

* **Best Management
Practices
for Agriculture**



STRAUGHN FARMS LLC

*Beef Cattle

- Fence off Sinkholes
- Low number of cows per acre
- Fence off where water runs down ditches and streams



*WATERMELONS



All melons in Alachua, Levy, and Gilchrist Counties have been grown that way since then.

1989 - Started using drip tape and plastic mulch



- * In recent years all or most fertilizers are injected daily as liquid at low rate - therefore little leaching
- * Recently irrigating at low rates multiple times per day



* Automated Irrigation Pulsing System



- Control Panel - Multiple watering, fertilizing and acid injection per day at extremely low rates
- Spill Containment - 110% of liquid inside



Fertilizer Tank

Solar Panel

Acid Tank

Motor

Spill Containment Tank

Control Panel

Drive Shaft

Air Vent

Suwannee River GPS Meter

Gear Head

Course Filter

Water Meter

BACKFLOW PREVENTER

Sand Filter

Main Water Line



* Automated Valves

- ❖ Sections being irrigated can be rotated

* BLUEBERRIES

Ground Cover & Drip Tubing



Small Plants

- ❖ Planted Jan - Feb 2011
- ❖ Pictures as of May 2011



*Tunnels



Same plants; picture taken
October 18, 2011



*Overhead Misters

Used for freeze protection

Misters



Plastic Down



Plastic Up - Vented



Over 400
acres
of
Planted Pines



Age from 9 - 16
years old

The Planted Pines
are not irrigated

STRAWBERRIES



- 🍓 1.5 Acres of Strawberry Trials
- 🍓 Under the tunnels on raised beds
- 🍓 5 rows of drip & micro sprinklers for starting plants

1 Acre Peach Trial

Will be Under Tunnels



*Mist Propagation House

Approximately 150,000
blueberry plants per year.





*Sinkhole Stories

