

CARES Recipient Profile



THIS FARM
CARES

Farm: The Story Companies

Location: Polk, Hardee, Okeechobee,
Hendry & Collier Counties

Date of Origination: 1945

Commodities: Citrus, Grapefruit,
Tangerines, Peaches & Blueberries



Vic and Ann Story own and operate The Story Companies. They are based out of Polk County, but have farms in Hardee, Okeechobee, Hendry, and Collier counties. The 3rd generation farm was established in 1945 and continues to manage multiple properties today. The Story Companies is a family-run business with members of the family having an active role in the prosperity of the farm.

The Story Companies has implemented BMPs since the early 2000s. 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 variable rate technology into fertilizer, spray applications to limit any over usage, and soil moisture sensors and weather monitors to assist with water usage. These practices ensure that the land will remain productive and viable for future generations.

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The Story Companies is involved in their community by having served as Presidents and Board members of the Lake Wales Family YMCA, and as past Mayor and City Commissioner for Lake Wales. Today, their involvement includes being members of the Lake Wales Charter Schools Foundation, Polk County School District's Charter Review Committee, and President of the Lake Wales Care Center.

When asked why they think it is important to protect the environment, Story responded, "It is our responsibility to protect the land we are blessed to work on. We truly care about leaving the next generation a better farming experience by utilizing technology and less inputs."