
(Eight)finity lessons on learning of growing food

The story of a man who defended his land and then began to take care of it - Maksym Zadorozhny

by Iryna Kazakova, 2021

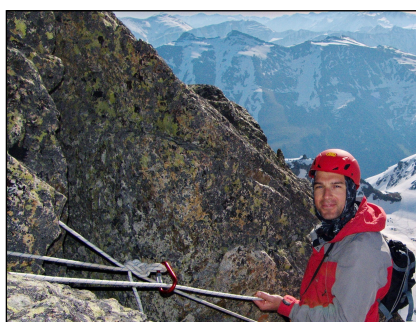


Before

At Maxim's homeland, there was no single piece of land untouched by a human hand - all has been cultivated. He has known traditional rural work since childhood. They worked with his father: plowed the soil twice a year, planted seeds and seedlings, built greenhouses.

After moving to a big city, Maxim had found new interests. He began to climb the mountains, to visit places that were unusual to his eyes - where human activities are very limited or absent at all.

When hiking began to become more difficult and the landscape became more and more deserted, Maxim began to feel the energy of nature. Returning to the noisy Kyiv, Maxim started to realize that there, in the wild, where human influence is insignificant - one feels really good.



Process

Maxim tried to spend more and more time in the nature - to listen and to observe. Sports tourism and mountaineering have become an important part of the "transition" to natural rhythms from the oppression of the unnatural city. During the increasingly long and autonomous travels, he tried to understand how to live and what makes sense in human life. So when the time came, Maxim found himself conflicted, because the man's mission is to protect his land.

During the struggle, Maxim realized the value of life and understood how he wants to live. During one of his vacations, he decided to move from the city to the village. At first, it was a rented house, and later, his own estate. From that point, his constant communication with nature has begun, almost on an equal footing. Maxim considers permaculture a term that is too broad so that everyone interprets it differently. That is why he calls his relationship with the land "dialogue with nature."

Now

Currently, Maxim manages his estate and with his wife raise a little daughter. He became interested in the ancient history of bread and began his business by baking bread from germinated seeds according to the author's "natural" recipes.

Maxim has now begun to restore the local habitat in his estate - he wants to recreate at least part of nature to restore the balance he felt in the wild. He is going to gradually plant the trees that should be in this area: ash, maple, linden, oak.

Maxim is completely satisfied with the results of his activities. He says that this is what he wants to do all the time, something that fully responds in his soul and consciousness. As a former military, Maxim understands the value of joint actions and efforts, so he cooperates with people who are not indifferent to nature and are also concerned about the sustainable future of the country and the Ukrainian land. "Everything will be Ukraine," says Maxim, "Everything will be fine."

I.K. Comment

We often underestimate the educational qualities of nature. Having acquired land, we try to apply as many practices and techniques on it as possible, we try to cultivate more and more as if we did not have time. You don't have to parachute or go to the mountains for a month to experience nature, but it's important to allow yourself and your area to exhale and breathe again. What would be on your site if there wasn't anybody there? This is probably the first question you should ask yourself before you start planning.