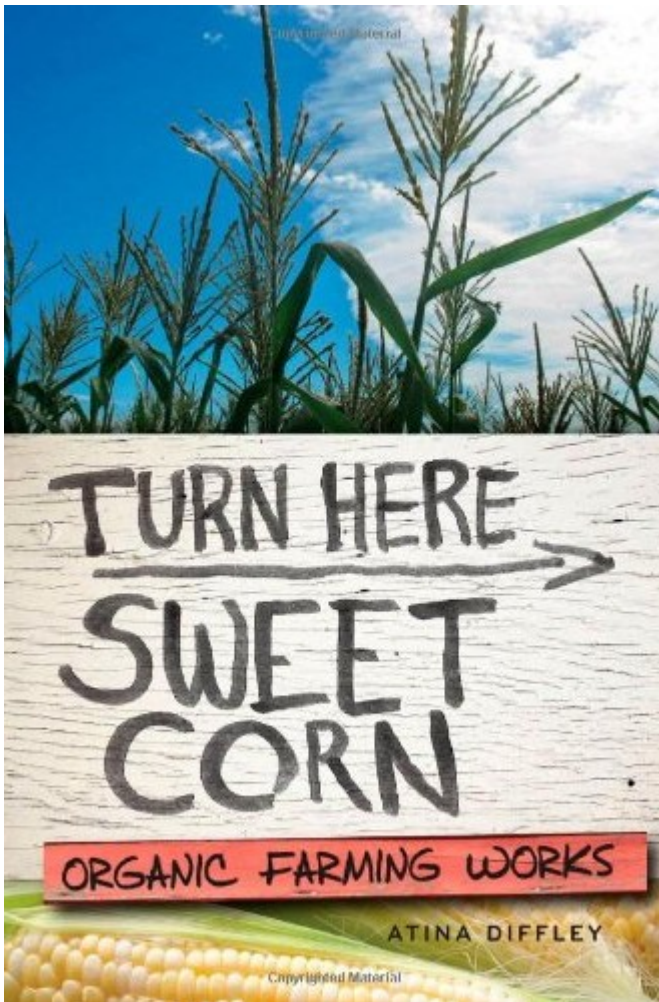


Turn Here Sweet Corn, by Atina Diffley

Books in the [October 3, 2012](#) issue

In Review



Turn Here Sweet Corn

by Atina Diffley

University of Minnesota Press

Atina Diffley and her husband are organic farmers in Minnesota. Her book contains three stories in one. First is a very lyrical account of the life of the soil. A second story is about the family that lives on the land: the Diffley children, who make their

hideouts in the fields and woods; the coyotes that gather around their house when the family moves in; the marriage that's woven in and out of a mutual love for sun, rain and soil. The final story begins with a notice received from the MinnCan Project, operated by Koch Pipeline Company (yes, it's owned by the politically influential Koch brothers), announcing that the company has filed applications to install a crude-oil pipeline through the Diffleys' fields. Atina Diffley's account of her efforts to fight the pipeline and of the long-term repercussions of that effort is as well written as the rest of the book.