



Father's Day and Farmers

Father's Day should be an everyday recognition, just like Mother's Day. Father and Mothers are special to all of us in our own special ways and deserve more than we give them credit for. Despite of all this, fathers are viewed from a perspective of farmers, too. Students from Auburn University in the College of Agriculture have been asked for one word that best describes the farmer/father figure they admire and love. Try to recognize and see if you agree with any of the students descriptions of their farming fathers.

- **Selfless-** A father puts his family and others first. He wants to provide and give his family a joyful and peaceful life. Wouldn't you say farmers are the same? A farmer puts his crop and livestock on top of the list of what to tend and make successful. He is putting his farm before himself, which leads to thinking of his family and the rest of the world with knowing what to provide and how to put others first.
- **Patient-** Of course, everyone needs to learn to be patient, but think of how each parent has to learn their own "kind" of patience. Fathers develop a different patience from mothers. From the moment they know they're going to be a father, their patience is more of a worry and excitement, unlike a mother whose patience is planning and time. Farmers become fathers to their crops from the day they put a seed in the ground or start producing and selling livestock. A father has to be patient with their child growing and developing, therefore, patience with the mother takes work, too. A farmer does the same thing with growing/raising his crops or working with partners.
- **Unpredictable-** You never know what your dad is going to do. This goes with his personality, of course, but you think you might know him until he surprises you. Making a bad grade, getting a speeding ticket or going over on your data for your phone makes

him mad most of the time. However, some days he might not say anything and just say pay for it yourself. Farmers can be this way when coming to mistakes or bringing out there inner youth. Farming is a constant learning experience and being unpredictable is a father/farming nature because you don't know what your day will consist or result of by the end of the day. I think fathers and farmers say their kids and crops are unpredictable, as well, right?

- **Stern-** Children *need* a father that is stern and hard sometimes. Parents create and discipline their child because they want them to behave and represent us as *their* own. How many times can you count that your dad has been mad at you to where he has raised his voice or disciplined you growing up? If you can't count your father deserves an award and if you can, teach us your ways. A stern father is a stern farmer with his lifestyle also. Farmers have to take care of its co-op, but desperate time calls for desperate measures. Rain or shine he's working and making sure it's products and workers are too. We don't want a soft man, but a stern man to look up to.
- **Loud-** You can either look at this two ways: voice or actions. If you have a loud dad that makes his voice heard, then more than likely you are almost as loud as him! Farmers like to crack jokes and laugh or yell at workers and operations that aren't working correctly. However, if you look at a father and a farmer as "loud" with their actions, you have a person in your life that everyone notices. A farmer that is "loud" shows what he can do with his products and it makes him humble. Fathers that are just as "loud" show success through their children. We look up to our "loud" fathers and farmers we know, and hope to have that same volume.

- **Stable-** This is almost like stern, but more feeling and security. The older children become, the more we look for that “stable” chair. When we have problems or need someone to rely on we look for a stable person in our life and sometimes it’s our dads. Man is supposed to be strong, independent and reliable on his word, which describes a stable man. When the country is needing someone to rely on to always do their job and provide for us, we call upon a stable farmer. Farmers are tough men and are born with a stability through their blood or mindset they developed.
- **Hardworking-** If you are alive and healthy, have food, a bed, clothing and relationship with your dad, he is hardworking. Money isn’t everything, but it gives this world something for us to live on. Fathers that can provide the funds for you *and* still be able to keep relationships and stay healthy, is what you call a superhero. Farmers are superheroes already because they’re constantly providing and working every day for the world. If you ever need a job to be done, give it to a farmer because he will work hard for a job well done.
- **Integrity-** Did you know that farmers like to tell you how it is? They might “sugar coat” you with a remark, but they still tell you the truth. This brings mortality and integrity throughout relationships and life. To be a farmer, he’s been given the opportunity several if not many times to be an integral farmer. Fathers that have integrity work the same way with honesty, fairness, honor, and ethics to others. A father with integrity, will teach its value and show what is right and wrong.

These words are only a few qualities to describe your farming, father or father for that matter. Farmers and fathers develop in us through history from previous men in our lives. We honor

the men in our lives and the hard work put into our families and society. These “words” aren’t just words you think of, they’re blessings that we should be thankful to have received.