

Nelson and Erla Horning farm about 75 acres at the northern most farm on Lovejoy Road northwest of Penn Yan.

Sustainability is the hallmark of this farm by the very nature of the people who manage it.

Grass based beef production – Providing grass as the only feed for beef throughout the entire lifecycle is an entirely natural experience for the animal. It is also the most economical way to feed beef. The cattle turn feed, very poorly utilized by humans, into nutrient dense food that is both healthy and enjoyable



High Tunnel production - An alternative to a fully heated greenhouse, high tunnels have no supplemental heat or automated ventilation. Otherwise they resemble a greenhouse. High tunnels are an excellent step toward sustainability because they require no electricity or fossil fuels and can eliminate or drastically reduce pesticide use over field production. High tunnels mature crops quicker and provide higher quality product through the elimination of wind and rain.

After summer vegetable production ceases on this farm the high tunnel becomes the facility for rearing fresh turkeys just in time for Thanksgiving.

Diversification – Nelson Parts inventories the equivalent of about three hundred tractors for distribution throughout North America. This home based enterprise provides a much needed service when parts from more common sources cut deeply into family income.



Pastured Poultry – Poultry raised on pasture require less grain than industrially confined birds. The chicken raised in this manner offers that unique flavor so often missed by the old timers who grew up eating broilers that roamed the barn yard; a delicious gourmet treat.

Giving back – Whether through the children they rear, their economic commitment to the community, educational involvement, or their willingness to share in whatever they can, the Hornings have always been available for others.