

# Meet the Farmers: Bethany Ingersoll

## Ingersoll Farms

Fulton N.Y.



**Bethany and her mother-in-law, Patty are all smiles as they help customers at the Downtown Farmers Market**

the Downtown Farmers Market. Every year, the Ingersoll family enters the Commercial Fruit and Vegetable competition at the New York State Fair. The children have taken home the coveted “Grand Champion Award” twice, and have collected several ribbons over the years. Those ribbons have become a popular decoration at the Ingersoll booth.

“My children love picking out the select vegetables,” Bethany smiles. She lights up as she talks about their love for the vegetables they grow. “They love teaching people about farming in general. Being able to win that big ribbon is really nice for them.”

Ingersoll Farms is a veteran produce dealer at the Fulton and Oswego Farmers Markets, but this is its first season at the Downtown Farmers Market in Clinton Square. Nevertheless, Bethany and Patty have already established a loyal customer base! Now ten weeks into the season, they continue to be impressed with the customers’ curiosity about their fresh produce purchases.

“I really like the Food Bank of Central New York’s cooking demonstration booth. It’s very unique because other markets don’t have that,” Bethany says. “It seems that by having that, people do come around and ask more questions about the vegetables. They want to learn more.”

Zucchini, summer squash, cucumbers, tomatoes and green beans are particularly popular this year. Ingersoll Farms is also known for its

garlic, reflected in the logo seen on Ingersoll Farm apparel worn by Bethany and Patty at the Downtown Farmers Market. “We probably grow about eight acres of garlic,” Bethany explains.

Each week, market visitors may also look forward to eight varieties of peppers – ranging from Ghost to Habanero – three different varieties of eggplant, sweet corn, fresh herbs and of course, pumpkins and gourds this fall.

“We pick everything fresh daily,” Bethany says. “It’s nice to be able to provide for the local community, rather than have them buy their produce from a grocery store.”

You may read more about Ingersoll Farms and the produce they carry on their website, <http://www.ingersollfarm.com>. You may keep up with their Farmers Market Schedule, and follow their progress at the State Fair by liking “Ingersoll Farms” on Facebook as well!

The satisfaction that comes from delivering fresh fruits and vegetables into her customers’ hands is what Bethany Ingersoll enjoys most about selling and growing produce. Owner and operator of Ingersoll Farms, Bethany looks forward to talking to market visitors each week.

“Being able to relate with them – it’s a good feeling,” Bethany says.

Located on Owens Road in Fulton, Ingersoll Farms has been a family-run farm for more than 50 years. Bethany and her husband, William started managing the farm eight years ago. Today, all of the responsibilities fall to the couple, their three children and Bethany’s mother-in-law, Patty. They’re all very proud of their year-round operation.

Hopefully, neighbors will soon see symbols of that pride displayed at the Ingersoll Farms booth at



**Make sure to say hello to Bethany and Patty (and wish them luck at the State Fair!) at the Downtown Farmers Market every Tuesday!**