

Dylan Dyn

Farming impacts nearly every aspect of life in one way or another. Farming is important to me because it represents a lifestyle, my lifestyle. Growing up on my family's small farm has played an important role in my life. Farming has played a pivotal role in developing my work ethic. Farming has taught me to innovate, think "outside of the box." In addition to teaching me, farming maintains its importance in providing enjoyment for me. I wake up every morning looking forward to going outside and doing barn chores. Farming is important to my family because it unites us, it teaches us how to work together to accomplish difficult tasks. In addition to this, farming has provided bonding experiences for my family. However, farming is also important in our community in the sense that it provides food for our citizens in addition to providing local jobs.

Farming is constantly intertwined with the environment and mother nature. As farmers, we constantly play a role in protecting the environment. We are responsible for the conservation of our land and the creatures inhabiting it. An example of farmers failures to protect the environment is the near extinction on the Bald Eagle due to herbicides and insecticides such as Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT). However, farmers have learned from experiences like this, working to better protect the environment. As a result of this, there

has been a resurgence in the population of the Bald Eagle. Going forward, farmers need to continue playing an active role in protecting the environment.

As a member of the farming community, I would make sure that all of workers have ample compensation for their work. All workers should earn enough to sustain a quality standard of living. I would also make sure that my workers would have breaks for hydration, meals, et cetera. I would also create a number of paid sick days for my workers, ensuring their well-being. Farm workers deserve rights that ensure proper compensation and safety. The reality is, farming is difficult work, as an employer, you need to treat your workers well.

My family owns two farms, Ohisa Ridge Farm, and Dyn Farms. At Ohisa Ridge, I care for our herd of beef cattle and tend to the farms poultry program. We currently have a growing herd of Maine Anjou and Angus beef cattle. We raise approximately 50 broiler chickens in addition to our dozen laying hens. At Dyn Farms, we specialize in crop farming. We harvest a variety of crops, including 300 acres of dry hay. Both sets of my grandparents inspired me to become involved in farming. They have all farmed for a living their whole lives. The passion they display towards what they do, inspires me to be the best farmer I can be. I am honored to be a third-generation farm in my agricultural family and am anxious to continue this trend. This has led me to become the determined agricultural enthusiast I am today.