

# The Tulip Experience/ment



By: Jessi Chmielewski

JessiWayne Farm

396 Shady Nook Rd, West Newfield ME 04095

Jessiwaynefarm2017@gmail.com

# History

- Farming since 2017
- Leased land in West Newfield
- Very Diverse
- BS in Agriculture from UNH
- Cut-flower production past 4 years
- Tulip field production 4 years.
- Blossom and Bloom Festival 2<sup>nd</sup> season



# The Problem

How do we grow fields of tulips for the community to enjoy?



# Research

- Very hard to find concrete answers on field grown tulip production
- Very hard to find research
- Emails, phone calls, lead to me going out west during the beginning of their tulip festivals.



# Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm

A wide-angle photograph of a tulip farm. The foreground and middle ground are filled with rows of tulips in various stages of bloom, showing vibrant red and orange flowers with green leaves. The plants are densely packed and arranged in neat, parallel rows. To the right, a dirt path or road runs alongside the tulip beds. In the background, the field extends to a horizon line under a clear sky, with some distant structures and more greenery visible.

33814 S Meridian Rd, Woodburn, OR 97071

Generational Family Farm; have grown tulips every way imaginable.

-Plant with nets in row systems

-no longer do bulbs, just agrotourism, pre-ticketing, making an event, experience.

