



Khalsa Family Farms: Leading the Way for Fresh Food with Year-Round Production and a Certified Naturally Grown, Northern New Mexico focused Farm Program.

Started 4 years ago by the Sikh Community, the nonprofit Farm project continues to expand and services a broad spectrum of markets and programs. Funding and volunteer work for the infrastructure development and business growth has been primarily through grants and contributions within that community.

New Mexico has a very challenging climate for crop production. Dramatic swings in temperature. High winds. Intense sunny very dry summer days and short freezing winter days. Add sporadic heavy rains, extensive dry periods, and a healthy selection of produce eating insects. New Mexico Farmers have to really PAY ATTENTION.



Khalsa Family Farms has 15,000 sq ft of greenhouses and caterpillar tunnels, enabling control of temperature, sun intensity, humidity, and insect penetration. This enables year-round production and extension of growing seasons.

The farm follows organic practices and manufactures in-house compost using food scraps from the community's free kitchen and manure from community members' livestock.

The Farm combines hand watering with auto-timed drip irrigation from the well, and use acequia water to irrigate root crops in season.

Khalsa Family Farms contributes to food bank programs, a free kitchen program, Moving Arts, Espanola Pathway Shelter, Tewa Women United and Barrios Unidos.

The farm operates an intern program bringing participants from around the world to experience an intentional community and to learn sustainable agriculture technologies. The farm employs local high school students in the summer as well as maintaining 6 full time employees.

The greenhouse is heated by a climate battery: an electric geothermal air exchange system that uses ground temperature to maintain above-freezing temperatures.



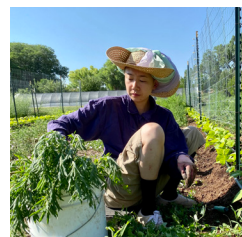
Products include:

Vegetables in a rainbow of year-round abundance.

Microgreens & Sprouts to enhance meals and support health.

Culinary Herbs to add a fresh dose of flavor to any dish.

Fruit in the Summer and Fall seasons. Nature's candy, packed with vitamins, antioxidants, and minerals.



Distribution

Wholesale to New Mexico Harvest, La Montanita Coop, Los Alamos Coop, Center Market, and numerous restaurants in the area.

Retail at Santa Fe and Los Alamos Farmers Markets and KFF Farm Stand.

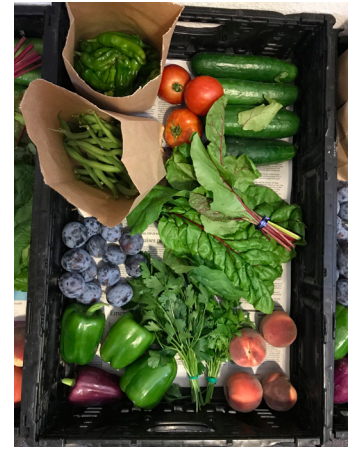
New Mexico Grown supplier to Food Depot, Senior Centers, and Public Schools.



Commitment

Khalsa Family Farms' commitment to the environment manifests in the diversity of crops grown, the pollinator-friendly companion plantings, the cover crops that sustainably enhance soil quality, and the compostable containers used for product packaging.

Khalsa Family Farms is located on the property of the Sikh community in Sombrillo. Sikhs have traditionally provided nutritious food to support communities. Sikhs are the farmers of India bringing about the "Green Revolution". All over the world Sikhs have grown and distributed food to those in need. The Golden Temple in Punjab, India feeds 100,000 a day using donated ingredients and labor.



Challenges

Farming is very challenging. Key ingredients to a successful farm operation are: Funding to drive expansion. Adequate labor. Sufficient amount of experience and knowledge of plant/soil care and production.

Top priority to support growth of small-scale agricultural operations is funding for climate controlled growing facilities and equipment. This especially applies to the production of vegetables.

Caterpillar tunnels are 1600 sq ft and cost \$7 per sf to construct with raised planting beds and quality topsoil.

A thermally controlled high tunnel cost \$50 per sf.



Unique Source for A Unique Place

Khalsa Family Farms is a unique source of food for the equally unique landscape of New Mexico. The farm brings some complete and again unique solutions to the landscape of high quality natural farm products. Expansion of this farm system is an answer to many challenges the community faces. And an answer to the prayer of many for simply the best possible food.