



Grower Profile

Dean Kincaid Inc

Interviewed: Corey Kincaid



Grower's Picture

Stats

Size-460 acres

Crops- Red Norland

Location



Dean Kincaid Inc
2028 Hwy 106
Palmyra, WI 53156

When Corey Kincaid's grandfather started muck farming in the 1950's, he probably did not know the path the farm would eventually follow; he was just hoping to provide for his family. The Dean Kincaid Inc. Farm is currently run by second and third generation farmers; Corey's uncle John and father Gary make up the second generation, while Corey, his siblings, Lisa, Jill, and Chase, and their cousin, J.D., round out the third generation. In Corey's words, "it is very much a family business."

The decision to become "Healthy Grown" came after the realization that "it wouldn't be difficult to certify our fields as "Healthy Grown" since we were already growing potatoes herbicide free and our isolation from the rest of the potato growers helps keep our disease pressure to a minimum."

Because of the different regulations of "Healthy Grown", the Kincaid's growing process has changed over the years. Corey says that, "We have begun to use more of the newer and softer pesticides and become more aware of what affect we as farmers can have on the environment. We have also become more aware of the weather and how it affects timing and rates of our spray applications." The "Healthy Grown" process has become more than just a growing process for the Kincaids; it is an educational tool that they hope will spread to the wider agricultural world.

While the future of farming is unknown, we know it depends on the farmer, the consumer, and the environment. Corey sees "Healthy Grown" as a good start for farming's future, saying "It has shown that a high quality of product can be delivered to the public with less harmful chemical inputs and may lead to other programs with other crops. This could be a benefit to the farmer, consumer and environment."

For the Kincaids, one of the biggest surprises about the "Healthy Grown" process is also the basis of why the whole method was formed. Corey says the shock is in the realization about "how few inputs we really need to produce a high yielding and healthy crop."