

# Restoring soil, profits, farms and futures

Understanding Ag's team of world-class consultants help our clients successfully implement practices that restore soil health and ecosystem function, which reduces dependency on expensive inputs and leads to sustained profitability.





## **Meet Consultant Michael Thiele**

Michael was born and raised in Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada on a typical Prairie farm. Wheat and canola dominated the crop rotation with some barley, oats and peas. A small herd of cows grazed the unfarmed acres.

Michael's career trajectory was most likely farming, given his active involvement in the family farm and his decision to study Plant Science in the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Manitoba.

In hindsight, not returning to the family farm after graduating university was a blessing for Michael. Instead, he began a 30-plus-year journey to understand agriculture and the importance of soil, water, sunlight, plants and animals and the realization that all the parts are interconnected – a concept critical to the long-term success of food production and the health of the biosphere.

Over that time Michael has worked with many conservation organizations focused on soil, water and wildlife habitat in the context of Prairie agriculture.

#### **Our mission**

Understanding Ag is a regenerative agricultural consulting company that provides the support and confidence to help our clients reduce input costs, generate actual profits and ensure family farming futures. We accomplish this by educating and mentoring farmers, ranchers, landowners, businesses, and communities in the principles and practices needed to restore, repair, rebuild, regenerate their farming and ranching ecosystems.

#### Who we are

Understanding Ag's consultants are real farmers and ranchers who combine decades of experience to help our clients successfully implement regenerative agricultural and ecological principles that replace the inputintensive, agricultural model to enable sustained profitable farming and ranching operations. Understanding Ag, LLC also offers consulting and planning services for multi-enterprise systems, businesses, organizations and communities.

### **Meet Consultant Michael Thiele**

More recently, Michael has worked directly with producers to build regenerative agriculture plans that are designed to rebuild degraded soils and restore farm profitability.

# Your partner in regenerative agriculture

I am an unapologetic ecologist, conservationist, environmentalist and agrologist. These disciplines are not antagonistic in my mind. Agriculture needs healthy ecosystems and biodiversity. This is the understanding that I use as a foundation for my consulting work.

And from a deeper understanding of nature, we can gain the wisdom to improve decisionmaking and overall farm function (ecosystems, production and profitability).

If this makes sense to you, then I am your consultant.

Together we will build a regenerative plan for your farm. This can be exciting and inspiring but also full of uncertainty. My job is to help facilitate change on the farm and guide you through the process – the successes and the challenges.

I have worked with many types of farms including conventional grain and cattle operations, organic grain and cattle and dairy and the successes are encouraging. With good grazing management, I have documented increases of 1% soil organic matter in 1-3 years. Adding diversity to cropping systems has shown an impressive improvement in farm profitability.



My goal is to assist producers put it all together: regenerate soil and biodiversity, increase profitability and grow high quality mineral dense food.

# Contact us today

Begin your journey to greater profitability by visiting **understandingag.com**, by calling (256) 996-3142, or by e-mailing <u>kathy@understandingag.com</u>.

Your first 30-minute phone consultation is free and without obligation.