

# Norris and Bryans Family Farm a Centennial Family Farm

## A Century of Norris and Bryans

Connie and Donna (Bryans family sisters) wanted to honor the over-100 year history of their family farm by listing it as a Centennial Family Farm. The Conservancy assisted them in the application process, and in 2017 they received their award.

We were thrilled to have been part of this project. If you or someone you know would like to explore this option for your family farm, please contact us. In order to be listed as a Georgia Centennial Family Farm, the farm must be owned continuously by members of the same family for 100 years or more.

*Photo of: Jennie Norris, Mary Lee Norris, and Connie Bryans.*



## Norris-Bryans Family Farm History

In 1884, James R. Norris purchased 56 acres of land on Broughton Rd in the Seats District of Morgan County. A few years later, James and his brother JD were operating a significant cotton production business. Cotton was King in Morgan County, and generations of the Norris family continued to farm cotton until the boll weevil struck in the 1920s. Soon thereafter, the family transitioned to dairy farming, as did so many other Morgan County farmers.

Corrie Norris, the youngest child of the late J.D. and Jennie, married Grady Bryans in 1921 and continued cotton and dairy farming, passing the farm on to their two sons, Norris and Edward, who also farmed and raised their families there. Norris Bryans moved into a house his father built in the 1940s, and Edward Bryans lived in his parents' family home, the c. 1898 Folk Victorian structure which still stands.

The children and grandchildren of Norris and Edward continue the family tradition on this farm, and to this day, there are dairy cows and horses grazing in the Norris-Bryans pastures. The Bryans Dairy and Bryans Cattle businesses are located on the farm and are still in operation.



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