

## K&J ORCHARDS

*Vendor:* Kalayada Ammatya and James Beutel

*Location:* Winters, CA

*Vendor Since:* 1992

*Website:* [www.kj.com](http://www.kj.com)



Kalayada Ammatya and James Beutel (“K” & “J”) have been bringing their wonderful, fresh stone fruits to the Sparks Farmer’s Market since it first opened. Ammatya says they always love coming to the Sparks market because it is very original and they have many return customers each year. She says the atmosphere and people are very nice and supportive.

“We always do a good job here,” Ammatya says. “People really appreciate the fresh, unique fruits we bring to the market.”

Ammatya says their delicious specialty items such as white apricots, white peaches and, of course, their Asian pears are what keep people coming back to their stand year after year. Their tasty peaches, apricots and nectarines are their biggest sellers in Sparks. Ammatya and Beutel cultivate and crossbreed a variety of unique fruits on their two orchards in Biggs, Calif. and Yuba City, Calif. since the climate difference of the orchards allows them to grow year-round.

Beutel grew up on an avocado orchard in Orange, Calif. and worked at U.C. Davis as a professor of pomology (the branch of horticulture dealing with the study and cultivation of fruit) for 43 years. His vast experience in crossbreeding fruits positions K&J Orchards as a leader in the market. Ammatya grew up in Thailand and moved to the U.S. when she was 29 where she worked as a registered nurse. The pair has been farming for about 35 years with help from extended family.

Ammatya and Beutel always bring the highest quality fruit to northern Nevada’s local farmer’s markets including the Sparks, Gardnerville, Minden and Fallon markets. The community supports them every year. Ammatya says she often runs into people in the casinos who ask when they will be bringing certain items to market.

“They just can’t wait,” Ammatya says.

*K&J Orchards Market Items:* peaches, nectarines, apricots, plums, pluots, cherries, apples, pears, Asian pears, persimmon, tomatoes