

Doing the Right Thing for the Right Reasons

How Operational Excellence Drives Conservation

Mountaire[®]
Care That Cultivates[™]

Approach to Conservation

A large industrial facility, possibly a grain elevator or a chemical processing plant, is shown at dusk or dawn. The facility features several tall, cylindrical silos and storage tanks, some of which are illuminated from within, casting a warm glow. A complex network of pipes, ladders, and structural steel is visible on top of the silos. In the foreground, a red truck is parked near one of the silos, and a large semi-truck is visible in the distance, partially inside a large industrial building. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, suggesting the time is either early morning or late evening.

Operational Excellence

Resource stewardship

Partnerships

Focus on areas of expertise

Science-based, outcome driven practices

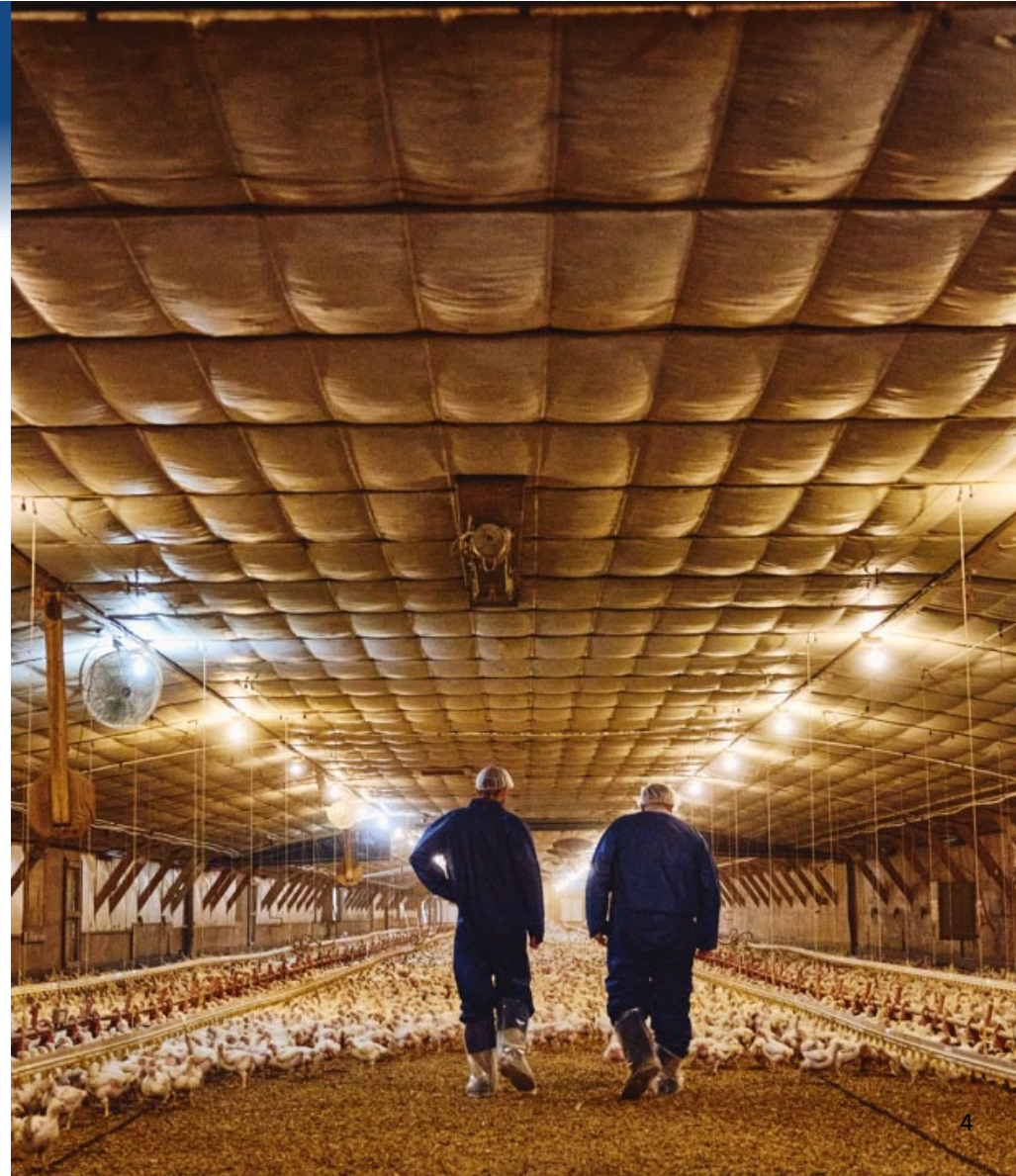


Miscanthus Grass

Animal Welfare, Watershed Protection, Circular Economy

Welfare & Performance

- Ammonia and moisture reduction
- Better paw health and reduced dermatitis
- Improved feed conversion, bird weight averages, and reduced mortality
- Consistency in supply and quality reduces stress on operations





Environmental Benefits

- 52% reduction in nitrate leaching vs. corn
- 59% lower sediment loss at field edges
- 2.2 tons/hectare increase in soil organic carbon over 3 years
- 21% less phosphorus loss when used as buffer
- Carbon sequestration: up to 1.1 tons/acre annually
- Improves infiltration, erosion control, and nutrient capacity

Circular Economy & Local Compost

- Miscanthus – the perfect feedstock for compost / anerobic digestion?
- Feedstock includes: litter, grain and eggshells
- Reduces landfill use and transforms by-product into high-quality fertilizer
- Compost analysis shows high organic matter, stable pH, and ideal NPK balance
- Supports closed-loop sustainability





Conservation Impact & Farm Resilience

- Produces income diversity through perennial cropping
- Useful for fields with legacy nutrient challenges
- 10-15 year establishment with minimal inputs
- Supports watershed goals
- USGS, NRCS, Conservation Innovation Fund

Turning Waste Into Value



Resource Recovery

- Diverting 5,250 tons/weekly
- Capturing nutrient value
- Products include:
 - Chicken by-product meal
 - Poultry fats
 - Feather/blood meal

By-products (solids)

- Solids are pressed
- Resulting in 80% reduction in weight
- Products incorporated into compost
- Minimize land application
- Align resource with need



Resource Stewardship

A photograph of a yellow chick standing next to a red and grey plastic feeder in a barn. The background is blurred, showing other chicks and blue circular bokeh lights.



