

# CARES Recipient Profile

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**Farm:** Singleton & Sons Farms, Inc.

**Location:** Putnam, St. Johns, & Flagler Counties

**Date of Origination:** 1979

**Commodities:** Chip potatoes

Steve and April Singleton own and operate Singleton & Sons Farms, Inc. at East Palatka in Putnam County, Hastings in St. Johns County, and Bunnell in Flagler County. The 2<sup>nd</sup> generation potato farm started in 1979 and originally started as a cabbage farm. Since then, the farm transitioned to exclusively produce potatoes. Singleton & Sons Farms, Inc. is a family-run business with all members of the family having an active role in the prosperity of the farm.



Singleton & Sons Farms, Inc. has implemented BMPs for the past 10 years. 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 have been implemented include GPS guided application of fertilizer, fertilizer branding, subsurface drip irrigation, and tile drain installations. These practices ensure that their land will remain productive and viable for future generations.

Singleton is an active member in his local community by supporting local and state Future Farmers of America chapters and donates to various school organizations.

When asked what he enjoys most about farming, Singleton responded, "I get to enjoy life as being my own boss. Each day has a new set of challenges as well as triumphs. No day is the same. Also, there is no better feeling than being out in the wide open space, and enjoying the environment to its fullest." Singleton believes it is important to protect our environment because if we do not protect our home, Earth, it will be destroyed, not only for us, but for future generations as well. He believes we must do what is in our power to protect our environment and maintain it to a high level.