

6 Tunnels, 2 Jobs, 0 Employees

Jay's Jellies, Produce and More
Clay Center, Kansas

How We Do It

- High Tunnels
- Labor Savers
- Family Jobs



High Tunnels

- Takes weather (mostly) out of the equation
- Allows us to plant more variety, earlier, and longer
- Allows me to work at night

and let there be light!



How did I get started?



Needed to Grow



Still the Need to Grow



Still Growing



Labor Savers

- Find ways to maximize efficiency
- Succession Planting



Keys to Efficiency

- Drip irrigation on everything
- Record keeping
 - Know what needs done tomorrow
 - Don't repeat past mistakes
 - Don't chase your tail
- Be ahead of your crop needs
 - i.e. tomato stakes made off season

Use the Right Tools

- My Favorites
 - Scuffle Hoe
 - Drip Irrigation
 - Headlamps
 - Row cover



Tools: Scuffle Hoe



Crop Selection

- Only plant and pick what you can sell
- Plant less and harvest more
 - Know your point of diminishing returns
- Teacher = Peak Plant Production in June/July
- Succession Planting
- Fall Planting

Growing less and selling it all is better than growing more and bringing half of it home to rot

Our Production Peak, 2010

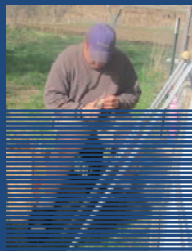
- 175 tomato plants, 50 Cherry Tomatoes, 400 pepper plants
- 2000 onions, 600 leeks
- 220 pounds of Seed Potatoes
- 450 Broccoli, 275 Cauliflower
- Cucumbers, Squash, Watermelon, Cantalope, Okra, Carrots
- Salad Mix, Lettuce, Spinach, Beets, Swiss Chard, Bok Choy, Tatsoi, Napa Cabbage,

Few More Favorite Tricks

- Lay out drip irrigation, cover it, and turn it on until soil gets wet on surface
 - Tells your help exactly where to plant seedlings
- Run string lines to define walkways from planted areas
 - Especially with young helpers

Speaking of Kids...

- Family Operation
- Kids Jobs
 - Planting potatoes
 - Picking cherry tomatoes
 - Picking potato bugs
 - Raising/lowering side walls
 - Marketing



Family Operation



Work and Play



Questions?