

Twin Oaks Farm, *Holmes County*



Twin Oaks Farm is a 94-acre Certified Organic farm located in Holmes County, Florida, owned and operated by Renee Savary. She has been farming in Holmes County since 2008. Twin Oaks raises chickens and ducks for egg and meat production. Their hens are fed a certified organic mix of grains without soy. They roam freely on pasture all day long eating grass, scratching for bugs and having fun being chickens. The ducks and broilers are raised the same way. Sheep are also produced organically on the farm for meat and wool production. Twin Oaks also produces Satsumas, figs and other fruits as part of a diversified operation. All fruit and vegetable production is organic with fertility provided by compost produced on farm.

Twin Oaks believes in a “value added” marketing philosophy. For example, meat from spent hens from the egg laying component of the operation, is utilized to produce Chicken and Curry Sauce, Chicken and Mushroom Sauce, and the dark meat is utilized along with the skins to produce Organic Dog Cookies. Other “value added” products include Mandarin Preserves, Fig Preserves, and Strawberry Preserves all marketed under the Twin Oaks Label. Twin Oaks operates a website (<http://www.twinoaksfarm.net/>) and has a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TwinOaksFarm>) for educational and sales purposes.

Improving Agriculture through Extension Involvement

Renee Savary of Twin Oaks Farm is currently a member of the

Holmes County Extension Agriculture Advisory Committee and a Master Gardener. She is also serving on the Extension Long Range Planning Committee for Holmes County. She has been very proactive in the Northwest Florida area promoting organic agriculture. Twin Oaks Farm hosted the 2011 New Leaf Market Farm Tour in October 2011. Renee has also promoted and attended Extension Small Farms educational programs, including the Backyard Poultry series and the Small Farms Series of programs.

Impacting Agriculture in the Northwest District

Renee has been a leader in the organic farming community in the Panhandle region. She hosts visitors to her farm on a routine basis, demonstrating her unique method of agricultural production. She is very conservation minded, setting an outstanding example of a diversified production system that encompasses both animal and plant agriculture. Her operation is unique in that nothing is wasted from the products that she is producing. All animals are completely utilized either as fresh meat, canned sauces, dog products, and compost. Her operation is very low impact on the environment as nutrients are recycled and the impacts on groundwater are non-existent. Renee is aggressive in marketing her products at the Seaside Farmers Market in Niceville and the Panama City area, contributing to the economic prosperity of these communities as well. Renee is also a great representative of our community, very open and friendly and a credit to Holmes County! ■