# Wooden Shoe Fields



# Wooden Shoe Planting Equipment



# Wooden Shoe Storage

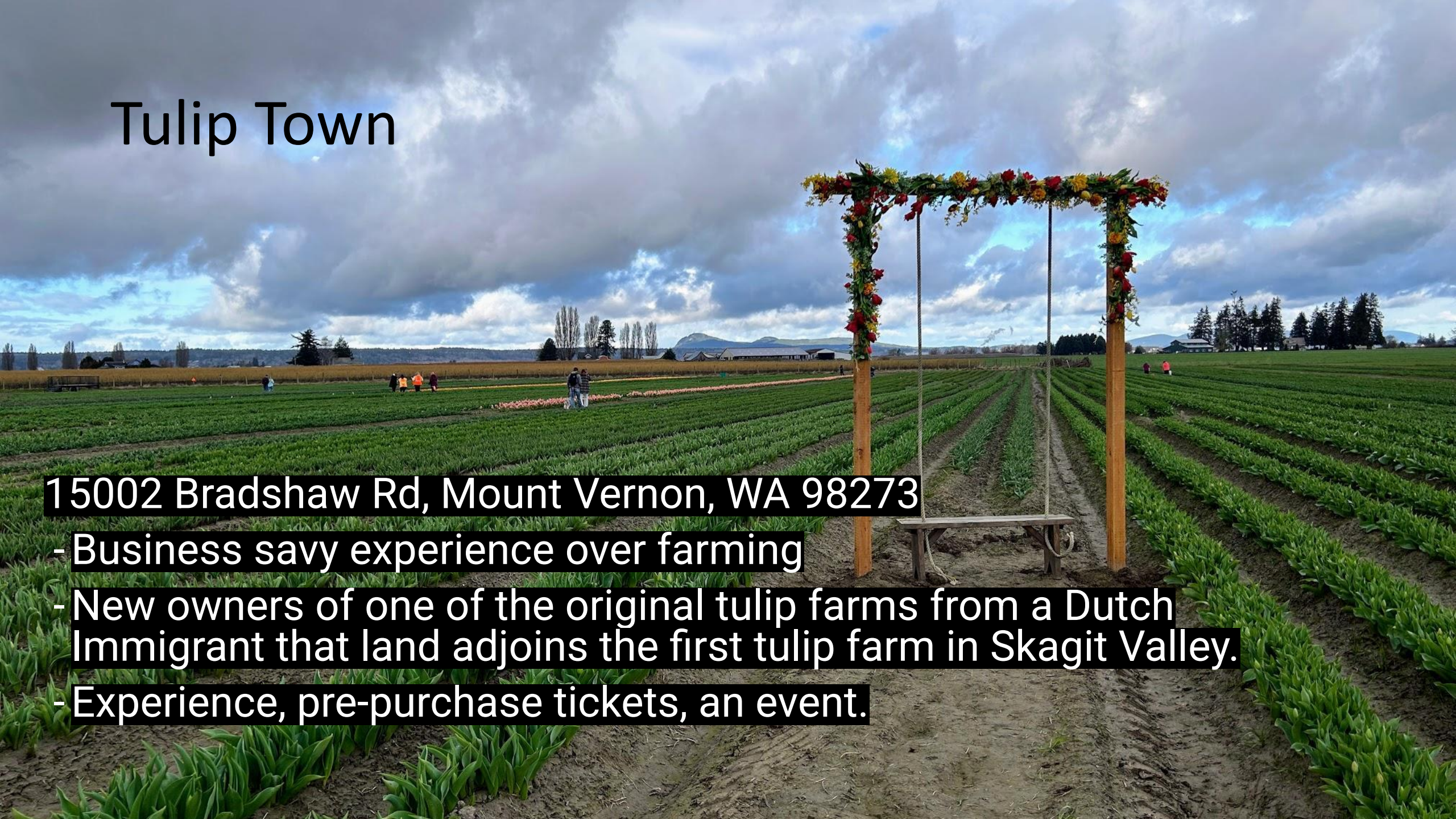




# Tulip Town

15002 Bradshaw Rd, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

- Business savvy experience over farming
- New owners of one of the original tulip farms from a Dutch Immigrant that land adjoins the first tulip farm in Skagit Valley.
- Experience, pre-purchase tickets, an event.



# Tulip Town Holland Equipment



# Tulip Town Fields



*Please*  
For your safety and that of our Tulips  
**STAY ON THE  
WIDE GRASS WALKWAYS**



# Roozengarde Fields



# Our Turn

100,000 Tulips planted by hand on about an acre

Took 2 weeks probably 5 days total











# Blossom and Bloom Festival



- Timed Ticketing
- Small festival space with merch, food trucks and vendors, tractor tour,

U-pick tulips, fruit trees in blossom

-On the weekends over the course of three weeks averaged 2500 people a day.

