**Dr. Scott Wells**

Dr. Scott Wells, Assistant Professor, CFANS Agronomy/Plant Genetics, University of Minnesota, completed his Ph.D. at North Carolina State University researching weed suppression mechanisms of roller-crimped cover crops in organic corn and soybean systems. His current research program focuses on improving the yield and quality of forage production systems including alfalfa, warm and cool season grasses, and small grains, along with employing a systems approach to improving both the economical and environmental sustainability of corn and soybean production in Minnesota.

**Doug Landblom**

Doug Landblom, Beef Cattle Specialist at NDSU Dickinson, has always sought practical methods to reduce input costs without sacrificing animal performance. Having personal experience with cattle finishing in custom yards, he saw a need to study retained ownership in a vertically integrated business plan that integrated beef cattle production into a diverse crop rotation. Farmers and ranchers didn’t want to buy into such thinking; people said, “selling calves off the cow for an awesome price was good and backgrazing cattle all winter was not to their liking.” Besides, grain prices were skyrocketing and backgrazing/finishing budgets didn’t make sense. When a new wave of research opened up to study cover crops, soil health, and beef cattle production, his research focus changed. His goal over the last six years has been to identify the complementing holistic potential to improve soil quality through an alternative integrated grazing-based production system that generates income from cash crops (spring wheat and sunflowers) and beef income from yearling steers grazing annual forages in a diverse cropping system.

**Scott Haase**

Scott Haase is a sixth generation farmer from the Blue Earth River region of southern Minnesota. Farming conventionally with his dad and brother since 2006, Scott also operates the smaller scale Blue Dirt Farm with his wife, Anna, and their two sons. Blue Dirt Farm has developed a pasture-based pork operation, experimented with grass-fed beef, waterfowl, and poultry, and involves ongoing perennial crop establishment. At Blue Dirt, Scott is employing organic and permaculture principles while also dabbling in sustainable living design with construction of a passive solar home. Focused on restoring natural patterns, Scott is both a student and a teacher with the goal of enhancing resiliency and beauty in the landscape while also maximizing human liberty and happiness. Read a profile of Scott on Page 9.

**Dr. Carl Rosen**

Dr. Carl Rosen is Head of the Department of Soil, Water, & Climate at the University of Minnesota, where he supervises an active research laboratory related to nutrient management for crop production. The programs include identifying and establishing priorities in areas of plant nutrition and improving fertilizer use efficiency for crop production, including commercial fruit and vegetable production. His work with the Land and Atmospheric Science Graduate Program includes impact of crop production on nutrient leaching/runoff, nutrient cycling in crop production fields and managed landscapes, recycling of municipal and industrial wastes as soil amendments, and composting and compost utilization.