



Ervin Schlemmer

Sugar Farmer

Montana

Ervin farms with his wife, Julie, and son Greg. He has two daughters, Sara and Erin. Their husbands, Ben Mahoney and Ryan George work off the farm but help during harvest.

INTERESTING FACT

His grandfather emigrated from Germany in 1906, where he had also farmed sugarbeets, and established the family farm in Montana.

WHY IS SUGARBEET FARMING CONSIDERED A FAMILY BUSINESS?

"When it comes down to the family itself and the farm, these aren't corporate farmers, these sugarbeet farmers. These are all family farms. And we are all involved. And it's something that puts a good feeling right here in my heart to know that's what we are all about."

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

"We can't survive in this world of sugar without a safety net. We have to compete against high subsidies in other countries and we are actually competing against foreign governments is what it amounts to. We want this legacy to continue on."