

About Sepp Holzer, the Austrian Rebel Farmer

For more than 40 years now, Sepp Holzer, the agricultural rebel has been transforming his family farm in the Lungau district in the Austrian Alps into an eco-paradise of fishing ponds, ten thousands of fruit trees, shrubs, vines and highly productive vegetables and herbs. Here, at an altitude of 1500 meters (~5000 feet) in the "Siberia of Austria", he has created a self-sustaining landscape in which he produces many varieties of the best quality fish, fruits, nuts, vegetables, mushrooms, pork, poultry and even citrus without irrigation, fertilizers, pesticides or weeding.

By observing nature and experimenting with his own garden from childhood on, he developed his own form of Permaculture, which is already the subject of scientific research. He cleverly uses ecological relationships and cycles, letting nature do the work for him with minimal labor input while providing optimum living conditions for his plants and animals. In this way he creates an eco-paradise which also achieves maximized economic success from his farming activities. Not only did he create his own farming methods based on the observation and understanding of nature, known as Holzer Permaculture, he also has been fighting for the right to practice and apply it on his own property. For many years now, he has been involved in lawsuits against the authorities, fighting ever more restrictive EU regulations, which make it harder and harder for organic family farms to work and exist. Yet in his own country, the Austrian authorities have actually modified some of these laws to reflect the reasoning he has confronted them with.

Sepp Holzer has become famous far beyond the German-speaking world. His farm, the "Krameterhof" has become a symbol for a new kind of farming with hundreds of busses of visitors touring it every year. Sepp also acts as a consultant to a large number of projects all over Europe and the world, including Scotland, Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, and Thailand, creating new croplands from depleted soils in harsh and difficult conditions.

The principles of Sepp Holzer's Permaculture are simple and can be applied in any climate, by anyone, on any scale. These principles can empower anyone to develop a more sustainable life style and create their own highly productive eco-paradise, from the balcony garden to the family farm.

Sepp Holzer is also the author of several books, one of which, *The Rebel Farmer*, has been translated into English. Two DVDs, *Sepp Holzer's Permaculture* and *The Secrets of Eden*, have just become available in the United States at <http://www.perma-dise.com/> . His website is <http://www.krameterhof.at/> , the English version is <http://www.krameterhof.at/Englisch/anzeige.htm>.

For more information about his visit in the United States contact Bruce Weiskotten at Pan Earth Designs (360) 400-1350 or Satora Oswald (360) 446-0052, newearth@fairpoint.net , or visit <http://www.perma-dise.com/> .

