



Who We Are Today

Who we are today:

- 100% organic producer of fresh fruit, herbs and vegetables.
- Crop Mix:
 - Baby leaf spinach, lettuces, and greens
 - Culinary herbs
 - Strawberries
 - Specialty vegetable items
 - Carrots
- Majority of our product is the baby-leaf items, which are harvested between 30-35 days after planting.
- Main farm area is in Central Arizona near Goodyear.
- Predominantly light textured soils.



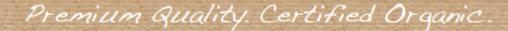
How we irrigate today:

- Irrigate primarily with sprinklers and some drip.
- Mostly aluminum pipe sprinklers.
- We use some sensors for scheduling, but all pumps and valves are operated manually.
- All of our irrigation systems in Arizona are portable.
- We rely heavily on ground water for food-safe water when product is exposed.





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Reasons We Apply Water

Reasons we apply water:

- Irrigation water with or without other compounds like fertilizer.
- Temperature and humidity control. Example: frost control in open fields and humidity control in high tunnels.
- Lubricate soil to facilitate perfect tillage operations.
 Example: creating perfectly flat seed beds for babyleaf product.
- To create compost, which, when applied to soil, can increase water and nutrient holding capacity and biological diversity.
- Control movement of salts in soil.
- Control dust.





Water Conservation Practices

Water conservation practices:

- 1. High pressure mainline manifold irrigation systems with sprinkler valve openers located at preset distances.
- 2. Soil sensors to help determine optimum irrigation water amounts.
- 3. Plastic mulches and floating row covers to help conserve moisture and improve product quality.
- 4. Add organic matter to increase water and nutrient holding capacity in soil.
- 5. Crop selection. Mostly winter season crops.
- 6. Transplants instead of direct seeding when possible.
- 7. Controlled environment. Example: high hoops with clear plastic or shade cloth.





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Economic Drivers for Change



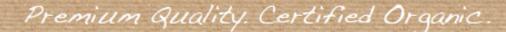
Economic drivers for change:

- Crop selection, yield and quality.
- Fertilizer and nutrient conservation in root zone, which also helps maintain water quality.
- Water conservation.
- Federal natural resource conservation programs
- Decreases soil hauled during harvest of root and tuber crops.
- Reduce amount of labor required for irrigation.





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Future Practices

What we think we will look like in the future:

- 1. Still be organic specialty crop producers.
- 2. Will irrigate with sprinklers and drip, but with fully automated system of wells, pressure compensating booster pumps and valve openers.
- 3. Plant and soil sensors will help automate irrigation events.
- 4. Sprinkler systems will convert to non-leak PVC pipes, but will remain portable.
- 5. Irrigation water will pass through a sanitation system to allow for the use of renewable and reusable water sources for food-safe water.
- We will have more controlled environment systems like hoop houses and greenhouses.









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