

1) Laurent and Catherine Van Arkel, Van Arkel Farms, Dresden, ON

“Ralph’s love and respect for agriculture, the environment and society, are evident in this book.”

Ralph weaves his personal experiences growing up on a farm in Wellington County, with his professional experiences as an agriculturalist, teacher, mentor and researcher. His love and respect for agriculture, the environment and society are not only evident in this book, but also in the personal and professional interactions we have had with him over the past few years. Ralph thoughtfully expresses his opinions and concerns based on his scientific knowledge and his years of research. He welcomes discussions and debates as a means to explore different ideas and to generate solutions to problems.

Ralph challenges us to consider the complexities of agriculture, the impact agriculture has on individual farmers and the need for farmers to assess their present-day practices. He also challenges society to consider their consumer habits and the effects their choices have on our environment and on the plight of poorer nations of the world.