

ALASKA GROWN

Farmer Profile



The Pioneers of Produce in North Pole

NORTH POLE - Jen Becker's farming career began as an apprentice at Rosie Creek Farm in Ester during the 2008 growing season. It went so well that she was hired at that same farm the following growing season as the farm manager. She now owns Pioneer Produce in North Pole.

She grows everything that can grow well outdoors including; potatoes, onions, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, brussel sprouts, kohlrabi, peas, beans, rutabagas, turnips, beets, carrots, squash, bok choy, mixed baby greens, mustard greens, kale, swiss chard, collards, herbs, and flowers. Jen thoroughly enjoys



being outside all day, while eating and providing healthy food for the community. She believes that local produce speaks for itself, "You can see the difference, taste the difference, and feel the difference after you eat it."

During the 2012 growing season she and her staff cultivated three acres of the land

while two other acres were put into cover crop. Most of the product goes to Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA) members throughout Eielson Air Force Base, University of Alaska Fairbanks, North Pole, and Fairbanks. Pioneer Produce is excited to start selling product at the Tanana Valley Farmers Market beginning in 2013!

The farm, which in total is a 6 acre parcel, is located at the original homestead and potato farm of Bill Lewis; former farmer, humorist, state legislator, and Director of the Division of Agriculture. It is visible from the Richardson Highway as one drives through North Pole.

Jen hopes that there will be a day when consumers from Fairbanks and all over the state will not have to go out of their way to get local food, that it will be in stores and easily accessible.



This farmer profile is brought to you by the
Division of Agriculture
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