Extension’s Role in Educating Ohio Growers about the Carbon Markets

Dr. Jacqueline Wilkins

Associate Dean and Director, Ohio State University Extension
Chair, Department of Extension
Farmers Take the Stage

Biden’s climate change strategy looks to pay farmers to curb carbon footprint

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Emma Newburger
@EMMA_NEWBURGER

KEY POINTS

• The Biden administration is looking to steer farm aid from the USDA’s Commodity Credit Corporation to encourage carbon emissions reductions on farms.

• By adapting more “regenerative practices,” experts estimate that American farmers can sequester a large enough portion of emissions to avert a climate catastrophe.
Ripped from the Headlines

Carbon markets lure farmers, but will benefits be enough to hook them?

The Three Biggest Trends in Carbon Markets

HOW CARBON MAY BECOME ANOTHER CROP FOR FARMERS

The Three Biggest Trends in Carbon Markets

U.S. farms are poised to become environmental solutions providers, with big potential to sequester carbon. But navigating this complex ecosystem will require careful planning and understanding. As U.S. agriculture continues to find clarity on the potential of carbon markets, growing interest in solutions, why is demand for sustainability driving the industry closer to solutions? How can farmers lead the most promising trends? How can farmers lead the climate? Why do all segments of the food and

Folded arms and furrowed brows among frustrated farmers greeted former Rep. Bob Inglis (R-SC) at a National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) meeting in the mid-2010s.

Inglis was then a rarity among Republican legislators. He made his case for market-based solutions to mitigate the impact of human-
Farmers and the Environment—What’s Trending?

- Sustainable agriculture
- Environmental stewardship
- Nutrient management
- Water quality best practices

Carbon Credits
Carbon Market Dilemma

A Farm Journal Pulse poll conducted in March reports that 64% of farmers say they need more trustworthy information to help them decide whether to commit to a carbon market program.

To date, only 1% of farmers has actually signed a contract, though between 30% and 40% of the 400 farmers surveyed are aware of opportunities to get paid for sequestering carbon.

Source: March Ag Economy Barometer, Purdue University

Farmers Reality Check Carbon Markets

Source: Farm Journal
Key Information and Tools Desired

• Determining carbon footprint baselines
• Understanding carbon credits and the carbon market
• Knowing IF and WHEN to sell and at what price
• Decision-making around short and long-term investments
Forthcoming Extension Resources and Tools

• Extension Sequestration Specialist in partnership with C-MASC
• Partnering with CFAES Knowledge Exchange to create a one-stop-shop for science-based information on all things carbon
• CFAES Extension Carbon Team to develop tools and resources for carbon decision-making:
  o Basic information on carbon
  o Webinars
  o Factsheets
  o Decision-making tools
  o On-farm research
  o Farm Science Review educational programs interactive learning
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