

CARES Recipient Profile

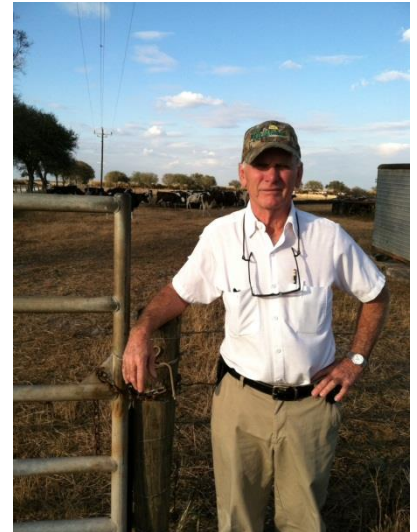


Farm: The Graham Farms

Location: Moore Haven, Glades County

Date of Origination: 1929

Commodities: Dairy and Sugar Cane



Tommy Toms and his family operate Graham Farms in Moore Haven, Florida. The farm has been in business for over 85 years. They proudly produce dairy cattle and sugar cane.

Mr. Tom has been implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) for over 30 years. One of many BMPs he has chosen to implement is the Environmental/Nutrient Stewardship Practices. Graham Farm uses a system of controlled grazing, burning, selective chopping and herbicide to sustain the land and environment. These systems help to suppress invasive grasses and gives wildlife new trails. Mr. Tom has many Waste Storage Ponds (WSP) used to retrieve stormwater that is then sprayed onto fields where grass is grown and fed back to the cows.

Mr. Tom is actively involved in his community. He helps with the Glades County Youth Livestock and he and his family are members of the First Baptist Church of Moore Haven.

When asked why he believes it is important to be a farmer who CARES, Tommy responded, "To the farmer the environment is his farm. A good farmer protects the environment simply because he is part of it."