## **CARES** Recipient Profile



Farm: Evans Family Ranch, LLC Location: Lakeland, Polk County Date of Origination: 1977 Commodities: Cow/Calf Operation and Blueberries

Perry and Bonnie Evans own and operate Evans Family Ranch, LLC in Lakeland, Florida. The ranch has always been a cow/calf operation since its start in the late



1970s, and since then eventually expanded to include a blueberry farm named Evans Brothers Blueberries, LLC. Evans Family Ranch s is a family-run business with all members of the family having an active role in the prosperity of the farm.

The Evans Family Ranch have implemented BMPs to ensure that their property remains productive and viable today and for future generations. 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 that are implemented on the ranch are locating feed troughs away from drainage canals, fencing off bayheads, conducting periodic soil samples and prescribed burning.

Perry Evans is an active member in the community by contributing to the Alzheimer's Association, Polk County and Florida Cattlemen's Association, Buck Masters and Coastal Conservation Associations and quite a few more. When asked what he enjoys most about farming, Evans stated, "Being able to work in the great outdoors is a blessing few people are able to enjoy."