

Special Committee on the 30x30 Federal Initiative, Representative Ken Rahjes, Chairman

Josh Roe, Vice President for Market Development and Public Policy, Kansas Corn Growers Association

Good afternoon Chairman Rahjes and members of the committee, my name is Josh Roe, and I am with the Kansas Corn Growers Association (KCGA). KCGA represents more than 1,200 members on state and national levels on legislative and regulatory issues and actively works with other organizations to maximize the voice of Kansas corn producers. I am also appearing before you as a crop and livestock producer who manages my family's farm and ranch in Republic and Jewell counties as the 7th generation to care for the land. I appreciate the opportunity to provide an overview on this initiative from the eyes of Kansas Corn farmers.

The attached set of slides contain a brief overview of the conservation efforts **voluntarily** implemented by Kansas Corn farmers over the past 50 years and what our stated goals are for the future. Increased adoption of these practices from not only farmers in Kansas and the United States, but worldwide, can yield the carbon reduction goals put forth by even the most extreme environmental scenarios put forth by bodies such as the *United Nations COP 26 Climate Conference* this past month in Glasgow.

In short, if agriculture is allowed to be at the table and practices are adopted to increase soil carbon sequestration, much progress can be made without significant changes to our modern food, transportation and power generation systems as proposed.

A mere 1% increase in organic carbon levels in farmland will yield 8 tons of carbon reduction/acre/year over a relatively short time frame. Applying that at a worldwide scale will yield an annual carbon reduction of approximately 2.04 trillion tons, or 53% of the stated carbon reduction goal. Agricultural organizations that you will hear from this afternoon and our partners across the world's primary role is to communicate the benefits of what we have done and how we can provide feasible solutions.

I hope that you find this information beneficial and know that we will continue to make these efforts a priority. Once again, thank you for this opportunity and I will stand for questions at the appropriate time and will continue to be a resource to the Kansas Legislature on this topic.





Voluntary Kansas Corn Farmers Conservation Efforts

Josh Roe, VP of Market Development and Policy
Kansas Corn

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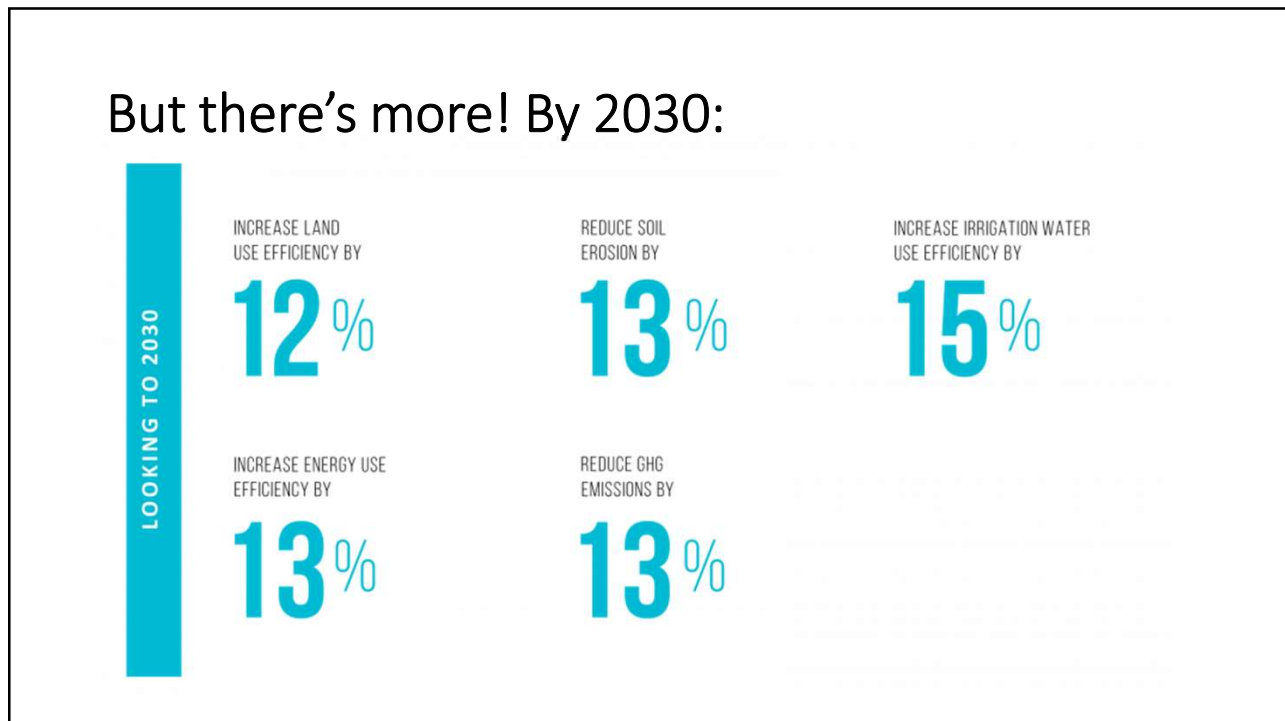
Overview

