

COMET QUARTERLY

COMET-Farm Newsletter



 Shelburne Farms

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 Shelburne Farms

Shelburne Farms: Giving People Hope to Inspire Action



 Courtney Ley

The year is 1972, ten years after Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* debuted inspiring a new found resurgence in conservation, and the six Webb siblings shared the dream of providing an educational resource to shift the mindset of people's relationship with nature. As means of preventing the family farm from falling into the same development trajectory as much of the Burlington area had with a population boom, the Webb siblings embarked on a non-profit journey, with no idea it would blossom into the learning hub it is today. From a rugged, back-to-nature summer camp with a handful of children, to a center for teachers, students, families, and the community members, Shelburne Farms has grown to inspire and cultivate learning for a sustainable future.

With a focus on sustainability and education about practices that maintain and improve the integrity of the land since the farm began as a nonprofit, Shelburne Farms established a goal of reaching carbon negative by the end of this decade. To achieve this goal, they have integrated rotational grazing, composting, protected forests, and incorporating biochar*. In an effort to track their progress towards this goal, Marshall Webb embarked on a new journey: using *COMET-Farm* to not only estimate their current greenhouse gas emissions, but model new scenarios to brainstorm applicable practices to help achieve their goal. After entering management details for nearly 100 parcels into *COMET-Farm*, Marshall and team discovered not only are they well on their way to reaching their goal through the tool estimations, but have garnered new ideas for means of reducing carbon emissions on the land.

As trainings and farm life returns to whatever normal is following a global pandemic, Marshall personifies Shelburne Farm's mission as he aims to provide hope and positive energy to significantly change how people view sustainability and the future.

*Biochar cannot be assessed in the *COMET-Tools*

(Above) Climate Resiliency Fellows at Shelburne Farms on Climate Day (Pre-COVID-19) .

(Below) Marshall Webb, Carbon Drawdown Coordinator. Highly recommends the Leap Year batch of cheese.

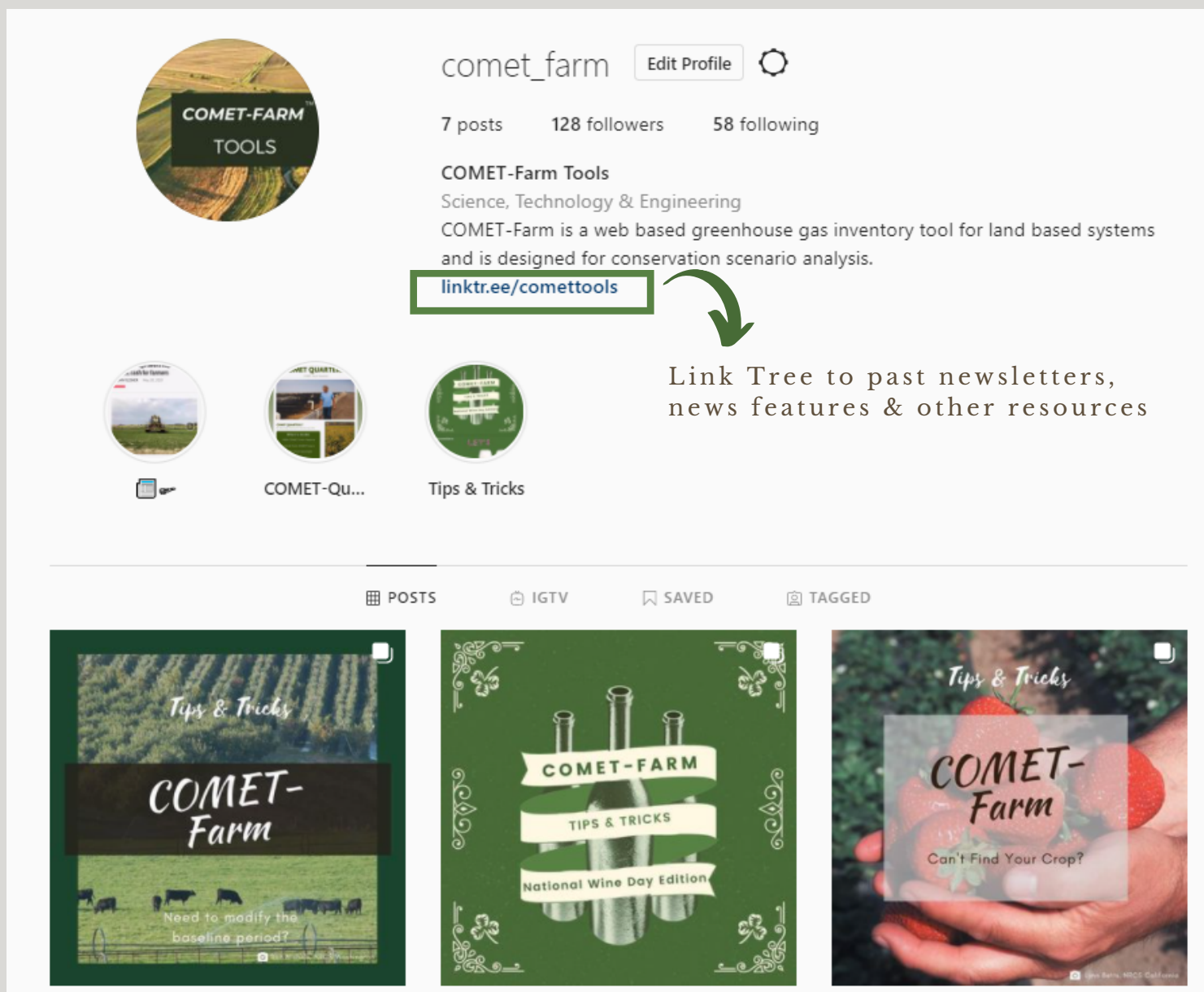


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COMET-Tools Tips & Tricks Series

*Available on COMET-Tools Social Media Platforms:
Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram*

Creating a COMET-Farm project can be time consuming and tricky as you navigate through entering management details for the historic, baseline, and future [scenario] time periods. Last summer, a Need Help? widget was added to all COMET-Farm pages, allowing users to search frequently asked questions and contact the Outreach Specialist directly. To facilitate your use of the tool, a series documenting simple tips and tricks is now available on all COMET social media platforms. Below is a snapshot from the COMET-Tools Instagram page.



SCHEDULE A COMET-TOOLS DEMO

On the COMET-Farm webpage, select the *Need Help?* widget



Back

Contact us

Your name

Email *

Subject *

Complete the contact form with your name, email, and a brief description of your request. Please include a list of available dates and times (including time zone) and the outreach specialist will return your request.



NRCS Hawaii



NPR



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Desiree Rios



"What will it take for Hawaii to grow more of its own food?"

Now that COMET-Planner allows for GHG accounting in Hawaii, check out the struggles farmers in Hawaii face as they strive to decrease their dependence on imported foods.

[LISTEN](#)



"How I Built Resilience: Loren and Lisa Poncia of Stemple Creek Ranch"

How I Built Resilience's Guy Raz sat down with Loren and Lisa to explore how Stemple Creek Ranch became carbon neutral through carbon farming practices.

[LISTEN](#)



"A harvest for the world: A Black family farm is fighting racism in agriculture and climate change"

Darryl Fears of the Washington Post, takes you on Leah Penniman's journey to increase the ranks of Black, Brown and Indigenous farmers.

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