Once Upon a Time: An Aquaponics Venture

Jeni & Doug Blackburn
Owners
Fresh Harvest Farm, LLC
Once Upon a Time: An Aquaponics Venture

Background About Fresh Harvest:

- Built in Fall of 2011
- Farm is run by just myself and my husband, Doug
- Participate in 3–4 weekly farmers markets in summer, and 1 weekly, 1 monthly in the winter
- Supply 3 local Columbus restaurants with up to 24 heads of lettuce and 30–60 lbs kale weekly
- Provide up to 24 heads of lettuce to our weekly Lettuce Club members year round
Background con’t

- 35x72 greenhouse
- 1,246 sq ft of grow space in 6–12 inch deep troughs
- 2 fish tanks (1–1400 gal, 1–850 gal)
- 2000+ yellow perch
What are some obstacles and issues and
How to prevent reoccurrence
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- Skills & knowledge about:
  - Chemistry, Plants and Fish
    - Workshops
    - Books
    - Internet
    - Business Partnerships:
      - Your fish farmer
      - Your local Extension Office (OSU South Centers)
      - Your local garden center
      - Your local hydroponics store
    - Networking
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- Fish disease and loss
  - Pick your fish for your environment/climate/plants
  - Isolation tank not connected to your system
  - Poop happens
  - Water flow
  - Tank shape/color/size
  - Make your fish happy and stress free
Once Upon a Time: An Aquaponics Venturedisease and

- Other Issues
  - Heating system
  - Structure that houses your system
  - Selling our products: How, when, where, what you need
  - Product storage
Thank you