

THE OWL AND BEE FARM

CAMERON CRAIG

OUR MISSION

"Basically - to be a force for good."



WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO START FARMING?

"A lot of things. One, it's a preferred state that I'd like to spend my days doing. I'd much rather be working hard in my fields than hard on a job site. Doing what humans have been doing since the beginning of time. Also, to do it in a community based way. Two, my MIL had land that was primarily used for livestock farming, so we felt it was our responsibility that the parcel of land continue to do what it was supposed to do. If we didn't have that parcel we'd be looking to farm else where. Finding GoFarm, it was a perfect match."

ONLINE & SOCIAL MEDIA:

 @theowlandbeefarm

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT GOFARM HAWAI'I?

"I heard about it through 2 mutual friends - one other student and my sister-in-law, Emma who also went through GoFarm with me. It happened at the perfect time. We were trying to start a family farm on their family land and figure out how to make jump from gardening to farming. It was the perfect fit."

WHAT WAS A SURPRISING CHALLENGE FOR YOU?

"The backwards planning. Depending on what you're doing too, the thoroughness of it - how complex it can get with other variables like crop rotation, CSA, meeting market needs. Those things are almost a separate science in itself."

ANY LIFE LESSONS FARMING HAS TAUGHT YOU?

"For sure! Farming is a long game. I didn't have any delusions of grandeur about farming. It's a serious endeavor. Farming is really a great analogy about life - chunk it into things you can do right now that will benefit you tomorrow and take care of that in the most efficient way possible while keeping things in the big picture. And then do the same thing tomorrow."

WHAT ARE YOU GROWING AND WHERE CAN WE FIND YOU?

"We are just 2 weeks away from our first harvest. It got pushed for certain reasons, but everything now is spoken for! We've got cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, basil, cabbage, and chard."

We're sort of our own customer right now because we're making value-added products. We have some turmeric in the ground that's going to Michigan at an Organic forage tea company. We also have soy beans in the ground going to Misohappy, a local miso company!"