



## Haanover View's Field Crop Program

At this time we crop approximately 475 workable acres. Our entire cropping program is net return focused, reasonable yields for minimal investment/risk. We rejuvenate the soil with crop rotation and the use of livestock and green manures. When required, we use precision application of fertilizer and herbicides, using them sparingly and timing them right. However, if at all possible we will consider an alternative approach such as the use of a row crop cultivator, summer fallowing or use of a cover crop. We use a mixture of minimum tillage and no till technologies to reduce fossil fuel usage and greatly reduce soil erosion from wind and water movement. Since the 2010 crop season, Haanover View Farms has been GMO free in their cropping program.

Crops currently include hay, red clover, barley (sometimes mixed with field peas) oats, wheat, corn and one field of sunflowers.

Hay; we generally grow hay on fields that are not suited to crops such as corn or grain, these would be fields with drainage or soil depth issues...we sell some of our premium hay, use the mid grade hay for our expanding beef cow herd and poorer quality hay is often used as bedding for our market hogs.

Red clover; we like to use red clover in our fields as a soil builder and nutrient supplier (nitrogen mostly) for future crops, especially corn. The clover is generally baled in small square bales and used as bedding and roughage source for our dry sows and as high protein hay for young cattle. Barley; we find growing barley allows us to spread out our risk in crop growing and spread out work load, especially for our older combine. Barley is an excellent feed for all sizes of pigs but we like to blend it into finisher rations for its benefits in the pork. We often mix field peas into our barley crop for added protein (3% advantage right off the field) and for pea's ability to improve soil nitrogen levels.

Oats; often used when reseeding a field into hay and blended in smaller amounts into feed rations. We also have used oats in double cropping. We harvest a wheat crop and reseed to oats, allow the oats to go to head and then harvest the oats as a green feed for dry sows or the cattle or bale it, wrap it in plastic to make oat ledge as livestock feed.

Corn; corn variety selection is based on stand ability, not just yield, so that we can combine later in the season. This way we reduce combine fuel usage and soil compaction. There is also no need to dry corn with fossil fuels, which leaves a smaller environmental footprint and more nutrients in the corn for our livestock.

Sunflowers; we love growing sunflowers! You will see lots of pictures in our virtual farm tour of sunflowers, both in flower and at harvest, along with many pics of our fields, crops and harvests. We hope this gives you insight to what happens on our fields, and as always, got questions, please contact us!