

# Jersey Fresh Information Exchange

## Sheppard Farms Inc. Cumberland County Cedarville, NJ

### Meet the Sheppards - A Family Tradition

The three brothers of Sheppard Farms Inc., Tom, Dave and Erwin, are committed to continuing the tradition of quality that their ancestors started back in 1682. Sheppard Farms is a family owned business in its 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> generation of dedicated farmers. Even though the brothers compete to yield more crops, each brother makes a unique contribution to the farm with college degrees from Cornell in Agronomy, Engineering and Agricultural Economy. The education and expertise of this dynamic trio has allowed them to remarkably maintain the 1600 acres farm in Cedarville, NJ.

The brothers are excited that the farming tradition will continue into the next generation since Dave's daughter, Michelle, is studying Agriculture at the University of Delaware. She plans on keeping the family farm growing and continuing a legacy that started over 300 years ago.

### Sheppard Farm – A Bountiful Variety

Sheppard Farms harvests a variety of products including asparagus, cucumbers, peppers, romaine, iceberg lettuce, cabbage, endive, escarole, red & green leaf lettuce, zucchini, squash, strawberries and tomatoes. The plentiful supply of water and good climate yields a top of the line supply of produce. Their location is key, especially on Jones Island, where the climate allows them to grow iceberg lettuce through November. All of their produce is cooled and washed to ensure freshness and cleanliness.

The brothers believe their crops are “fresher by miles” since they are picked at the peak of ripeness. They offer local Jersey residents the opportunity to purchase produce that is “harvested today and can be served tomorrow,” a feat that out-of-state competitors cannot contend with. Sheppard Farms is a reliable, quality supplier that can fill a tractor-trailer truck full of local Jersey Fresh produce that is in season.



*The Sheppard Brothers*

*“We grow quality we would buy ourselves.”*

*Sheppard Farms wants their New Jersey neighbors to know that they don't fumigate their crops because they believe in keeping nature's natural balance and fumigation kills microorganisms.*

*They also have another message for those who, like them, cherish the natural beauty of New Jersey.*

*“People need to buy from New Jersey farmers because when they support our farms it helps maintain the open space that makes our State so beautiful,” says Tom Sheppard. “Buy Jersey Fresh and keep our farm economy prosperous.”*

Sponsored by:



RCE Produce Distribution and Merchandising Program

Web: <http://www.njfarmfresh.rutgers.edu>

Email: [njfarmfresh@rce.rutgers.edu](mailto:njfarmfresh@rce.rutgers.edu)