HENRY ANTON PELLER
OEFFA SOIL HEALTH AMBASSADOR
Mixed Vegetable and Perennial Crop Farmer
Roseville, Ohio

Henry's 125-acre family farm includes crop fields, orchards, forests, wetlands, and prairie adjacent to the village of Roseville in southeast Ohio. The primary farm product is willow, grown on about 8 acres of lowland soils. Henry also grows produce on 4 acres, where he mobilizes an armada of soil health practices in zero-herbicide, minimum tillage production systems. Specifically, he sows cereal and legume cover crops each fall, terminates them using a homemade roller crimper and occultation tarps the following spring, and direct seeds or transplants fresh market and staple food crops using no-till planting tools. "My motivation to farm comes in many forms: respect for soil organisms, concern for the impacts of agriculture on water and climate, encouragement from friends and community, and the imperative to produce efficiently and generate sales."

If you are interested in connecting with one of OEFFA's Soil Health Ambassadors to hear about their lessons learned and to share the soil health goals for your farm and the challenges you face, contact OEFFA to be connected with a Soil Health Ambassador in your area!

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