

D&K RANCH

Vendor: Keith and Diane Mallinson

Location: Biggs, CA

Vendor Since: 1992



Diane and Keith Mallinson (“D” and “K”) have been farming blackberries on their land since 1987. Keith, who worked in data processing for 30 years, started without any farming experience. While employed in the corporate world in southern California, Keith got “burnt out” and began seriously considering exploring a new line of work. Before too long, he had the opportunity to buy some land in Biggs, Calif. and broke ties with daily grind of corporate life.

“I went to a farmer’s market one day and saw someone selling blackberries,” Mallinson says. “I decided that was what I wanted to do. Then I started growing.”

D&K Ranch now has over 5000 thorn-less blackberry plants which they harvest from every day of the week (except Sunday) throughout the summer months. Mallinson says maintaining the plants is a year-round job and a “tremendous process.” All of the blackberries that the Mallinsons bring to market are picked the day before by hand.

“We’re usually picking all day long and then set up for the next day,” Mallinson says.

Mallinson thinks the reason people keep coming back to their stand every year is the quality of their product. Since they deal exclusively with blackberries they are “very picky” about the quality of what they sell. Mallinson says they also try to keep the price reasonable.

D&K Ranch attends the Sparks Farmer’s Market and the Carson City Farmer’s Market in the northern Nevada region. Mallinson says they love the Sparks Farmer’s Market because of all the activity and socializing they experience through the community.

D&K Ranch Market Items: Blackberries