

Meet Your Advisors

Hermann Bruns

- Operator of a [year-round organic vegetable farm](#)
- Specialized in innovative season extension, pest and weed control, operational efficiencies and marketing
- Past Director of the Certified Organic Association of BC and Past President of the Organic Federation of Canada

Over 25 years, Hermann Bruns and his wife Louise, have demonstrated what it takes to make an organic market garden into a sustainable, profitable venture. Wild Flight Farm started small in its location in Mara, BC on the Shuswap River and has grown to become one of the largest organic vegetable and herb farms in the North Okanagan/Shuswap, employing 12 people.



Hermann and Louise Bruns

In addition to operating the farm, Hermann shares his extensive knowledge on the day-to-day operation of a market garden to help others be successful. “Market gardens are very diverse and the operators have a lot of balls in the air from planting to marketing,” he says. “A great deal of youthful energy is going into this area of farming and it’s important new entrants are well educated about what’s involved.”

Preparing for this kind of farm venture is like an apprenticeship, Hermann says. “Be prepared to work 4 to 5 years on an established farm before starting your own. You can learn so much and avoid many mistakes that you’d otherwise learn by doing.” Participating in farmer’s markets can also teach you a lot, he adds. “Consider what you run out of and what you bring home. Market demand will determine what and how much you grow.”

Whether he’s doing a site visit at a Kootenay farm or hosting tours of his own operation, Hermann is also a valuable resource for improving efficiency, reducing cost of production, and determining product pricing. Wild Flight has consistently reinvested its profits into the farm, adding numerous greenhouses and a large vegetable storage/packing facility in order to provide a year-round supply of organic vegetables to local farmers’ markets. The farm also supplies 2 Okanagan-based home delivery businesses.

Hermann provides consulting services through the [Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors](#). Check out the website for [Wild Flight Farm](#) for a look at what’s growing on or follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).