



# The Maine Farmer

A look at the faces of Maine farming today.

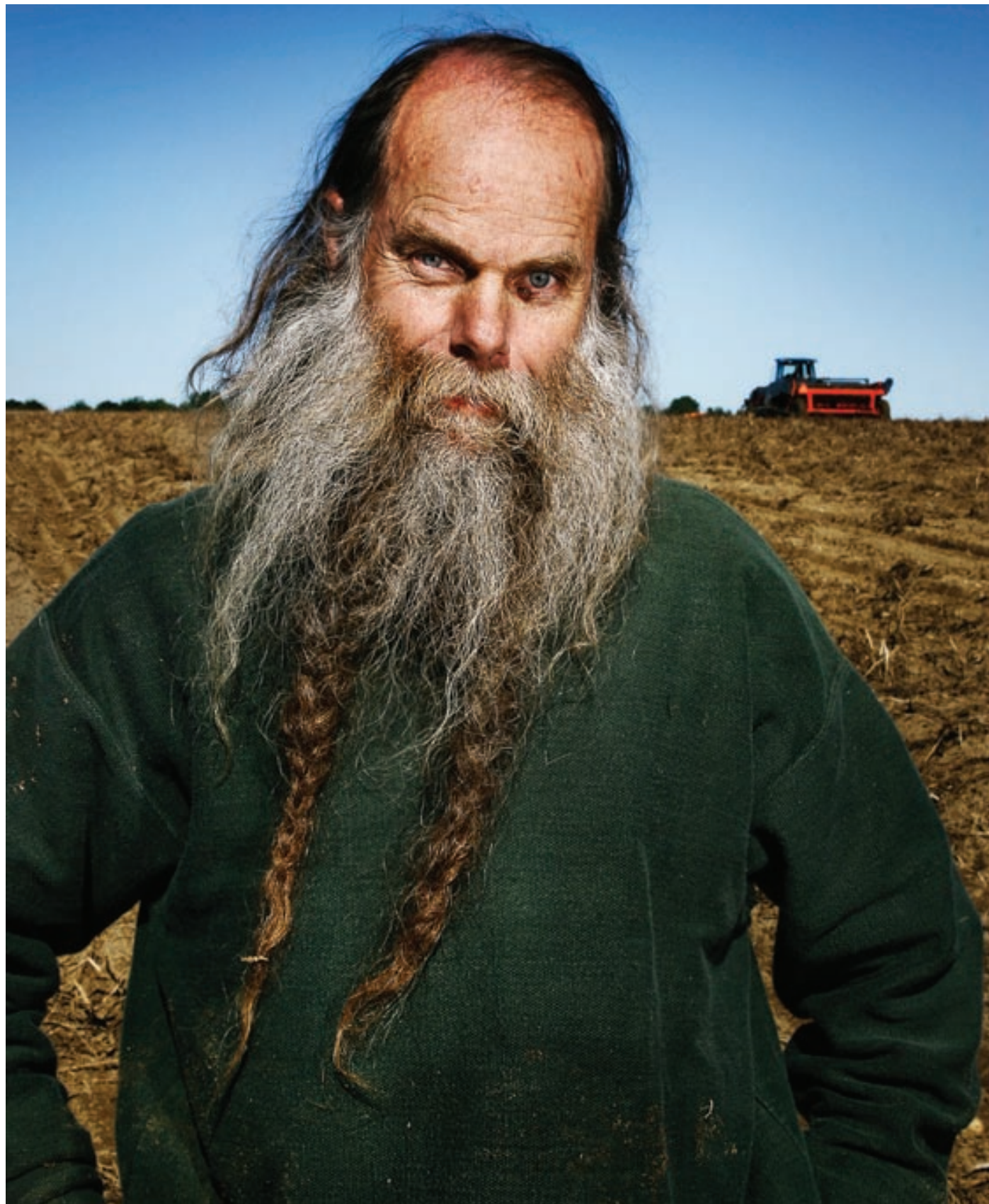
Farming has always been an integral part of the American identity, and to examine the world of farming is to unearth not only America's past but also its future. As photographer Paul Mobley shows in *American Farmer: The Heart of our Country* (Welcome Books, New York, Hardcover, 264 pages, \$50), there is no better way to get to the heart of farm life than through portraits and stories of the farmers themselves. This collection of photographs, with text by Katrina Fried, tells the tale of farmers across the country, from cattle ranchers in Montana to citrus farmers in Florida. Maine, with its abundance of potatoes, blueberries, and many other products, has played a large role in the agricultural tapestry of the United States, and Mobley features many Maine farmers through stunning photographs and personal stories of real life on the farm. The following photos from the book capture the essence of life in rural Maine and remind us of the people right next door who work so hard to produce the food we buy and eat every day.

Aaron Bell (a descendent of a 235-year-old farming family) and his wife, Carly DeSignore, pictured above with son, Henry, are organic dairy farmers at Tide Mill Farm in Edmunds.

Harrington farmer Robert Hammond holds a handful of blueberries. On average, Maine farmers harvest 75 million pounds of blueberries each year.

FROM AMERICAN FARMER: THE HEART OF OUR COUNTRY. WELCOME BOOKS. PHOTOGRAPHS © 2008 PAUL MOBLEY. TEXT © 2008 KATRINA FRIED. WWW.WELCOMEBOOKS.COM/AMERICANFARMER





**Rudy Rozema (far left), of Exeter, is one of hundreds of potato farmers in Maine contributing to a more than one hundred million dollar industry.**

**Brother Vernon and Neil Crane flank Vernon's sons, Jim and Steve (above), on their 2,500-acre Exeter potato farm founded in 1961.**

**Strawberry grower Ford Stevenson (middle left) and his son (near left) are the fourth and fifth generation of farmers in Wayne.**