

Harvesting has affected my life in many ways. Not only has it impacted my life by being physically in the fields but also by being at home while my parents are away on harvest for months at a time. Without a doubt, harvesting has helped make me who I am today and has prepared me for what I will continue to evolve into.

Harvest time is the one thing that I look forward to each and every year. Being part of a group of individuals working together with a common goal in mind is the best feeling ever. One could accurately call a silage crew a family because of how much is shared and learned from one another. When I first started to drive silage truck, I remember having at least five voices all throwing advice my way. I took everything I learned from the crew and channeled it into my harvest work.

As I became older, my parents looked to me to be the caretaker for my brothers and the home farm during their busy harvest seasons. I took my brothers to school, kept the house up, and watched over the farm while attending high school myself. Even though I wanted to be with my parents on harvest, I did what was needed of me. Looking back, I realize this taught me to be independent, organized, and a strong problem solver.

I am currently attending a college of agriculture. As I write this essay, I am near completion of my first semester. It's become evident to me that my experiences on harvest are greatly affecting my college career by training me to think ahead, organize my thoughts, and be willing to learn. I plan to use my degree to enhance the family business of custom harvesting. I know I wouldn't be who I am today without harvesting having such a massive impact on my life.

Megan Orr

