



Frankie Montalvo

Business Owner

Belle Glade, Florida

Montalvo runs the Glades Formulating Company with his father, Juan Montalvo Jr. They make specialty fertilizers for the sugarcane industry.

INTERESTING FACT

His grandfather, Juan Montalvo Sr., started the business after fleeing Cuba when Fidel Castro took power. He was a lawyer for an ice cream company by trade and had no background in chemistry. But he grew up working on race cars and understood machinery. So he audited chemistry classes at night and used that knowledge to start the business in 1965.

WHAT DOES SUGARCANE MEAN IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

"It means everything. Our business depends on the sugarcane growers in the area. All of our neighbors do as well. The local fuel companies. The local pump companies. Electric motor companies. You name it. Everything in town."

WHAT DO YOU WANT CONGRESS TO KNOW ABOUT THE U.S. SUGAR POLICY?

"I would want Congress to know we need the sugar policy. We know we have the best growers in the world here in the Glades. We can compete with anybody, but we can't compete with foreign governments."