

# New Hampshire farmers and farmlands are part of the climate solution.

*Here's how.*



New Hampshire farmers. (Photo courtesy of Andal Sundaramurthy and Nalla Farm)

Helping farmers be part of the climate solution is a low-cost, near-term, and untapped opportunity. New Hampshire can mitigate climate change with programs that help more farmers transition more acres to climate-smart systems of practices. These practices save farmers money, build resilience to extreme weather, and sequester carbon in the soil—all while also improving water quality and wildlife habitat.

## TOOLS FOR CLIMATE-SMART FARMING

Soil health management systems and climate-smart farming are approaches that include a suite of practices such as **cover crops, diverse crop rotations, and livestock integration**, among others. These practices minimize soil disturbance and maximize soil cover, biodiversity, and living roots as part of a holistic systems approach that also adapts technology as well as nutrient, pest, and manure management. These systems help farmers adapt to and mitigate climate change and they also benefit water quality.



A winter rye cover crop in New Hampshire. (Photo by NRCS)

## A CLIMATE-SMART NEW HAMPSHIRE AG SECTOR THROUGH SOIL HEALTH

**Agriculture contributes**

**300,000**

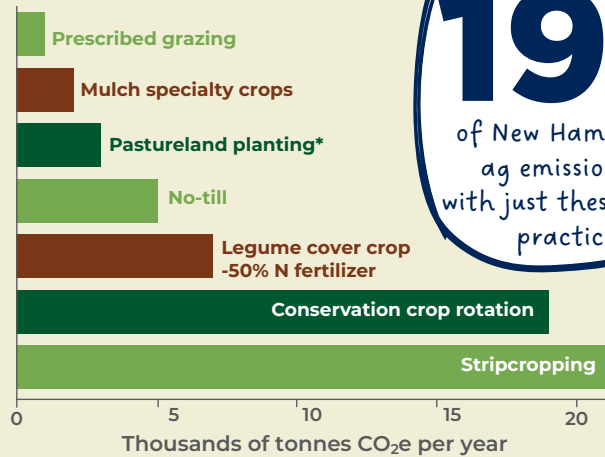
metric tonnes (t) CO<sub>2</sub>e per year, or about 4% of New Hampshire's net GHG emissions

**BUT**

if farmers successfully adopted these systems of practices on 80% of farmland, New Hampshire could mitigate

**60,000**

t CO<sub>2</sub>e per year for 20 years



That's about **19%** of New Hampshire's ag emissions with just these few practices.

\*Plantings on 20% of pastureland.

t CO<sub>2</sub>e stands for metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents, indicating for example, how much carbon is stored or greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced due to a practice.