Feed Conversion

April 2009

- Age: 59.95
- Avg. Wt: 8.19
- FC: 2.11
- Daily Gain: .1364
- Adj. FC: 1.992

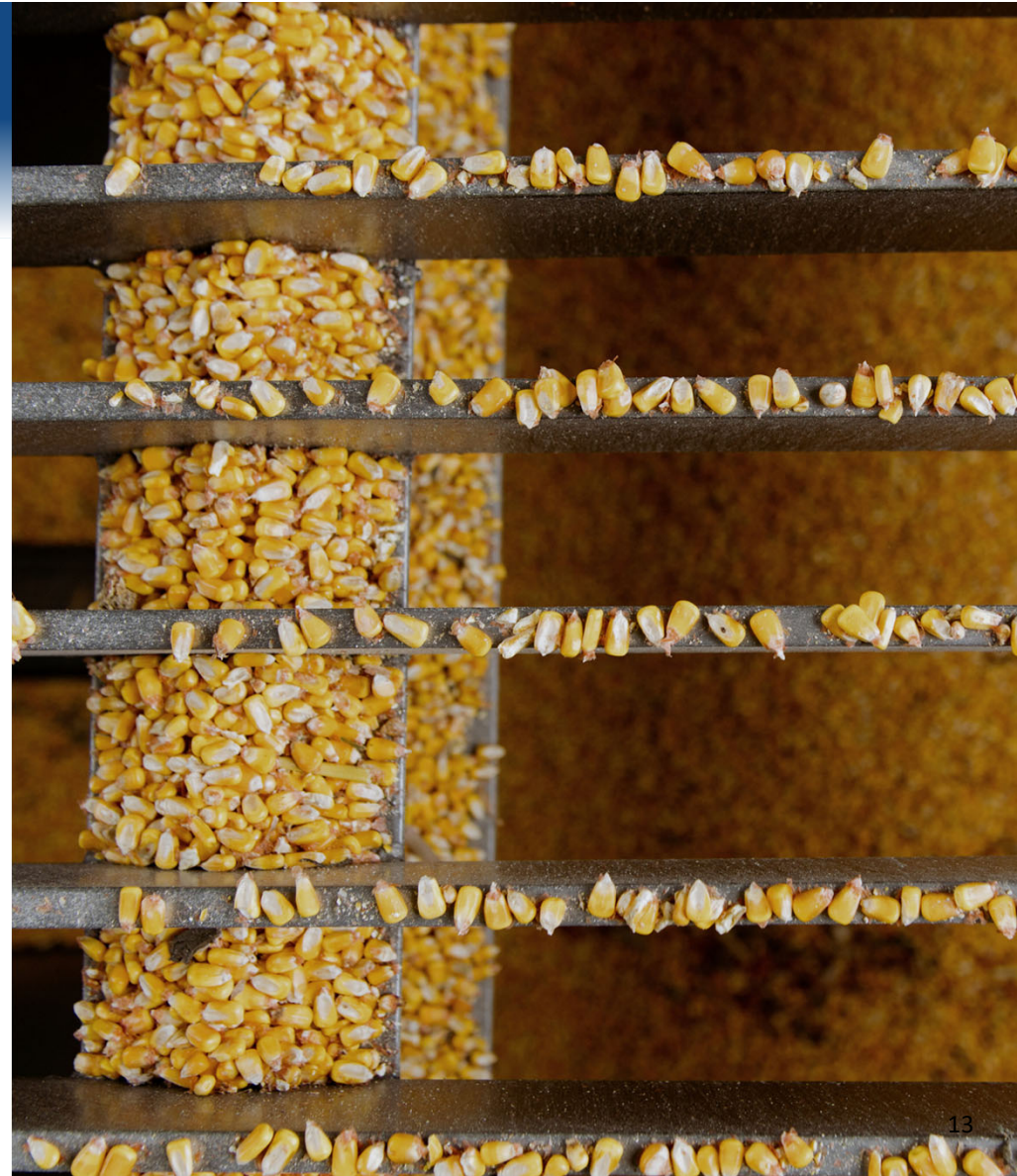
October 2024

- Age: 57.5
- Avg. Wt: 10.40
- FC: 1.83
- Daily Gain: .1809
- Adj. FC: 1.49

Corn Use & Impact

2009 vs. 2024

- 171k bushels less weekly
- 8,927,672 bushels less annually
- Nitrogen reduction (1lb/bushel)
- US Avg Yield (25' est.) – 186bpa
- 29,954 less corn acres
- 400k feed corn acres MD (24')





Water Use

- Industry leaders
- Large bird plant – 1/38
- Tray pack plant – 1/22

What's next....

An aerial photograph of a farm complex. Two long, green barns with grey roofs run parallel to each other, separated by a grassy area. To the left of the barns is a dense line of green trees. Beyond the barns are large, golden-brown fields, likely harvested corn. In the background, there are more farm buildings and a line of trees under a hazy sky.

Conservation as a Competitive Advantage

Sustainability is not marketing; it is not a tactic – it's a business imperative
Efficiency and responsible resource management help future-proof our operation
Let's build a smarter watershed by scaling innovation - together



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