



Press Release
Elmwood Stock Farm
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Elmwood Stock Farm Celebrates 20 Years of Organic Certification

Elmwood Stock Farm was one of the first diversified farms in Central Kentucky to seek organic certification from the US Department of Agriculture, which they were granted 20 years ago. The farm has launched a new look in celebration of this 20-year milestone, with a new logo and website, ElmwoodStockFarm.com.

Located just east of Georgetown, Ky., the sixth-generation Elmwood Stock Farm started out the way many farms in this area have, as a traditional tobacco and cattle operation. When siblings John Bell and Ann Stone each graduated from the University of Kentucky and returned to the farm to work alongside their parents, Cecil and Kay Bell, they began selling vegetables and meats at the Georgetown/Scott County Farmers Market. That was 26 years ago, and the farm has expanded beyond their imaginings.

“I was the first employee at the Elmwood Stock Farm farmers market booth, which had just one table-full of red slicing tomatoes and green bell peppers. Today, our farm’s regular-season CSA Farm Share is full with more than 800 members, and we offer limited CSA shares in fall and winter, attend farmers markets year-round in Kentucky and Ohio, and provide wholesome, organic foods to restaurants and institutions,” said Ann Stone, who co-owns and manages the farm with John and her husband, Mac Stone.

It wasn’t long after their first farmers market that they looked into organic certification. Gaining this certification is no small accomplishment, and to maintain it for 20 years is also noteworthy.

“As a certified organic farm, we follow guidelines for ecologically minded agricultural production, such as building soil health to capture carbon, promoting pollinators and beneficial insects, and maintaining our land in a way that contributes to clean waterways. This includes the use of only non-GMO seeds and animal feeds, sustainable animal-health systems, and biological pest control. It’s certainly not the easy way to do things, but it makes sense to us, and we’re proud to put the organic label on our products,” John Bell said.

The new logo and online presence have come together as a result of this work.

“Our appreciation for the land and the hundreds-year-old trees out here on the banks of the Elkhorn Creek are shown in this logo. This new logo reflects the complexity of our regenerative agriculture system: the leaf or turkey feather representing the diversity of what grows here, as well as the impression of deep roots in the soil and the reach of the Elkhorn Creek watershed. We have been growing food to nourish our community for decades, working with these natural elements,” Mac Stone said.

In addition to USDA organic certification, Elmwood Stock Farm more recently received USDA Good Agricultural Practices food-safety certification. This designation means the farm demonstrates proper fresh-food-harvesting and -handling techniques. The farm has also been designated as Kentucky Proud by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture since the early days of the program.

Elmwood Stock Farm, in Georgetown, Ky., is a sixth-generation family farm that produces a variety of organic produce, meats and eggs. Celebrating its 20th year of USDA organic certification, Elmwood Stock Farm is committed to healthy and wholesome production of superior, high-quality, fresh products. The farm's produce, eggs and meats can be ordered online for farmers market or on-farm pickup, local delivery and limited shipment, as well as through its CSA Farm Share and at restaurants and grocery stores in Kentucky and Ohio. Follow the farm on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest, and browse the new Elmwood Stock Farm store and website at ElmwoodStockFarm.com.

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