

Martens Farm 1443 Ridge Road, Penn Yan, NY

Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens and their farm team manage 1,300 acres of organic grain crops and processing vegetables on rolling, glacially derived soils distributed between Penn Yan and Geneva, New York, in the Finger Lakes region. They are also innovators in a wide range of weed management techniques and machinery, and organizers of a successful, home-grown farmer to farmer extension and networking effort, New York Certified Organic. They stress that the success of the organic grain farmers through the region lies in collaboration and in generating a critical mass for marketing and sharing of information.

Klaas Martens simultaneously cultivating sweet corn and networking on a cell phone.



A tine weeder is used to kill weeds just after corn emergence, when weed seedlings are more vulnerable to the tines than the vigorous corn seedlings.



Clover interseeded into spelt that will provide home-grown nitrogen for a corn crop the following spring. This rotation is in wide use by many grain farmers in the Finger Lakes.