



Budding Alaskan, Flowers!

IAC Northwest Region

Spring Alaska Olson is the owner and operator of Sakari Farms LLC (Sakari Botanicals) located in Bend Oregon. Sakari Farms is a Tribal Food Production Farm focusing on revitalizing traditional pre-colonial native foods. Spring is a proud daughter of Chief Helmer Joseph Olson of the Valdez Native American Tribe Inupiaq Eskimo (Kingikumuit). Spring works in collaboration with First Nations Development Institute, Indigenous Seed Keepers Network, National Association of State Farm Agents and other Oregon Agricultural Boards. She also serves as an Indigenous Agriculturist providing Tribal Education and Technical Assistance nationwide, encouraging native youth and adults to grow and utilize healthy tribal foods.



Sakari Farms and Sakari Botanicals specialize in establishing and maintaining the Central Oregon Seed Exchange, growing Native American regional plants, creating value added products such as; Sweet Grass Tea, Elderberry Tea, Smoked Culinary Salts, Specialty Jams, Mole and Hot Sauce and many other Medicinal Healing Products. Spring has been a participant in the Intertribal Agricultural Council American Indian Foods Program funded by the USDA-FAS since 2014. The program has featured her products in Japan and Korea. Spring was a 2019 NASDA Foundation Women's Food to Farm grant winner for \$5000. In 2018 she received a Farm Service Agency Micro-Loan to purchase a tractor, irrigation system and drying racks. After receiving her FSA Micro-Loan, Spring decided that adding a much-needed greenhouse to extend the growing season of her plants was necessary. The new CDFI-AKIPTAN that's affiliated with the Intertribal Agricultural Council gave her a loan to purchase the loan.



Sakari Farms and Sakari Botanicals have been expanding both in production and sales at a very rapid pace. Spring currently has 19 tribal accounts that includes museums, tribal food stores and cultural centers.

Spring states, "IAC has been a great resource in helping guide me through USDA programs that have benefited my business". She is looking forward to her future and is very excited about her current progress.