

## Speaker BIO

### Drew Foster: Fertility and Soil Health Specialist with Dakota's Best Seed

Drew's goal is to help build healthy soils that produce nutrient dense forage, feed and food, enable an efficient and profitable operation, and create a legacy for generations to come.

Drew has a B.S. in Entomology, second major in Zoology, and a strong background in Agronomy from Colorado State University (1978). Fresh out of college he founded Foster Agricultural Services, Belle Mead, N.J., working primarily with fertilizer and pesticide applications on turf, trees, ornamentals, and horse farms. He helped develop the integrated pest management program (IPM) for ornamentals in N.J., led by Somerset County Extension. He ran a test market in N.J. for gypsy moth pheromone traps made by Hercon Corporation. Drew helped develop RhizoChar, a microbe-infused biochar product, in N.J. He has worked in sales and services related to biologicals and soil health improvement, field mapping (EC, yield, etc.), production zone development, and precision irrigation, in Nebraska since moving there in 2008. Drew has a long-held interest in reducing chemical inputs in ag and livestock production and has ultimately turned his primary focus to organics.

Drew raises dairy and meat goats and enjoys working with the family horses with his two adult daughters and he tends a large vegetable garden in Emmet, Nebraska. Any outdoor activity is good with Drew, especially if it involves water and sailboats – a throw-back to his N.J. roots.

Drew strives to bring all challenges back to this question, which is certainly important in agriculture: How did God create this to work?