



An Organic Farmers Journey to Belize

Our Minnesota Farm

- Family Farm
 - Apples
 - Grapes
 - Berries
 - Plums
 - Apricots
 - Cherries
 - Poultry
 - Pork
 - Honey





What we grow at Hoch Orchard and Gardens

- 40 acres organic fruit operation
 - 30 acres of tree fruit
 - Apples
 - Plums
 - Apricots
 - Cherries
 - 10 acres of small fruit
 - Strawberries
 - Raspberries
 - Grapes
 - Blackberries
 - Blueberries



What is Hoch Orchard and Gardens?

- Vertically integrated fruit production and processing company
 - Grow 5000 to 10,000 bushels of fruit
 - Store
 - Pack
 - Process
 - Distribute (only the products we grow or make)

2015 - Vacation!

- Where to Go?
 - The caye's
 - Inland to some Ruins
 - Great people-
Great place





Sun and Fun





**We have to come
back**





**We could
live here!**

- Need to research Farming in Belize
- Looking for properties
 - Once a farmer always a farmer
- Looking for Eco-communities
 - Sustainable, off grid

Central Farm

- **Mission:** To increase human resources by efficiently increasing rural prosperity, while improving the livelihood of producers, food security, and generating technologies through applied and adaptive research in agriculture.



Maya Mountain Research



Belize Botanical Garden



Oxmul Coffee



Blackburn Santa Familia Farm



BLACKBURN
SANTA FAMILIA FARM



Nursery Visits

- Springfield Nursery- All Fruits
- Many between Belmopan and Punta Gorda



Belize Spice Farm and Botanical Gardens



Where to live?



- Internet search
 - Multiple site visits
 - Discovery tour at Carmelita Gardens
 - Off-grid
 - Sustainable living
 - Gardens in the name!
 - We found our new home

Gardens and food production

- Gardens in place for years



First Major purchases in Belize



Plans for a Forest Garden

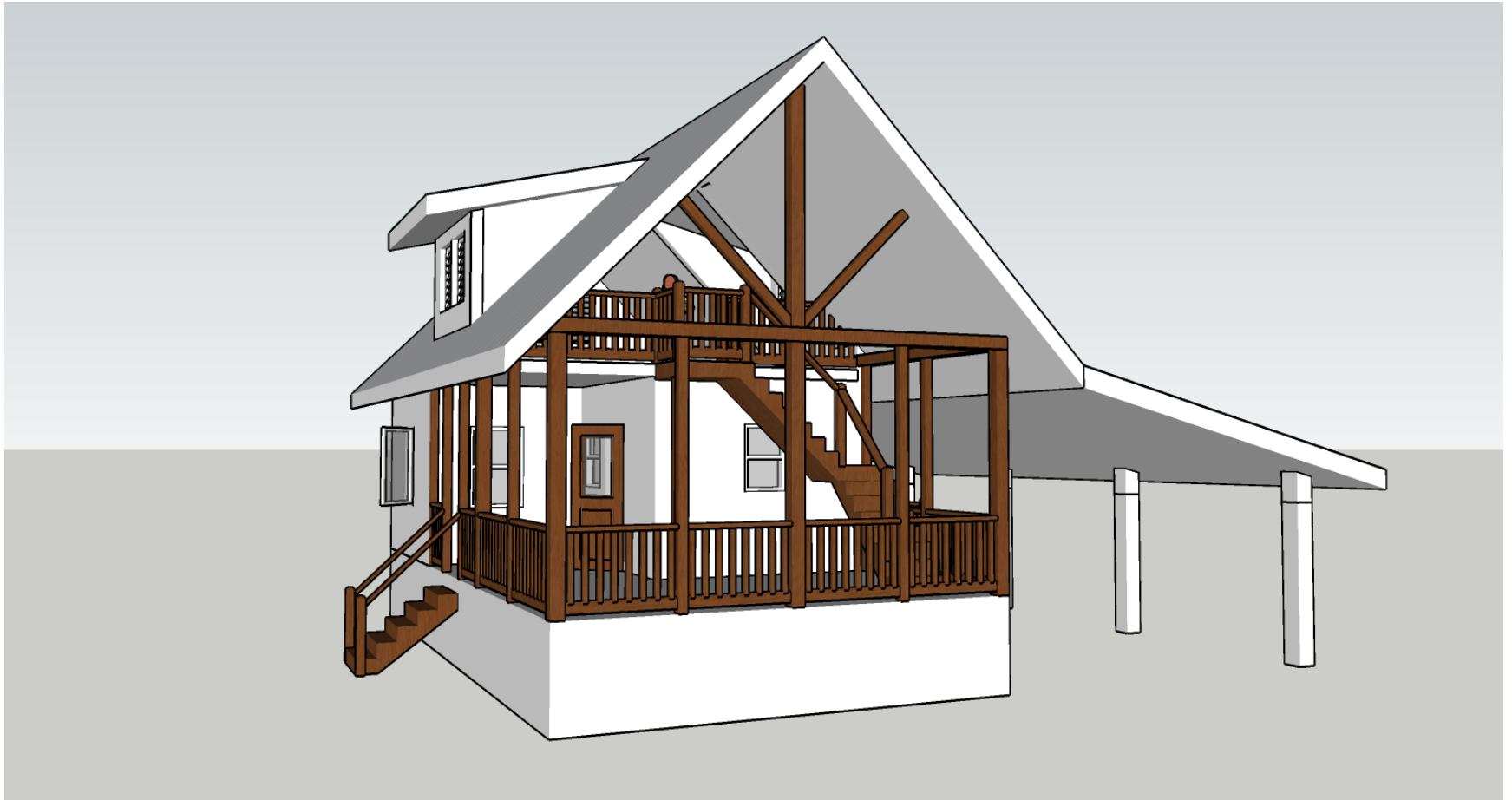


Starting the move



- Truck and Trailer
3000 miles from
Minnesota to
Belize
 - Through Mexico
 - Wood working tools
 - Some farming tools

Design our new home



Wrap up the Minnesota Orchard

Farm Transition

- America
Farmland trust
- Renewing the
Countryside
- Lifetime residency



Expand the role at Carmelita

- Carmelita Forest Garden
 - Food production-
veggie first
 - Fruits
 - Permaculture
planting
 - Add animals



Our new home- almost

