



Philosophical Ponderings of a Farmer

Work vs Hobby

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Do what you love and you never have to work a day in your life. Yep, we have all heard that one before. And I agree - it is really important to like your work or else a part of you will always be resentful. But at the same time, I wonder if taking your number one passion and turning it into a job is actually as good an idea as it sounds.

While I most definitely do not regret turning my passions for farming and canning into a business, it really does change how I perceive them. There is simply more pressure once you try to start making money. More incentive to work quickly or make decisions that affect the bottom line, rather than doing it how you would if it were simply a pastime. And with that responsibility comes a shift in mental outlook.

Not that running my own business isn't fun on a daily basis - I really do enjoy it! But I sometimes wonder if it might be better to do something else for work and to grow food and preserve food simply because it makes me happy. Or come up with a way to reconcile these feelings.

I also struggle with how to define who I am outside of my business - before, I was someone with a job who also really enjoyed growing, cooking, and preserving food. But now all those things are "work Meghan" and, if I don't want to be defined in terms of my work, I'm not sure how to describe "personal Meghan." This is a new thing I've been thinking about, so if it all sounds a little jumbled and confused - it is. Maybe it's not necessary to separate these two Meghans, but I do think it is important to have separate interests outside of work. But if everything you once would have chosen as these "different things" is now part of your work, what do you do?