Name Farm: Ripple Trail Farm Ltd

**Location**: Markland **Open Since**: 1965

Farmer: Karen Durfey

Contact:

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Area used: 278 acres (95 cleared), Greenhouse (2700 sq ft)

# Main crops offered at the Market:

Root crops, greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and other subtropical vegetables, ornamental plants and flowers among others.

# **Brief Description by Karen Durfey:**

"The farm was purchased by my father in 1959. It was only worked part time until 1965 when he gave up his job in St. John's to go full time farming. Originally it was a very small acreage but over the years with land grants he came to own 78 acres. We lease the other 200 acres from the government. We have never raised animals to sell, only for personal use. Mostly traditional roots crops have been grown. Since I came back to the farm in 1998 we have experimented with other crops."

# **Times of Operation:**

Vegetables: July to December

Flowers and Ornamental plants: June to July

Closed: January to May.







# Ripple Trial Farm crops calendar for the St. John's Farmers Market:

Crops / Varieties	Planting	Harvesting
Cabbage Artost	May 15 <sup>th</sup> to May 30 <sup>th</sup>	July 30 <sup>th</sup>
Cabbage Lennox	July 1 <sup>st</sup>	October 30 <sup>th</sup> to November 15 <sup>th</sup>
Turnip Marlan	May 15 <sup>th</sup> to July 1 <sup>st</sup>	August 15 <sup>th</sup> to November 15 <sup>th</sup>
Carrot Napoli	May 15 <sup>th</sup>	August 15 <sup>th</sup> to October 30 <sup>th</sup>
Carrot Bolero	May 15 <sup>th</sup>	September 15 <sup>th</sup> to October 30 <sup>th</sup>
Parsnip	May 15 <sup>th</sup>	September 15 <sup>th</sup> to October 30 <sup>th</sup>
Potatoes	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	August 30 <sup>th</sup> to October 15 <sup>th</sup>
Beet	May 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup> to October 15 <sup>th</sup>
Kale	May 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Collard Greens	May 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Brussel Sprouts	May 30 <sup>th</sup>	October 1 <sup>st</sup>
Squash	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Pumpkins	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Beans	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Lettuce Romaine	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Swiss Chard	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Tomatoes	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
English Cucumbers	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Field Cucumbers	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>

Ripple Trail Farm produces mostly outdoors and some crops are grown in greenhouses such tomatoes and cucumbers. Some of its crops are started in greenhouses but are finally planted / moved to outdoors during spring/summer time. Many roots crops are sold at the Market until December.

### **Organic Status:**

This farm follows traditional agricultural practices but not necessarily organic. Some crops are propagated from their own seeds (especially their potatoes). The irrigation is mostly from rain water outdoors and drinkable water in the greenhouse. They combine the natural fertilization from the original soil solution with the addition of some fertilizer mixes rich in Phosphorus (especially for root crops outdoors) because of the weather and soil conditions. Tomatoes and cucumbers are fertilized with balanced mixes of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium as they are grown in greenhouses.

### **Pest Control:**

As it is a big outdoor farm they use a combination of pest control with cultural practices and use of some pesticides if necessary.

#### More information:

Ripple Trail Farm is member of Federation of Agriculture, Horticulture Produces Council and SJFM Coop.

If you need more specific information please feel free to contact the farm or SJFM.





