

**Workshop Title:**

Climate Ready Agriculture

**Speakers:**

Chris Wooding

**Executive Summary:**

Chris spoke about the coming changes that we will face from climate change and our farms will need to be adaptive. He shared some of the strategies that he has been implementing on his farm in order to keep the soil healthy so that it will be able to be elastic when faced with environmental extremes.

**Main Notes:**

Diversity Stability Resiliency.

Fight or flight reaction when faced with topic of climate change. 2 camps - proactive and reactive. Innovation.

The word innovation has been used most heavily during 2 periods in time that can be related to times of war and hunger.

Colder then - Hotter now.

Climate change triggers large movements.

Humans are good at innovation but often without understanding.

Humans often don't have sustainable activity.

The planet is finite.

We are innovative, might not be sustainable.

Context of the planet.

Look at us. Every part of us came from the soil.

The whole system needs to be intact for the small part to function that feeds us.

Ecosystem Service we can grow.

Nature provides many services to us for free.

Compounding chain of events

Approaching Storm Clouds.

Threats we are facing.

We cannot imagine the compounding cumulative effects

Our role on the farm.

We own the farm and the farm owns us.

If we take care of it, it can become resilient.

Each farm has its people or tribe.

Diversity.

We harvest the surplus of nature.

On Farm Hope

Initiative that mitigate climate change.

Hedgerows.

Plant trees / Restore hedgerows.

We have foresight that is an asset and danger to us.

Pest management.

Potato management.

Grow soil. 2mm part of the soil is where soil and air interact.

Seed saving and open pollination.

Elasticity vs. plasticity.

Worth it to sacrifice yield in favour of resiliency.

Old genetics.

Disease is a good thing, it leads to immunity.

It's good to keep them around

Epigenetic mechanism.

Crop diversity.

Many diversified grains.

Every year there are some things that fail and other things that do great. Diversification leads to stability.

Why are we doing all this?

Time is running out. On climate change.

Ecological goods and services are worth more than revenue.

Nature does things better than our technology can do.

Diversity resiliency stability.

We don't need stability, we need elasticity.

Seeds, germplasms.

Customers are investors and the ecological goods and services are their dividends.

We are climate pioneers.

Ours needs to be an exploration of restoration.

[Questions]

Criteria used to adapt to technology.

Efficiently. Not used chronically. Appropriate technology. Re-use of energy paid already for old but sturdy machinery.

Good use of technology. Good bang for buck energy. Needs to leave the land in the same or better state.