

# Upper Warrior Creek Watershed of Georgia

## FARM #3

Ricky Dollison is a fourth-generation farmer from Poulan, Georgia. His grandfather started Dollison Farms in 1949 and the farm was later passed on to Ricky's father and now to him. Ricky's father taught all of his children how to operate a farm and manage the land. Ricky credits his diverse agricultural understanding to the thoroughness of his father's teachings. Ricky's gift to his children and future generations is his investment in the continued success and conservation of Dollison Farms.

Dollison Farms grows corn, cotton and peanuts in addition to raising hogs and cows and producing their own sausage. Ricky uses a three-way cover crop mix of black oats, wheat and rye on every acre that he farms. Ricky has been able to utilize cover crops for weed suppression, allowing him to reduce his herbicide costs. He also attributes more rapid germination of his cash crop seed to the moisture retained in the soil from his cover crops.

Ricky uses a mixture of tillage practices on his land, including strip till. And while he said he was not a fan of strip till to start, the money changed his mind. "I don't want to go out there and harrow two or three times, then turn the land, then come back and smooth it with a harrow again," he said. "With diesel getting to the cost it is now, it became a no brainer."

Ricky has been working with the NRCS to install fencing to rotationally graze his livestock. He plans to add irrigation and more fencing in the future to expand his rotational grazing capacity and increase his livestock operation.



View Ricky's interview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbhYU75fop8>

**“Dollison Farms is like a human being; it’s got a heartbeat. It was born in 1949 and it’s been growing ever since.”**

# Upper Warrior Creek Watershed of Georgia

