

Katrina Becker

247011 Baldwin Creek Rd Athens WI - 715-432-4683 –
cattailorganicfarm@gmail.com

Recent Employment

Farmer/Owner Cattail Organics Athens WI 2017-Present

Operate a 50 acre farm with 17 acres tillable, current 5.65 acres in vegetable, herb, flower, small fruit production; Maple syrup production; family scale livestock, small apiary. 2 acres perennial fruits and beneficial insect habitat. 50% sale to direct whole sale including schools; restaurants; small grocery; 50% to CSA. farmers market. Pioneered CSA veggie prescriptions 2019 program with local HMO; helped create frozen vegetable CSA with Central Rivers Farmshed now in 5th season. cattailorganics.com

Farmer/Owner Stoney Acres Farm Athens WI 2005-2017

Grew up to 14 acres of diversified vegetables, created on-farm pizza night, managed 200+ acres of additional hay, pastures, grain, maple syrup, pork, beef, poultry production. Ran formal internship program with UW Stevens Point 2008-2010; University Georgia intern 2011-12

Instructor UW-Marathon County 2006-2013

Taught Sociology, Organic Agriculture, Environmental Studies Women's Studies

Education

M.S. Rural Sociology University of Wisconsin – Madison. Madison Wisconsin 2005

B.S. International Agriculture and Development; B.S. Rural Sociology Cornell University Ithaca NY 2003

Relevant course work in Soil Science; Plant Breeding and Physiology; Agricultural Economics; Agroecology; Horticulture; Community Development.

Current Continuing Education

- FFI UW-Madison Farm Financials Boot Camp 2021
- Empowered Farm Financials Training (For MOSES Mentorship) 2021
- Organic Seed Production Master Course 2021
- Plant to Profit Farm Mastermind Cohort 2020-21
- Cost to Grow Paired Profitability Study with OSU and UW-Madison
- Reduced Tillage Co-learning Research Community Participant – UW Madison Facilitated

Awards

Beginning Young Farmer Marathon County 2009; John Kinsman Beginning Farmer Award 2011; 2015 UW Madison Badger of the Year Marathon County; Untied FCS Young Farmer award 2016; Fruit Guys Community Grant Recipient 2017; Frontera Foundation Grant Awards

(Stoney Acres 2013; Cattail Organics 2020); Buy Local Buy Wisconsin Grant (2020); USDA VAPG Grant 2021.

Recent Research/Collaboration/Publication

Participant Reduced Tillage co-learning/research group. Upper midwest Organized by Rue Genger UW-Madison

Farmer/Breeder. Seed to Kitchen Plant Breeding Farm Collaborative UW-Madison 2021-present

Collaborator Vegetable Compass Project 2010-2011 Research; 2020 farmer team on new data collection methods. <http://www.veggiecompass.com>

Farm Reduced Tillage Research Site Collaborator USDA SARE "Building resilience to extreme rainfall events: cover crop-based reduced tillage strategies for diversified organic vegetable farms". 2020-2022

Farmer cooperator Systems Profitability "Know Your Cost to Grow" Oregon State University 2020- Present

Co-author "Growers Guide to Conducting On-Farm Variety Trials" Organic Seed Alliance https://seedalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Growers-guide-on-farm-variety-trials_FINAL_Digital.pdf

Farmer collaborator USDA SARE **Tomato Trials for Flavor, Productivity and Season Extension Dawson Lab 2018-2021**

Farmer collaborator USDA SARE **Should I Start a CSA Farm?: An Educational Video Series for Current & Aspiring CSA Farmers 2019-2021**

On-Farm Research **Organic Potato Project** UW-Madison Collaborator 2021-present

On-Farm Research **Seed to Kitchen Initiative** UW-Madison Dawson Lab Research Site 2014-present

Recent Presentations

- MOSES Organic Farming Conference 2022 Plant Pathology Boot Camp.
- New Hampshire High Tunnels Conference Presenter 2020
- MOSES Organic Farming Conference Presenter 2012, 2015, 2018, 2019 Ranging from diversification; on-farm research; farm relationships; CSA economics.
- Organic Vegetable Production Conference Presenter 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019 Topics including peppers, reduced tillage, farm economic systems key note panel.
- Organic Upper-midwest Seed Meeting Participant and Presenter 2019
- Women Food and Agriculture Conference Madison WI 2018 Presenter Farm Separations and Transitions
- Wisconsin Agritourism and Diversification Wisconsin Farmers Union Presenter 2016

Public Service

- Wisconsin Vegetable Manager Apprenticeship Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Board of Creation 2015-2017, Current Host Farm for Apprenticeship.
- New and Emerging Crop Advisory Board appointee UW-Madison 2021
- Marathon County Hunger Coalition Business Partner 2019-present
- MOSES Organic Formal Mentor 2019-Present
- Central Rivers Farmshed Farmer Board Member 2021
- Wausau Winter Farmer Market Vice President 2020-present
- Marathon County Advisory Committee on Rural Broadband 2018-present
- Slow Food Marathon County Board 2015-2020
- Wisconsin Farmers Union, Marathon County Board (Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President) 2010-Present
- Fairshare CSA Coalition Madison WI Grower Education and Endorsement Committee 2016-Present
- Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems Citizens Advisory Board 2012-Present
- Family Farm Defenders Board of Directors 2008-2017
- Athens School Board Local Business Advisory Board 2014-2016
- MOSA Organic Certification Agency Board of Directors 2012-2016