

THE NORTHWEST'S FINEST ORGANICALLY GROWN



POPEYE'S GIRLFRIEND

Dennis & Jean Wilde
Sutherlin, Oregon



Dennis and Jean Wilde started their farm in Sutherlin, Oregon, in 2012. Dennis had retired but wanted to remain active; he convinced Jean to go into farming, and they purchased 180 acres. Their intention was to plant olive trees for olive oil, thus the name Popeye's Girlfriend in reference to Olive Oyl from the old Popeye cartoon. In June 2013, they planted 3,100 olive trees, and in December that year a killing freeze took out half their trees, with the other half reduced to stumps that fortunately re-sprouted from the roots. This experience made it clear, olive oil alone was not going to sustain the farm, so they turned to kiwi berries on the recommendation of a neighbor. Kiwi berries are a cold hardy fruit that do well in the Pacific Northwest climate and are becoming popular in the U.S. The Wilde's now intensively farm 64 acres total, with 26 acres in kiwi berry production and another 22 acres slated for kiwi berries in the coming years. **They hope this becomes a multi-generational business that will be attractive to their children and grandchildren, and be a strong source of high quality, organic food into the future.**



Sustainable Spotlight

- Compost tea, a great soil enhancer, created and used on site
- Green cover crops support pollinators
- Farm home is solar powered 100%
- Drip irrigation (saves water)
- 120 acres of open pasture promotes animal habit

Dennis Wilde

"Farming is HARD work, much more so than we realized; however, it is rewarding to watch the growth of new plantings and to see native birds returning to their ponds and fields."

Crops

Kiwi Berries
Medicinal Hemp
Olive Oil

Acres

180 acres
Certified Organic
since 2016

LADYBUG Brand is brought to you by



Organic and beyond — LADYBUG represents family-owned and operated, organic and Salmon-Safe certified farms located throughout the Pacific Northwest. Working in a spirit of cooperation, LADYBUG farms plan the production of nearly 100 fruit and vegetable crops each year. We take pride in the quality of our crops and our role in creating environmentally-conscious agriculture.
www.organicgrown.com

