

OKUI FARMS



The second, third, and potential fourth generations of Okui berry farmers

**GROVER BEACH, CA
THREE GENERATIONS**

--

**PREMIUM-TASTING
STRAWBERRIES**

In 1948, just after WWII ended, **Charlie Sakamoto** started growing berries on five acres. Since then, the farm has **grown to 30 acres of strawberries along with 150 acres of mixed vegetables**. Today, **Charles Okui**, his grandson, manages the farm and grows strawberries with his sister, Joan Okui. As **third generation, Japanese-American farmers**, they are continuing a tradition of raising premium tasting strawberries that was carried out by many Japanese farmers and their families who grew and sold the crop.

Charles believes that the micro climate & coastal fog of Grover Beach, California (San Luis Obispo County) contribute to the sweetness of his **Albion variety** berries. The practice of keeping the fruit on the vine as long as possible, for ripeness, makes for great tasting, full flavor fruit.

Charles says that strawberries are more fun and exciting to grow than mixed vegetables and that in the 25+ years that he has been growing strawberries; no two years are ever the same. He also says his little son Jack **may be the 4th generation Okui berry farmer** in the future!

This is part of a series of Local Grower Profiles by **GENERAL PRODUCE**
View more at generalproduce.com/growers. **COMPANY**