

Written Profile

Farm: Patchett Farm
Location: Green Lake, Wisconsin
Date of Origination: 1899
Industry Sector(s): Corn, Soybeans



Getting started is the hardest part. “It has always been very hard to begin farming without the help of the previous generation,” shares Arden Patchett of Patchett Farms. Arden’s honest assessment of the challenges faced by those who want to enter the industry is humbling, and it testifies to the importance of long-lasting family farms. This is the Patchett family story of **Agriculture’s Lasting Heritage**.

In 1899, 80 acres of the land Arden owns today was purchased by his grandfather, Luther Patchett. Later the land was sold to his father Roy, who expanded the original farm to 280 acres. Roy sold 20 acres to Arden’s brother, and Arden owns the remaining 260 acres today. While there is no livestock on the land, the cropland is productive. Arden rents the land out to local farmers.

Through his experience farming, Arden has seen great change. “Today’s large operations take up several small farms of past generations,” he comments. The fact that his farm is still in operation is a testament to his family’s determination, regardless of circumstances. “My parents farmed through the Great Depression,” he adds, acknowledging the sacrifices made by those before him.

The family has experienced positive change as well. The introduction of the pipeline milking system was significant when the family was involved in dairy production. Improvements in seed genetics and machinery technology have also impacted the ability of the farm to produce efficiently. Through these changes Farm Bureau has provided support and guidance. “I have been a Farm Bureau member since 1960,” shares Arden. He began serving on the Green Lake County Board of Directors in 1978 and continues today.

Patchett farms is an example of the rich history and dedication to the land which can be found in the stories of Century Farms across the nation. We are honored to recognize the Patchett family for their commitment to **Agriculture’s Lasting Heritage**.