

# Isaac Gregson

SOIL-LOVING AGRARIAN

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## Strengths

- Clearly and proactively communicating
- Working hard and critically thinking
- Collaborating with others
- Self-motivating when working independently
- Envisioning and implementing workflow processes and site-element creation/improvement
- Envisioning and implementing vertically-integrated income opportunities
- Being dedicated to best practices – growing food in the best possible ways
- Using systems thinking (with nature as model and food production as the natural result)

## Know-how

- Small-scale diversified organic vegetable cultivation (and everything entailed, such as planning, germinating, planting, harvesting, etc)
- Methodologies that build soil
- Initial-site preparation
- Drip irrigation installation and management
- Living-mulch systems
- Methodologies that minimize (even eliminate) the need for off-site inputs and irrigation
- Cover cropping
- Soil amending via organic inputs
- Duck and Chicken management (and harnessing their services)
- Basic goat management (and harnessing their services)
- Basic tractor operation (and an ability to quickly learn other large-machinery operation)
- Orchard/berry-establishment and management techniques (that harness the services of poultry, barrier plants, and a blend of carbon and nitrogen-based ground covers)

## Experience

### Russian Village Farmsteading

Russia

Happy Volunteer (2013-2016)

### SUMMARY

After meeting my to-be wife and coming to Russia to marry, I've spent the last three years living and working in a city but spending as much time as possible in the countryside helping on the family homestead.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Implementing the permaculture technique of "comfrey rings" and deep mulching around young fruit trees (otherwise in danger of dying due to undergrowth competition)
- Implementing permaculture-based design changes that have increased the quality and multiplied the quantity of productive growing spaces

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## Teach and Learn with Georgia

Republic of Georgia  
Happy Volunteer (2012)

### SUMMARY

One year of living and working as an English teacher in rural villages of the Republic of Georgia, where I spent after-school time working with villagers in their gardens and fields. A valuable experience that taught me much about the importance of appropriate technologies and ecologically-sound growing methodologies.

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## Natural Farm of Edessa

Edessa, Greece ([website](#))  
Natural Farming Conference/Workshop (Summer 2012)

### SUMMARY

Participated in a natural farming conference and workshop led by Panagiotis Manikis, a permaculturalist who lived and learned from Masanobu Fukuoka, the late Japanese farmer whose life and work are of incredible significance to natural farming.

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## Cloudview EcoFarms

Columbia Basin, WA ([website](#))  
Happy Volunteer (2011)

### SUMMARY

Volunteered in all aspects of vegetable growing and assisted in selling at weekly markets.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Learning the challenges of growing in arid climates
  - Learning and working with multiple irrigation methods
  - Learning ways to minimize (and perhaps eliminate) needs to irrigate
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## Pacific Crest Farm

Vashon Island, WA ([website](#))  
Assistant Farm Manager (June 2010 - November 2010)

### SUMMARY

An incredibly memorable and valuable season of hard yet rewarding work that yielded valuable knowledge on the ins and outs of running a successful organic-vegetable farm. The 18-acre farm is owned by a Seattle-based montessori school and consists of orchards, berry patches, and about 2 acres of vegetable cultivation.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Working and co-managing in all aspects of small-scale diversified cultivation

- Organizing and selling at weekly markets
  - Learning of and how to grow rare and valuable vegetable species and varieties
  - Establishing new farm/business sales relationships
  - Coordinating, training, and supervising volunteers
  - Planning and implementing new farm processes and site elements
  - Preparing and managing the ins and outs of the farm's weekly CSA (community supported agriculture)
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## MESD Outdoor School

Portland, OR  
Field Program Instructor (*Spring 2010*)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Teaching soil science classes
  - Leading educational activities
  - Leading nature excursions
  - Mentoring high schoolers in their work with 6th-grade campers
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## Kodiak Alaska Community Volunteer

Kodiak & Spruce Island, Alaska  
Happy Volunteer (*Summer 2009*)

### SUMMARY

Lived and worked with the Orthodox Christian community of Kodiak and Spruce Island, Alaska. Gave valuable experience in northern gardening and appropriate technologies (the monastery is off the grid).

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Helping maintain the monastery's vegetable garden
  - Teaching several environmental education classes to students
  - Overseeing and implementing a root-cellar design and construction
  - Creating an educational portfolio of the root-cellar creation process
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## Warren Wilson College Garden

Asheville/Swannanoah NC ([website](#))  
Crew Member (*2008 - 2009*)

### SUMMARY

Worked in all aspects of small-scale vegetable growing and selling and maintained established orchards and berry groves.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Learning the John Jeavons' bio-intensive bed-preparation method "double digging"
- Managing a section of the garden, learning under the guidance of the led manager
- Learning to "process" chickens
- Selling at weekly markets
- Giving garden tours

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## Hijos Del Maiz (village and Spanish school)

Nicaragua (Esteli Region) ([\*website\*](#))  
Student, Happy Volunteer (*Spring 2007*)

### SUMMARY

Several months of living, studying Spanish, riding horses, and being first exposed to permaculture with Nicaraguans in a rural, arid, and agrarian-based village.

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## Education

### Warren Wilson College (2005 - 2009)

Asheville/Swannanoa, NC ([\*website\*](#))

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies  
focused on Sustainable Agriculture & Environmental Education