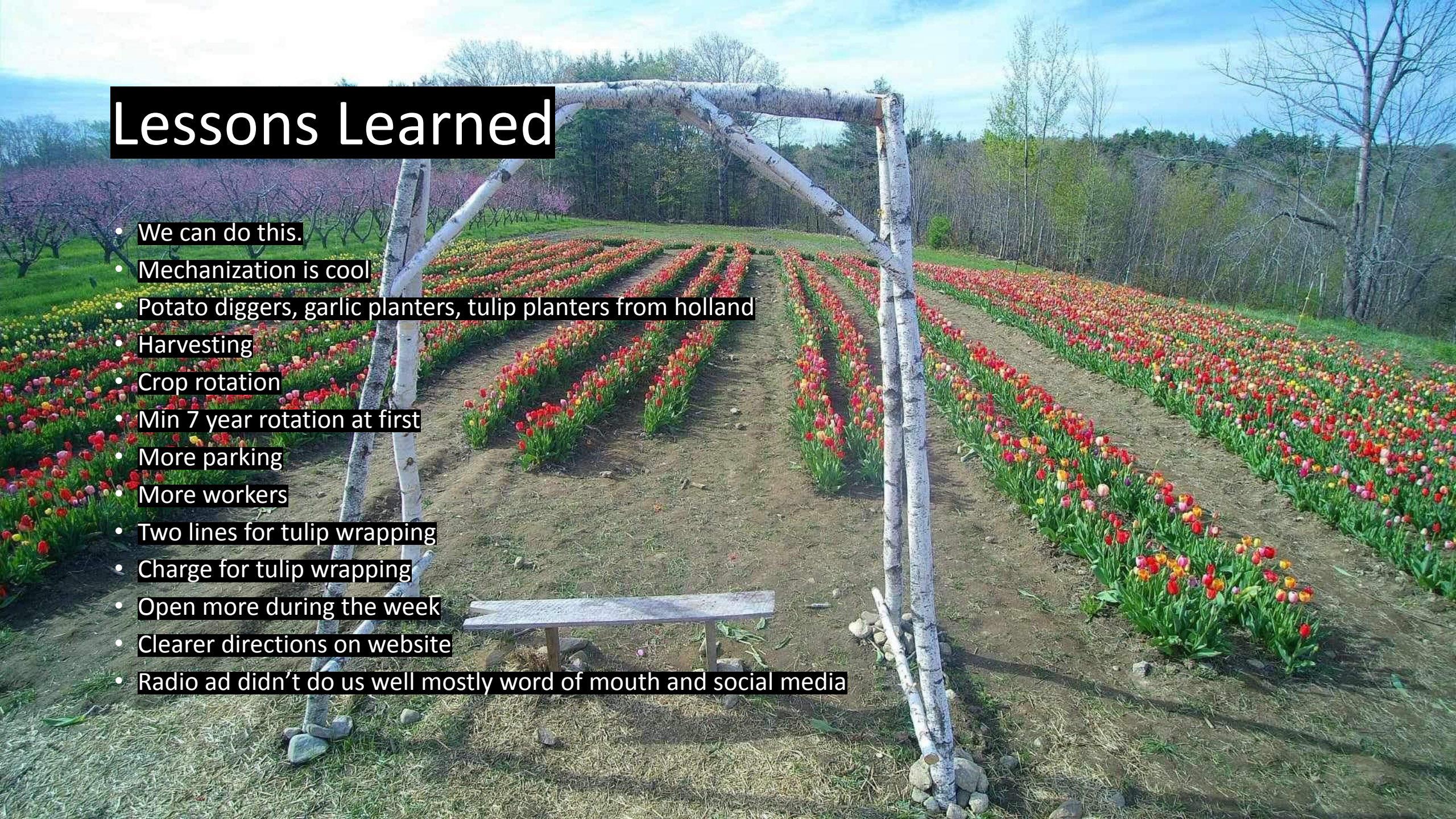
-only opened Thursday and Friday with 200 people a day.

-reserved parking



# Lessons Learned

- We can do this.
- Mechanization is cool
- Potato diggers, garlic planters, tulip planters from holland
- Harvesting
- Crop rotation
- Min 7 year rotation at first
- More parking
- More workers
- Two lines for tulip wrapping
- Charge for tulip wrapping
- Open more during the week
- Clearer directions on website
- Radio ad didn't do us well mostly word of mouth and social media







# Research

- USDA Bulletin NO. 1082
- History of the Flower Bulb Industry in Washington state by Charles J. Gould
- Ornamental Geophytes from basic science to production edited by Rina Kamenestky, Hiroshi Okubu
- Apart of Maine DACF Agrotourism Cohort
- Farms on East Coast

TULIPS



# Summary and Assumptions of what I learned

- Before World War II bulb production in the US was booming and trending upwards. (Gould, 1993)
- Entire station called USDA Bulb Station in Bellingham Washington with most of the research under David Griffiths. (Gould, 1993)
- Bulb research at its height in 1948 with 67 bulb projects. (Gould, 1993)
- 1993 3 part-time researchers. (Gould, 1993)
- After WWII heavy influx of cheap bulbs. (Gould, 1993)
- Now? I have trouble finding one WSU is the hot spot.
- Growers saw more profit and need in cut-flower production and now in agrotourism, several co-ops formed between growers and towns to help facilitate the events and sales of flowers.
- Mechanization Equipment Options

## Bibliography

Gould, C. j. (1993). *History of the Flower Bulb Industry in Washington State*. vernon: Northwest Bulb Growers Association.

Kamenetsky, R., & Okubo, H. (2013). Ornamental Geophytes. In R. Kamenestky, & H. Okubo, *Ornamental Geophytes* (pp. 363-370). Boca Raton: CRC Press.

United States Department of Agriculture. (1922). *The Production of Tulip Bulbs Bulletin No. 1082*. Washington DC: United States Department of Agriculture.

