

WHO'S YOUR FARMER?

DAN & CINDY MILLER DanCin' Hills, LLC



DESCRIBE YOUR FARM

I farm primarily with my wife, Cindy, but we have help from our children and grandchildren with various activities. We are located on HWY F in the Town of Hamburg about 1.5 miles west of HWY 107. Our farm consists of 33 acres with about 25 tillable. We rotationally graze horses on permanent pasture, have raised milking goats and sheep in the past, and currently raise free-range chickens for eggs and meat. A five acre apple orchard and several large gardens completes the list. We farm with sustainability in the forefront of our minds and grow our apples, cherries, plums, and numerous vegetables using organic methodologies. You will not find harmful chemicals or commercial fertilizers here.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU INTO FARMING?

Farming is in the blood if you think about our heritage. Both of our parents lived on farms for part of their lives. Grandparents and great-grandparents made part of their livelihoods on their farms as well. We have always taken satisfaction in putting food on our own table that came from the effort we put into its production.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT FARMING?

We love knowing that we are being good stewards of the land we are blessed to live on. Seeing tiny seedlings grow into healthy bearing plants or watching blossoms turn to delicious fruits, despite the odds against it, is also satisfying. Raising a healthy product free of chemical fertilizers or pesticides is our main objective.

WHAT IS YOUR HOPE FOR FARMING?

Putting energy into our farm is all predicated upon our mission to produce quality, healthy food products for the local community to enjoy. We benefit from our own chemical-free produce and our hope is that many more will seek out our produce as well as other local food producers' products. Supporting local food production in order to slow down the warming trend of the planet.

WHAT IS MOST DIFFICULT ABOUT FARMING?

All farmers know that most of their production is at the mercy of the elements and "Mother Nature". A whole production year in the orchard can be stymied by an early spring, causing trees to break dormancy too early, only to have buds and blossoms freeze by more normal weather that follows. Climate change has only begun to give farmers gray hair! Diminishing bee colony populations is another cause for concern. Indiscriminate use of pesticides has taken its toll on the local pollinators, and we strive to leave hospitable habitat for them to encourage good pollination within our orchard and gardens.

WHERE CAN YOU BE FOUND?

Our farm is located at 421 HWY County F in northwestern Marathon County, 9 miles east of Athens and 20 miles northwest of Wausau. Look for the DanCin' Hills Farm sign on the south side of the road. We have an active farm store in the fall and sell our produce at the Wausau Farmers Market in the summer through the fall. You can also call to place an order, and we will arrange a mutual time to connect. Phone: 715-571-2642

RECIPE: APPLE CAKE

INGREDIENTS:

Apples	3 tsp baking powder
1 cup sugar	1 tsp vanilla
2 tbsp butter	2 cups flour
1 cup milk	Pinch of salt
1 egg	

DIRECTIONS:

Mix all of the above ingredients and pour in a 9" x 11" greased cake pan. Peel and slice enough apples to cover the mixture. Mix an additional 1 cup of sugar, 1/2 cup flour, and 1/4 cup melted butter and pour on top of the apples. Sprinkle with cinnamon and bake in 350 degree oven for about 35 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.