- 30x30 EO started from a position that any croplands are part of the problem.
- Coupled with a complete lack of information and answers from the administration.
- As stated, the *Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful* encourage voluntary conservation and preservation of private property rights.
- Let's look at what we are ACTUALLY doing on the land!
 - Trends in sustainability
 - Implications for carbon sequestration if we continue down this path
 - Corn is an ingredient, so any improvements made result in "greener" products.

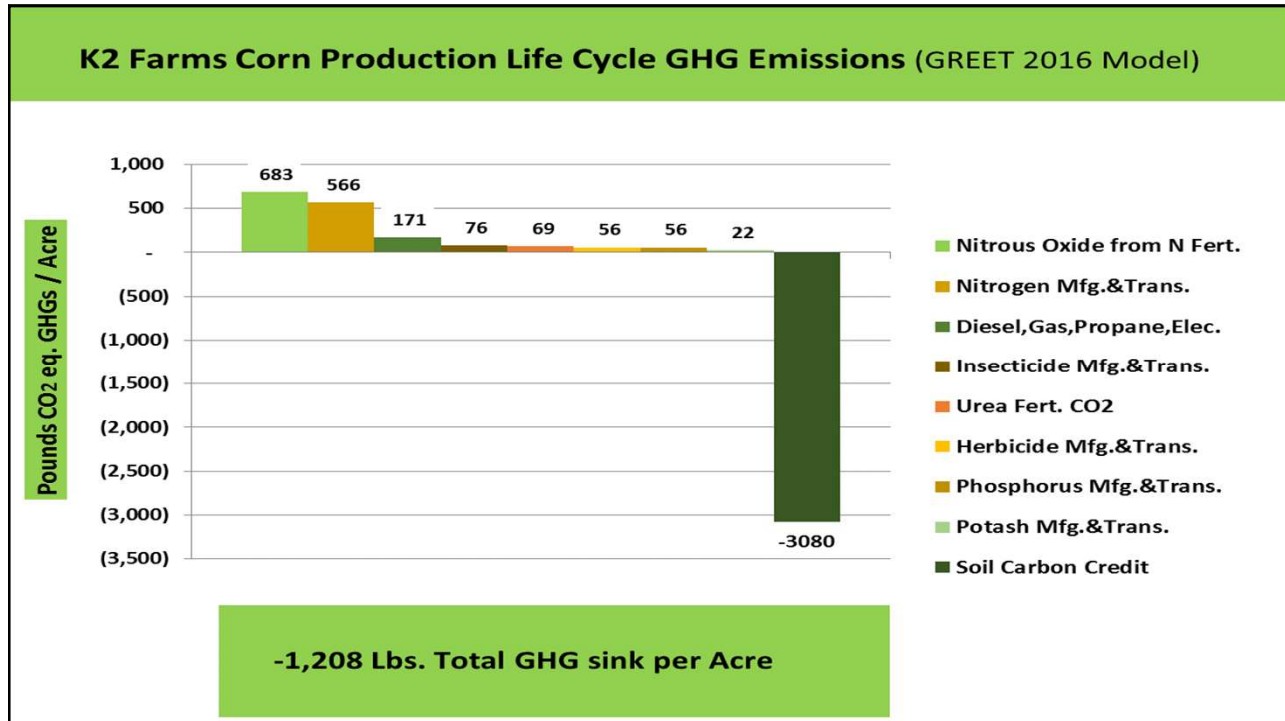
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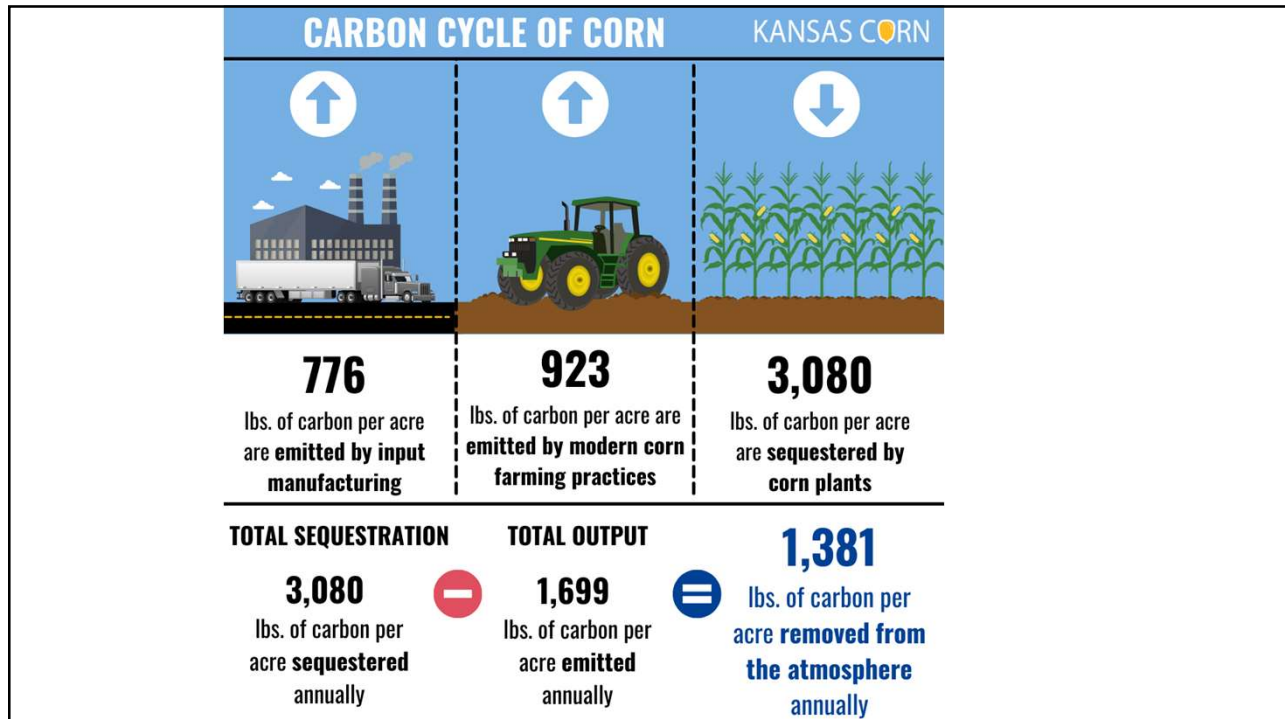
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Worldwide Potential

- A 1% increase in soil organic carbon (8 tons/acre) worldwide would reduce carbon emissions by 2.04 TRILLION tons/year.
- Equivalent to 53% of the aggressive COP 26 goal!
- Researchers believe a 4% increase could be reasonably attained.

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Summary

- Broad government mandates based on bad science only compound the problem.
- Let Kansas (and worldwide) farmers be part of the solution instead of pointing the finger.
- Pleased by the current and future research initiatives by Kansas colleges and private sector in providing the best science.
- Stick around long enough, and your style of farming can become “trendy” or even a buzzword.

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