

Animal Welfare Approved - New Farms: Welcome to the Program

Source: <http://www.animalwelfareapproved.org/index.php?page=newfarms>

The Harris family has raised cows on their Georgia land for the last five generations. Will Harris is proud to farm much the same way his great-grandfather did, though there have been some changes over the years. In Harris' father's time and in the beginning of his own "watch," there was a period where they focused on raising calves for the conventional market. Now, the growing awareness of health benefits from grass-fed beef has made this return to traditional farming practices possible. "We've come about as full-circle as you can get," says Harris. Cows at White Oak Pastures eat grass on grass, and are never confined to a feedlot. Harris's beef recently won the Grand Prize in the Flavor of Georgia Contest. On being accredited by the nonprofit, Will Harris says, "What I appreciate about Animal Welfare Approved certification is that it is truly for family farms. When I became Animal Welfare Approved, I did not have to change my production practices. We farm this way because it is our culture, and it is the right thing to do."

