

“ Everything has a direct bearing on the stewardship of the land and on the farmer’s productivity. ” see page 6 >>

first gear

Farmers and Pine Grove
4th graders Ethan Perry
and Samantha Kay.

Growing Food, Growing Kids

It’s a science project! It’s a farm!

No, it’s the courtyard at Pine Grove Elementary, which science teacher Doug Poteet believes is the first elementary school certified in the United States as a U-pick farm.

The farm at the Brooksville, Fla., school started as a project for the fourth- and fifth-graders in the science club about eight years ago. “Every year, we strive to get bigger and [to tackle] bigger projects,” says Poteet, who, along with students and volunteers, have planted a vineyard, individual classroom garden plots and the U-pick garden. >>

PHOTOS: MIKE POTTHAST

FarmLIFE /// Summer 2015

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