



Artisan Tropic's Regenerative Agriculture Initiative 2022

Artisan Tropic was born out of a need for better-for-you snacks due to a family member's health condition, and our need has expanded into passion and love for connecting food, nutrition, and human health. We are committing to being a company that nourishes our farmers, our employees, our consumers, and our planet. Our passion drives initiatives beyond sustainability, to advance a method of farming and doing business that rebuilds, restores and regenerates. It is our vision to participate in a movement that is rethinking and recreating our entire food system. A movement that is not extractive, but working to create connection, life, and regenerative synergy - from soil to shelf. Regenerative Agriculture is a holistic approach to farming with a founding principle of restoring vitality, health and connection in our soils. This "soil-first" approach consequently leads to a shift in whole systems, seeking to honor the advancement and well-being of entire ecosystems, including plants, animals, farmers, and their communities.

Starting in 2021, we have been partnering with farming experts to increasingly adopt regenerative agriculture practices and principles in our supply system. We recognize that this process of regeneration is a journey and not a destination, and that the context of place is critical in regeneration - it is a humbling process of unlearning certain patterns in order to learn and co-create with nature. We're also aware that this system-level regeneration does not happen overnight, and to start the transition, we need an outline and a plan. We believe that the food we eat is only as healthy and wholesome as the soil in which it was grown. Rodale Institute™ says it most succinctly:

"HEALTHY SOIL = HEALTHY FOOD = HEALTHY PEOPLE"

WHY WE CARE

"Every story I hear about Regenerative Agriculture makes me want to give planet earth a standing ovation. It pulls a string on my heart. When I know the positive impact it can have on the planet we live in, on my life, my kids' lives and my future grandkids' lives...well, you just can't turn a blind eye. Artisan Tropic will always pursue truth and wellness, which is why we as a team feel so led to pursue Regenerative Agriculture with all we have. We invite you to be a part of this journey with us!"

- Maca Guzman (Visionary (co-Founder))



outline for Supply System

In the Quindio Region of Colombia, there is a deep ancestral wisdom and connection to agricultural practices and standards that go back generations. However, modernized and conventional agricultural motivations and practices have been increasingly adopted in the region, without adequate education around why and how these practices can substantially degrade ecosystems. Examples of these conventional practices include the spraying of chemical herbicides that kill "bad weeds" (aka important, soil-nurturing diverse cover crops), and moving away from biodiverse polyculture systems to large monocultures. In efforts to exponentially increase productivity and efficiency, farmers have created a more susceptible farming ecosystem that decreasingly mimic's nature's resilient design.

Our supply system regeneration initiative begins with our key food sources in our most strategic region: Plantain and Cassava in the Quindio Region of Colombia. The biodiversity and wealth of natural resources in this ecosystem is abundant, and the beauty of the soil and the land is an asset that we want to value and protect.

Artisan Tropic is very excited about the challenge of increasingly adopting regenerative practices in a place that means so much to us. We see a great opportunity to empower smart and capable land stewards in the region to reconnect to traditional agricultural wisdom and the importance and significance of re-establishing practices that emulate the regional natural ecosystem.

Our goal is to be a company that demonstrates how regeneration can extend beyond soil health, to the way that we participate in the community and in a business ecosystem, from the integration and verticalization of our supply system, to our state of the art manufacturing facility and processes, to our final product distribution, engagement through story-telling, and the ultimate value created and offered to our consumers in the marketplace. Regeneration for Artisan Tropic means creating a more connected, integrous, and resilient business model from soil to shelf, which benefits every single party involved.

Invitation

Artisan Tropic is a mission driven family business, seeking to connect people to their food and the many lives involved in the production process, providing a convenient pathway for their health journey: better-for-you snacks, that are also better for the planet.

We believe that Regeneration is fundamentally about Connection, realizing that we are always participating in complex and interdependent systems, and rethinking the potential within these systems to create a greater capacity for life to thrive. Connection extends to all areas of how we do life, relationships, and business, and it requires trust. And trust is something that is created in relationship with others, with time, care, and intentionality.

WATCH OUR
VIDEO NOW!



Regenerative Principles for Soil and Ecosystem Health

A vital part of this initiative is establishing a vision for the agricultural practices that we want to prioritize for our products. Regenerative Agriculture is very context-specific and these are the values, guidelines, and practices (Terra Regis International: Regenerating ArtisanTropic's Supply System, July 2021) that will guide the journey of regeneration for the crops that Artisan Tropic sources:

- ✓ Keep Soil Covered
- ✓ Minimize Soil Disturbance
- ✓ Eliminate Chemical Inputs
- ✓ Increase Biomass
- ✓ optimize Photosynthetic Capacity
- ✓ Increase Biodiversity
- ✓ Animal Integration
- ✓ Data Collection

Regenerative Agriculture Practices Explained

Keep Soil Covered - The soil should not be barren and exposed to sun, wind, and rain(cover crops)

Minimize Soil Disturbance - The soil is not excavated by large tillage drills or tractors (no tillage)

Eliminate Chemical Inputs - Any fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides used are being replaced with ones that meet organic standards (zero glyphosate)

Increase Biomass - Regeneration of natural nutrients for farm ecosystem by chopping and dropping plants (green manure)

Optimize Photosynthetic Capacity - Maximizing the power of the sun by pruning perennials, increasing the capture of carbon in the system (draw-down)

Increase Biodiversity - Moving away from mono-cropped designs by integrating additional perennial elements to the farm system (perennial intercropping)

Animal Integration - Incorporation of animals to the farm system (ie. chickens, livestock or bees)

Data Collection - Tracking measurable progress of soil health on a regular basis (soil testing)



Thanks so much for participating
with us on this
Regenerative Journey!

- The Artisan Tropic Team

FAMILY OWNED
& OPERATED