Off-Grid Farming: Challenges and Opportunities

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Energy Conservation

• Do we really need (you fill in)

• And if so:

• How do we reduce the use?
NO!
THE BAD NEWS: CHALLENGES
Challenges (1)

- Building systems takes time: no “plug and play”.
- Off grid systems are expensive, and there is no monthly bill (lump sum)
- Be ready to be your own line-man, powerplant manager and maintenance crew, “energy demand decider”
- Be out on your own (most of the time) (even when lightning strikes)
Challenges (2)

- Farming with energy limitations
- New farm enterprises & energy demands
- Employees & energy conservation
- Constant maintenance need
- Generator backup / battery management

- How to market your “Off Grid” advantage?
THE GOOD NEWS: OPPORTUNITIES
Opportunities

- Access non-electrified farm parcels for horticulture
- Catch the sun!
- Solar panels are getting cheaper and cheaper
- Independence of electric grid, coal, nuclear – and no power outs (usually)
- Demonstrate: off-grid farming is do-able
- Capture growing awareness renewable energy CSA membership
More information:

• For pictures and outline of this presentation, visit our website:

www.foxcreekfarmcsa.com