

Animals Are an Integral Part of Healthy Agriculture

Thank you to Dorothy Boorse for the review in the June issue of *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* (vol. 72, no. 2 [2020]: 112) of the book *Beyond Stewardship: New Approaches to Creation Care*, ed. David Paul Warners and Matthew Kuperus Heun. I have this book (currently on loan to a friend) and found it a very stimulating and thought-provoking collection that has me rethinking my use of terms such as stewardship and natural resources. It would be great for a small group study.

I do have a couple of concerns, including advocacy to remove animals from agriculture. I strongly believe that agriculture needs to transition from an industrial paradigm to an ecological paradigm. Healthy ecosystems, including agricultural ecosystems, have animals as an integral part (and I am not referring to live-stock factory operations). For example, water quality is a major issue in my home state of Iowa. There are a range of remediation techniques available, but the more perennial vegetation that is on the landscape, the better. Although there is exciting and encouraging experimental work with perennial grains, notably Kernza, currently the kinds of perennial vegetation from which an agriculturist can earn money are largely forage crops, which means livestock. Also, my former officemate, who works with farmers, says that fertilizers that meet organic standards are essentially manures. At least one study found that integrating crops and livestock increased beneficial insectivorous birds without increasing granivorous birds, suggesting that such agricultural systems may benefit natural pest control without increasing the risk of bird damage to crops.¹ There is a need for theologians and theoretical ecologists to interact with those who make their living from Creation (i.e., farmers, ranchers, owners of working forests) and those who directly work with them (i.e., county agents, state agency personnel, scientists at land grant universities).

Note

¹Olivia M. Smith et al., "Highly Diversified Crop-Livestock Farming Systems Reshape Wild Bird Communities," *Ecological Applications* 30, no. 2 (2019): e20231.

Lynn Braband

ASA member, NYS Integrated Pest Management Program of Cornell University, retired

A CALL FOR BOOK REVIEWERS

The readers of *PSCF* have long appreciated the many insightful book reviews published within its covers. If you would be open to being asked to contribute to this interesting and important service of writing a book review, please send a brief email that describes your areas of expertise and preferred mailing address to Stephen Contakes at scontakes@westmont.edu.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith		2. Publication Number 0028-3740		3. Filing Date 09/22/2020	
4. Issue Frequency Quarterly		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 4		6. Annual Subscription Price \$50.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983				Contact Person Lyn Berg Telephone (include area code) (978) 887-8833	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) Same as above.					
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)					
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) American Scientific Affiliation, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983					
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) James Peterson, Roanoke College, 221 College Ln, Salem VA 24153					
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Lyn Berg, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983					
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)					
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address			
The American Scientific Affiliation		218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield MA 01983			
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None					
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address			
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)					
13. Publication Title Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 09/01/2020			
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)					
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		977		984	
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)					
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		0		0	
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		153		147	
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		6		0	
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		1136		1131	
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)					
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		28		20	
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		0		0	
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		0		0	
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		17		15	
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		45		35	
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		1181		1166	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		87		121	
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		1268		1287	
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		96.19		97.00	
16. Electronic Copy Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Paid Electronic Copies		225		210	
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		1361		1341	
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		1406		1376	
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)		96.80		97.46	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.					
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 12/1/20 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.					
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Vicki Best, Director of Operations and Development					Date 09/22/2020

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).