving that we reduced our synthetic nitrogen application by 25-40 lbs per acre. By documenting nitrogen replacement in each crop cycle this creates an annual opportunity for credit generation.

The Pivot Bio N-OVATOR program is unique in the industry and focuses on the reduction of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions by replacing synthetic nitrogen fertilizer with nitrogen produced by nitrogen-fixing microbes. This program is not focused on carbon sequestration activities on the farm. Ultimately, the formulas used to calculate N<sub>2</sub>O emissions and environmental impact are converted into carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e) equivalent units to provide a consistent measurement and “currency” for trades with buyers seeking to reduce their “carbon footprint.” A CO<sub>2</sub>e unit is equivalent to a metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub> or 2,205 pounds. A Nitrogen Credit is achieved when a metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions has been reduced. These credits are then verified with the Verra registry protocol VM0022 which is a leader in GHG emissions program standards. This is one way that we can help reduce our carbon footprint on our own farm and generate credits for other industries looking for offsets to buy to achieve “net-zero emissions”. While small now in terms of additional revenue, nitrogen credit generation may be a more significant opportunity in the future as the demand for carbon sequestration credits matures.

## Family Updates:

Wade and Abby are expecting their 2<sup>nd</sup> child in February.

## Market Update 12-23-22

Corn: Shickley Grain		
	December Delivery	\$6.61
Soybeans: Shickley	December Delivery	\$14.29
Grain		
Soybeans: Cargill		
Carleton	December Delivery	\$14.84
	October Delivery	\$13.43
Corn: Poet Fairmont	December Delivery	\$7.06
	October Delivery	\$5.87

