

# CARES Recipient Profile

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**Farm:** HW Rucks and Son Dairy

**Location:** Okeechobee County

**Date of Origination:** 1932

**Commodities:** Dairy Operation, Corn, Sorghum, and Bermuda Jiggs



Chase Rucks owns and operates HW Rucks and Son Dairy farm in Okeechobee, Florida. It originated in Miami in 1932, moved to Boca Raton in 1957, and eventually landed in Okeechobee in 1973. Today, HW Rucks and Son Dairy prospers with their dairy production, corn, sorghum, and Bermuda Jiggs. HW Rucks and Son Dairy is a family-run operation with family members playing an active role in its management.

With a long history in the dairy business, HW Rucks and Son Dairy understands the importance of protecting their land. To ensure that their property remains productive and viable for future generations, they have implemented BMPs in the last year. 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. Some of the BMPs implemented on the property include the use of center pivot irrigation and the fencing off wetlands on the property.

When asked what Mr. Rucks enjoys the most about farming, he responded, "The challenge and rewarding feeling after a job well done." Rucks believes it is important to leave a better world for our children.