INVENTORY FAQ

WHAT HAPPENED? The Pandemic caused demand for U-cut Christmas trees to increase dramatically, and that new demand has not faded. Every Christmas tree farm was impacted, and we all simultaneously asked the nurseries to increase our seedling orders. It was several years before the nurseries could do so.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT? In each of the last 4 years, we planted 5 times more trees than we have ever sold in a year. We will continue doing so and in a few years, we will again have an amazing inventory.

WILL YOU STAY OPEN IN THE MEANTIME? We are going to keep doing what we do and being honest with our customers about the situation. Customers can decide if they want to continue supporting us during the shortfall or if they want to go elsewhere temporarily.

WHEN WILL IT GET BETTER? Things should get noticeably better for at least some varieties in about 2 years, and we hope to have a great inventory of trees up to eight feet tall in 4 years. It will take a little longer to rebuild our inventory of tall trees, but we will eventually have lots of trees in all sizes again.

DO YOU STILL HAVE LARGER TREES? We still have big trees (up to 25 feet), but fewer than we would like. Our imperfect large trees may still be as good as you find anywhere, because few tree farms have tall trees.

WHY DO SOME OF THE FIELDS SEEM SO EMPTY? To make space for the young trees we are planting, we culled some of the older trees that were never going to be chosen. Doing so was a necessary part of our long-term inventory solution, but the immediate effect was to make the farm feel less “full” of Christmas trees.

SHOULD WE COME TO YOUR FARM THIS YEAR?

> YOU SHOULD COME TO OUR FARM IF: i) you will enjoy visiting a large, picturesque tree farm; ii) you don’t mind working hard to find a tree; iii) you are open minded on shape, size, and variety; and iv) you can live with a pre-cut tree if you don’t find one you like growing in our fields. People interested in tall trees may also want to come to our farm, even though many of our remaining tall trees are not perfect (there simply are not many tree farms with tall trees).
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> COMING MAY NOT MAKE SENSE IF: i) it might frustrate you that we do not have a lot of nicely shaped trees grouped by variety all in one spot; ii) you are looking for a specific variety and you will be disappointed if you cannot find a great example of that specific variety (especially if you want something other than a fraser fir); iii) taking home a pre-cut tree after exploring our fields would be a huge disappointment to you.

CAN I CUT A SMALL TREE? Historically, we allowed customers to even very small trees if they were willing to pay the minimum U-cut price. For the next few years, we need to impose a 6-foot minimum size for all of our U-cut trees, to ensure that we have enough 6 to 8 foot tall trees at the start of the next season

DO I GET A DISCOUNT BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED SELECTION? No. In fact, one of the reasons that our inventory is so sparse is that our minimum price was too low for too long, and we sold too many of our small trees. With our current $99 minimum U-cut price, fewer customers will come to cut 6 and 7 foot trees, and that will help us to build an amazing inventory of trees of all shapes and sizes in the future.

WILL YOU CLOSE EARLY?: Some farms close after a weekend or two, to protect their smaller trees. That just wouldn’t feel like Christmas to us. So come late if that is when you can get the whole family together – just understand that the selection of growing trees will diminish as the season progresses and it may be self-serve only when you come.