

"GRANDMA'S CORN"

The sweetcorn we grow is what I like to refer to as 'Grandma's Corn' in honour of my late Grandmother Norah Bauer.

In 1885 my great-grandparents took up a 'settlement' at Mt Sylvia, which my son and I still farm today (my grandchildren are 6th generation Bauer's on this farm) Of course, in the early days crops were grown organically, just like we have again now for the past 34 years!!



HENRY AND HONORIA (NORAH) BAUER.



My grandparents, like others in the area, grew sweet corn and picked it by hand . . . hot work considering sweet corn is grown through the summer, grows quite tall and, in those days, was picked by hand loading the cobs onto a horse-drawn German wagon.

I can always remember Grandma saying that picking corn with her horse was her "relaxation". She reckoned it was relaxing compared to milking a herd of cows by hand twice a day, rearing a dozen kids, and carting water from Blackfellow creek in buckets for household use.

Today our sweet corn is harvested by machine.

We have a video of the current corn harvester in action, that was featured on the Channel 9 children's show "The Shak".

Today we take great pride in the wonderful sweet flavour of our organic corn. It's grown in some of the best soil in the world, as the Lockyer Valley is in the top 10 most fertile farming areas in the world.

Visitors to the farm are often treated to a cob of raw corn picked fresh from the stalk. If you have never tasted it raw then give it a go. If it's fresh it will literally dribble down your chin. The photo on the right shows Kaye Nunan, leader of the QDPI&F's Gourmet Food Project at the time, about to partake !!

Below left: My Dad as a youngster hard at work ploughing the field with horses.

Below right: Some of our luscious certified organic SWEET corn that we grow today.

