

Family Orchards LLC
Agricultural Production & Aquaculture Plan
Glades County, Florida

I. Executive Summary

Family Orchards LLC is engaged in diversified agricultural production in Glades County, Florida. The farm operates with the intent of generating retail agricultural income through specialty crops, Christmas tree cultivation, and aquaculture. All products are sold directly to consumers (retail sales only).

II. Current and Planned Crop Production

Lemongrass: 1 acre planted in 2024 with first commercial harvest expected in 2026.

Pine Trees (Christmas Trees): 1.5 acres planted in 2025. Trees are being cultivated for retail sale as Christmas trees beginning in the 2030 season.

Sugarcane: 4 acres scheduled for planting in March 2026 with first harvest expected in 2027.

Bamboo (Shoots Only): 0.5 acre scheduled for planting in 2026. Bamboo will be harvested for edible shoots approximately one year after planting. Bamboo will NOT be harvested or sold as poles.

III. Aquaculture Production Plan (Tilapia – Beginning 2026)

Beginning in 2026, the farm will utilize its existing 10,000 square foot freshwater pond (approximately 0.23 acre surface area) for small-scale tilapia aquaculture.

Species: Nile Tilapia

Stocking Rate: 400–600 fingerlings annually

Expected Survival Rate: 70–75%

Average Harvest Weight: 1.25 pounds

Expected Yield: 450–550 pounds per production cycle

Fish will be stocked in spring, grown for 6–8 months, and harvested in fall. Retail sales will be direct-to-consumer.

Management includes feed control, water monitoring, predator management, and scheduled harvest. Aeration may be added in future years to increase production capacity.

Aquaculture is recognized as agricultural activity under Florida law and constitutes bona fide agricultural use.

IV. Revenue History and Projections

2025 Actual Gross Sales: \$2,000

2026 Projected Gross Sales: Approximately \$8,000 (Lemongrass + Tilapia)

2027 Projected Gross Sales: Approximately \$15,000 (Sugarcane + Lemongrass + Bamboo Shoots + Tilapia). Of this amount, approximately \$12,000 is expected from sugarcane and lemongrass sales.

2030 and Beyond: Gross sales projected to exceed \$30,000 annually once Christmas tree harvest begins.

V. Agricultural Intent and Long-Term Development

The property is being actively managed for diversified agricultural production. Operations include perennial crops, row crops, specialty herbs, edible bamboo production, and aquaculture. The long-term objective is to expand retail agricultural sales, increase production efficiency, and strengthen farm income stability.

The farm demonstrates ongoing planting, cultivation, management, and harvesting activities consistent with bona fide agricultural use in Glades County, Florida.