

The One with the Tractor

- Billy** G'day Harry. Thanks for having me today.
- Harry** Good to see you mate. Thanks for coming down. We'll come in here.
- Billy** There's a lot of seeds in there.
- Harry** Yeah, there's a lot aren't there? This is our hot house. Our hot house is where we start the veggies and we plant them from seed. Ideally, it gives the plants some protection, an extra warmth than what they'd normally get outside. So Billy, these are snow peas. What we do is we lift them up off the ground. Then we put our hand in and we pick the snow pea off the stem, so we don't break the top off. We just throw it into the bucket. If you want to get started on picking some of those off. This is the kind of job where you can eat on the job.
- Billy** Thank you.
- Harry** Have a bite if you like. They're nice and sweet.
- Billy** That's really good.
- Harry** Yeah, it is, isn't it?
- Billy** Yeah.
- Harry** This is all the stuff that we've picked this morning ready to go into the shop. We've got the snow peas we picked before. We've got the savoy cabbage. We've got the purple cabbage. Savoy cabbage is the curly leaf. Some of them are a bit small and that might be due to the time that they're planted or it might be that the soil hasn't got the right nutrients in. We're always trying to make the soil as rich as possible.
- Billy** How do you make the soil better?
- Harry** Well, there's a few different ways. We might put some compost in the soil or we might put some fertiliser in the soil. We'll rotary hoe into the soil. Depending on what we think the soil needs, we'll put different materials into it.
- Billy** Feels quite smooth like the face and then on the other side it's sort of rough.
- Harry** I wonder if that's for the rain to get into the stem. Yeah, it's a big one, isn't it?
- Billy** It looks different to when it's in the shop.
- Harry** Bit different than when it's on the hamburger?
- Billy** Yeah.
- Harry** Sliced beetroot?

Billy Yeah.

Harry These are really good baked in the oven. We can use the leaves for a salad mix. We can slice it up, put it in a salad.

Billy Smells like dirt.

Harry We might go give them a wash, hey?

Billy Yeah.

So how did you end up being a farmer?

Harry I worked for the last 16, 17 years in an office in the city. When I finished there, I thought, "ah, I'd love to work outside. I've never worked outside." So I thought, "what better place to start working outside than on a farm." There you guys Soph.

Soph Thank you.

Harry Straight from the farm. This is Billy. Hey, thanks heaps for all your hard work on the farm today.

Billy Thanks for letting me come.

Harry That's all right. I'll see you around.

Billy Right, see you Harry.

Harry See you guys.

Soph Now shall we stack some on the shelf for the customers?

Billy Yep.

Soph Okay, let's do it.

Billy Can I grab a few things to take back to my class?

Soph Great idea. What have you got there, Billy?

Billy This is for my salad.

Soph Okay, so an onion and some ... What else have you got? Some radish?

Billy Yeah.

Soph Fantastic. Some spring onions?

Billy Yep.

Soph A bit of dill?

Billy Yeah.

Soph Looks good. And those beetroot that you've picked this morning.

Billy The beetroot, yes.

Soph Awesome. Fantastic. Great stuff. There you go. See ya later.

Billy See ya.

Vera Billy. Billy. Let me read your palm. Let me read your palm. Maybe your palm will tell me what you need. Do you want to know what your palm is telling me?

Billy Yes.

Vera It's telling me to wash your hands more often. No. Yes.

Paul If you want to get interested in growing food, where it comes from, how to look after the land, how to enjoy being outside and just have an open mind, you'll always find a teacher to guide you.

Alice You're so lucky as well that you've got the internet. All we had were books.

Paul Sticks. That's all I had. I didn't even have the internet. I had some rocks and a stick growing up and I had to walk 20 km to school in Murrurundi. No, I'm just kidding. I had rocks though, lots of rocks. No internet. Couldn't ask Google anything. I just had to make it up. Still do.