

# CARES Recipient Profile

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THIS FARM  
CARES

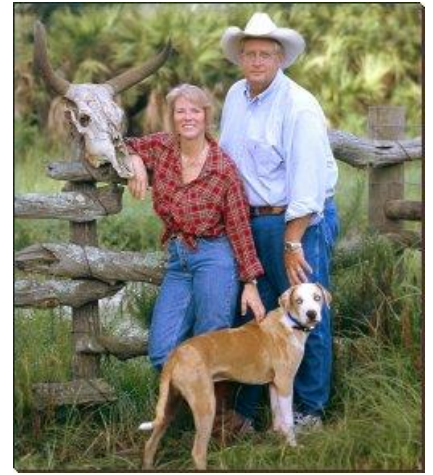
**Farm:** Strickland Ranch

**Location:** Myakka City, Manatee County

**Date of Origination:** 1938

**Commodities:** Cattle

Jim Strickland and his family own and operate Strickland Ranch in Myakka City, Florida. The ranch was started by Mr. Strickland's father, Hiram Strickland, in 1938. They proudly produce beef cattle.



Strickland Ranch has been implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on the ranch for decades. BMPs are a set of guidelines that advise producers on how to manage the water, nutrient, and pesticides they are using to reduce agriculture's impact on the state's natural resources. Mr. Strickland practices a rotational grazing system that improves pasture longevity, allows for more timely utilization of forage and increases the stocking rates. Strickland Ranch has installed wells to provide a reliable source of drinking water for the cattle and keep them from disturbing the natural wetlands. Soil samples are taken regularly to ensure the precise amount of fertilizer is being applied to each pasture. The Strickland's have also fenced off natural wetlands, installed lagoons and implemented several other BMP's to protect precious natural resources.

Mr. Strickland is actively involved in his local community. He has been heavily involved with the Farm Bureau for over 20 years serving on the Beef Advisory Committee and the International Trade Task Force. Jim is a board member of the Florida Horse Park in Ocala, FL and the National Cattlemen's Association Political Action Committee vice chair. He is a past president of the Florida Cattlemen's Association, current chairman for the Florida Cattlemen's Foundation and has worked with the Manatee County Fair Board for over 15 years.

When asked why he is a farmer who CARES, Mr. Strickland responded, "our environment has fed us, clothed us and inspired us. It is the only environment we have and that is why we care for it."