

Jonathan Wachter



BA, Biological Sciences (Dartmouth College)
PhD Student in Soil Science (Washington State University)
Advisor: John Reganold

The NSPIRE IGERT Program is a multidisciplinary student doctoral training program designed to create a new generation of scientists with broad and rigorous training in nitrogen cycling who seamlessly integrate nitrogen cycle science for effective communication with public policy makers.

Research title: Building Farm Resilience Through Mixed Cropping and Livestock Systems

Jonathan is interested in increasing farm resilience through soil regeneration, species diversification, and efficient utilization of on-farm resources. Specifically, he will be studying the effects of grazing on wheat farming systems in the inland northwest. Grazing has the potential to facilitate nitrogen cycling between seasons, control weed pressure, reduce erosion, and supply extra income to farmers. Despite these potential benefits, the practice of integrating livestock grazing into cropping systems has been declining since the early 1900's. A whole-system examination of the effects of livestock is needed to assess the magnitude of these benefits and the challenges to re-implementing these farming systems.

Contact information:

Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

Office: 235 Johnson Hall / Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164

Tel: 510-566-7544 - Email: jonathan.wachter@email.wsu.edu - Web link: <http://igert.nspire.wsu.edu/>