

Stevie Hall

“My kids are my plants.”

That’s what Stevie Hall will tell you if you ask him whether or not he has kids. Stevie is the youthful force of agriculture. In an era in which the average farmer is over 60, he is doing his part to get young people involved.



Stevie is something of an agricultural polymath. He learned to work with swine during his high school days in Future Farmers of America (FFA), he studied lettuce breeding while working for the USDA Agricultural Research Service, he has a degree in food safety—he can even weld.

After graduating from ALBA’s Farmer Education Program (PEPA) in 2011, Stevie increased his acreage tenfold over the course of just four years, and implemented a comprehensive intercropping and integrated pest management system. He now grows over 50 different crops for sale in local markets.

As of 2016, he sells 80% of his produce at local Farmer’s Markets. “Being at Farmer’s Markets helps moral because the product has so much more value. The consumer gets to meet their farmer and have that direct access to local, organic fruits and vegetables.”

Stevie’s accomplishments are all the more impressive when you consider that he is one of the youngest farmers in America today. His youthful energy was strengthened by a recent experience that brought him close to death: “I survived—maybe I’m here for a reason.” Maybe that reason is to do what he loves doing, which is, in his own words: “to walk the fields and get my hands dirty... to feed people safe, local, organic food... to get more young people involved.”

“Old-timers—they grew up [eating food grown with chemicals]... but the youth knows, and they don’t want to eat that [stuff]... They can make a change.”