

*“I loved growing up in rural Perth County. We met so many people through our farm and strawberry business. The community is amazing. It’s beautiful here and my commute involves country roads, rather than busy highways – you can’t get this in the city.”*



**KATY**

*Farmer, W. Charlot Grains and Walch Family Strawberries*

*Perth South*



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## Choosing Rural

Katy loved her rural childhood in Perth County.

“Since I was young, I’ve enjoyed being outside and helping on the family farm. I loved attending events like fall fairs and being involved in the community; this all contributed to meeting so many great people during my small town upbringing.”

After high school, Katy moved to Guelph to attend university where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. “I worked for OMAFRA and then decided to put my knowledge into our family farm - I’m so passionate about working in the agriculture industry and being involved in the family business.”

Recently married, Katy had her first child and continues to be actively involved in the family farm while exposing her son to the agriculture industry. “I loved growing up in a rural community. I met so many people while selling strawberries at our family farm. Customers who have long-purchased berries from us remember me as a child and tell me how excited they are to watch my son grow up,” Katy laughs. “It just shows you how tight-knit the community is.”

“I started off crop scouting and now work primarily in the office, but I’m often in the fields too. At the end of the year during harvest, it’s a great feeling to see what all of your hard work has produced.”

Agriculture offers opportunities that match a variety of skill sets. There’s something for everyone when you pursue this field in Perth County. ■