



Kevin Etzler

Sugar Farmer

Red River Valley

Etzler's grandfather, George, started the family farm. Today, he farms with his father, Bernard, and brother, Troy. He has four children, two sets of twins, and hopes his oldest son, Andrew, will one day take over the operation.

HOW HAVE SUGARBEETS BEEN IMPORTANT TO YOUR FARM AND COMMUNITY?

"Beets over all the years have been very good for our farm. But the last probably four years have been the toughest. The price of sugar has declined ever since Mexico illegally dumped sugar in the U.S. and that's kind of hurt us, in fact all sugar producers in the United States."

WHAT DO YOU SEE FOR THE FUTURE OF YOUR FARM?

"I would like it to continue. It is something that I'm sure when my grandfather first started here, he probably didn't think that far ahead. But you look over the last 80 years that our farm has been here and my dad enjoyed it, I enjoyed it, I watched what he did all those years and I think my son watches that and sees the same thing."