



Randy Regier plants corn into wheat stubble, using a rig that also applies liquid-nitrogen fertilizer as he moved through the fields.

Farmer left the land, later asked dad to take him back

good groundwater. He said friends in eastern Colorado are pumping from three miles away just to bring water to their homes because much of the groundwater there isn't fit to drink.

Farming is more than just planting and harvesting, he said. He said he learned a lot during seven years of drought about spending wisely, watching debt and stretching the fertilizer.

"I asked my dad for input when I started on my own," he said, "and Dad said he'd give me

input, but he'd never give me answers. He said it was up to me to find my own answers."

Regier said he generally has a hired man year around. During winter, they repair equipment, haul grain and plan for the next year. Melissa, a native of the McDonald area, works at Farm Management during tax preparation time, from November to April. They have three children: son Kale, 22, and his wife Jennifer are students at the University of Arkansas; 19-year-old daughter Ariel is attending John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark.;

and 17-year-old daughter Alexi is a junior at Heartland Christian School in Colby.

The family is active in the Colby Wesleyan Church and 4-H. Regier said he attends farm conferences, workshops and field days as time permits.

"I would not say that the decision to come back to the farm was choosing the easy way of life," he said, "but it is a very good way of life that I would not change for any amount of money.

"We have been truly blessed to be able to

raise our children in a small community, surrounded by family and friends who have the same values as we do. I feel God has truly blessed us by always providing enough, and in the hardest of years, has seen us through.

"I can't say thank-you enough to my God, family, and friends for their support and encouragement that makes our whole operation successful and enjoyable."

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