

ALAN E. JONES

**OWNER
JONES POTATO FARM, INC.**

Jones Potato Farm was established in 1986 as a father-son potato farming operation. In 2001, Alan bought out his father and today, Jones Potato Farm consists of 4,000 acres in northern Manatee County and Labelle, Florida.

Jones was awarded the 4R Nutrient Advocate Award, Commissioner Putnam's Agricultural Environmental Leadership Award, the Sustainable Business Award from the Sustany Foundation of Tampa Bay, and the Grower Achievement Award from American Vegetable Grower magazine.

Jones incorporated precision ag into his operation with grid sampling of nutrients and soil types, and with a GPS-guided variable-rate banded fertilizer applicator, reduced his fertilizer use up to 30 percent. His farms operate off of low-volume electric pivot irrigation systems and with Southwest Florida Water Management District and the FARMS Program, not only conserve water, but also help with erosion, irrigation runoff and pollution.

Jones has been involved in the Farm to School Program and served on the Board of Directors of Manatee County Farm Bureau, Bradenton Economic Development Council and Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association. He welcomes a variety of local organizations to his farms for farm tours and supports local nonprofits that serve children and families.

Jones Potato Farm's vision is to produce more with less by adhering to sustainable practices, drastically reducing its carbon footprint, conserving and improving available natural resources of our state, providing a habitat for a variety of wildlife and ensuring a lasting community impact for years to come.