



Keith Wedgworth

SUGARCANE GROWER, FOURTH GENERATION
**SUGAR CANE GROWERS COOPERATIVE
OF FLORIDA**

Belle Glade, Florida



Keith's family started farming back in 1932. Today, Keith carries on that legacy by growing sugarcane in Belle Glade, Florida.

What would happen to your community without sugarcane?

"Sugar is the backbone of our community here. If we weren't able to produce sugarcane, the communities around here would really suffer. We depend on the sugar industry. It provides jobs, contributes to the local economy, and just defines our way of life here."

Inflation and increased costs have hit farmers across the board - from diesel fuel to fertilizer to equipment. How have increased costs affected your farm?

"When you look at diesel, fertilizers, and other inputs, the cost of everything has soared. Combine that with the low prices for sugar, and it's really been a double-edged sword. Plus, we had an unprecedented freeze during the 2026 harvest season here in Florida, and that's hurt our crops. We just have to tighten our belts and hopefully be able to survive another day."



Interesting Fact

Keith lives in the same house that was built by his great-grandmother.

