



Meet the Grower

Courtney Farms Bagdad, KY

Our family has great pride in the honor of farming. We are proud to do what we do on our own with the encouragement of our parents, siblings, customers, and on-lookers. We thrive on the opportunity to feed many, many people from our fields while utilizing the opportunity to educate on the stewardship of the environment, appreciation of nature, cultivation practices of food, and how the needs of today's consumers and farmers responsibly collaborate. We welcome you to be a part of what we do.

Following college graduation and getting married, Shane and Mary Courtney's public jobs located us to Shelby County in 2003. Shane was a teacher of agriculture and Mary was a financial lender for farmers and rural residents. Both of our childhoods were rich in farming, yet as adults we found ourselves working very long hours indoors and not getting to enjoy a passion we shared.

Working toward our goals, we began a lawn-care business (that we still operate today) that gave us the confidence to invest in beginning our farming operation. We took the plunge and purchased our first farm in 2006. Following in the footsteps of our parents we are traditional tobacco farmers. Needing to diversify, and the strong desire to raise our children on the farm, we have turned to answer a growing need: nutritious, local food.

2013 will be our sixth year raising tobacco, fourth year of raising corn and beans on our own, the fourth year raising vegetables, and the first year with a few heifers and chicks. Both our farm and family has gone through a lot of changes since we've started; in order to be highly dependent on the farm for a livelihood while remaining sustainable for our children's children, we must adapt to the needs that surface. It is imperative that as our family expands so too will our farming enterprises. Our oldest son is five, our daughter is three, and we will celebrate a first birthday soon.

It is our goal that you will reminisce, learn, and experience this partnership to its fullest, along our side.



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