Transcription details:

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| Date: | 6-Apr-2016 |
| Input sound file: | Growing Exotic Fruit |

Transcription results:

**0:00 (bright music)**

0:17 It goes back to my childhood where I grew up

0:19 in Sicily.

0:21 And my grandfathers had orchards here.

0:24 I can still remember the fragrances from some of

0:27 the little Corella pears or the apricots.

0:29 Something that I think is instilled in you from youth.

0:35 Our farm is situated in northern New South Wales,

0:38 Byronshire.

0:40 And it's about 51 hectares.

0:42 Our production at the moment is roughly

0:45 200 different varieties of tropical and subtropical fruits.

0:50 The property is run solely by, as I like to put it,

0:53 me, myself and I, just the three of us and my wife.

0:56 (chuckles)

0:57 Lyndall helps with a lot of the picking.

1:00 She picks the peppers, she picks the Brazilian cherries,

1:03 grumichamas, all the easy things,

1:05 'cause we don't want her falling over or hurting herself.

1:08 As she's very precious to me. (chuckles)

1:11 We start harvesting from early spring onwards.

1:15 And each month the fruit that we produce ends

1:18 and another new one comes into being.

1:20 And that keeps the interest of our customers up.

1:23 Most names people can't pronounce, but they all

1:25 taste very nice. (chuckles)

1:27 We market our produce exclusively locally.

1:32 We do three farmers markets.

1:34 We also cater to chefs who wanna do something different.

1:39 They use produce that nobody else has.

1:41 The preference for the local market

1:43 is very simple because as you can see here,

1:46 we're not broad acre farming.

1:48 If we had to cater beyond that in quantities,

1:50 I would need a property far larger than this

1:52 to satisfy the demand that people want.

1:56 We've tackled the biosecurity of our trees and fruits

1:59 simply by investing in a fruit fly exclusion netting

2:03 which of course keeps birds and bats away

2:06 and hopefully a lot of other nasties.

2:08 That means we don't have to use a lot of chemicals,

2:12 so I know that fruit will be there tomorrow morning

2:14 for us to pick and so the following day.

2:16 The best innovations that I've come up with here

2:19 is how to let bees into the orchard when I need them.

2:23 And I had to let them out when there's no flowers

2:25 here for them.

2:26 And the frame goes halfway into the orchard

2:29 and half outside of the orchard.

2:31 When I want the bees in here I pull that netting up,

2:34 pull it back over the hive and tie it around the hive.

2:36 They come out and fly straight into the orchard.

2:38 Very simple, very effective.

2:40 One of the reasons have prompted me to do this on this level

2:43 is to introduce people, our customers,

2:46 to fruit that has real flavour.

2:48 And I have incredible passion for new fruits.

2:51 I don't think the good Lord has invented

2:54 a fruit that I dislike, yet.

2:56 I do talk to my trees.

2:57 People find that amusing, I think.

2:59 You got to really love what you do.

3:02 Now here I get a lot of pleasure

3:03 with my little grandkids running in here

3:04 and picking a fruit and munching on it.

3:07 It takes me back, and then it becomes

3:09 just a magical experience. (chuckles)