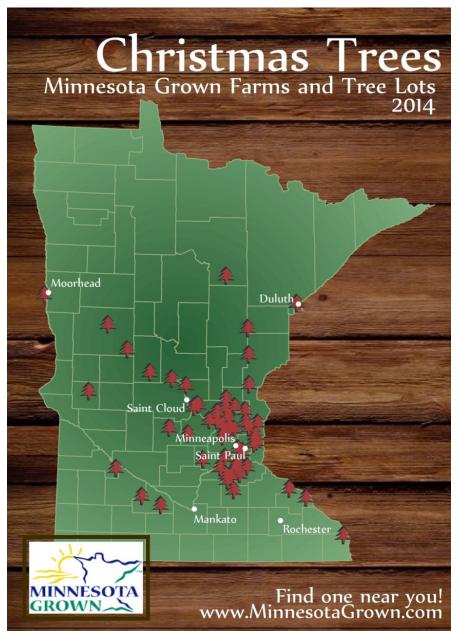
## Minnesota Grown Christmas Trees 2014 Season Outlook

## November 2014

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Connie Anderson, from Anderson Tree Farm in Isanti, says she is excited about the upcoming season. "We are hoping for another great season like last year." For over 40 years, Connie and her family have been growing Christmas trees and selling wreaths and garlands from their farm in Isanti. "Around 75% of our customers are families and individuals who return each year," says Connie, "We cherish these relationships and are happy to support these holiday memories and traditions."

Ken Olson, from Happy Land Tree Farms, is also looking forward to a great Christmas tree season this year. "Thanks to all the rain we had on our farm, our trees are in really great condition," Ken added, "We had a great growing season and our new plantings did well."

Ken got started raising Christmas trees in 1963 when he was just 15 years old. Over time he has seen many changes in the industry and consumer preferences. "For the last 15 years, short needle trees have been quite popular such as Canaan, Fraser, Balsam and other spruce and fir varieties," Ken told us. While he sees this trend continuing right now, he also mentioned a few cultivars rising in

popularity. Keep an eye out for Korean and Siberian Firs in future seasons as some of these new tree types prove to have a hearty look and hold their needles well.

Plan your family fun by selecting one of <u>Minnesota Grown's 60 Christmas tree farms</u> and retail lots to visit! The December Pick of the Month E-Newsletter will have more info on specific varieties and care tips from our experts, Minnesota Grown members!