

Why do you want to farm? What are your goals?

Worksheet #1

Have each partner in the farm answer the questions below. You can print off separate sheets or fill it out together. The point is for each person to discuss their answer to ensure that everyone is aware of their reasons for farming.

Ask yourselves these questions:

- 1.) What are the things I want in life that farming will help me achieve? Please write your name beside your top 3 reasons for wanting to farm:
 - a. I love being/working in the outdoors
 - b. I want a job where I can work with my family
 - c. I want to own my own business and be my own boss (and have the flexibility to do things like pick up children from school)
 - d. I grew up farming and it's what I know best
 - e. I see farming mainly as a way to make money
 - f. I want to grow healthy food for my family and community
 - g. I want to nurture and improve the natural environment of my farm
 - h. Achieve self sufficiency/provide my own food
 - i. Other:
 - j. Other:

- 2.) What are your income goals for the farm? (choose one or all that apply)
 - a. I want to break even in my first year
 - b. I want farming to supply all of my income
 - c. I want to provide supplemental income while holding a full time job
 - d. I want the farm to supply enough income to work only part time.
 - e. I want farm income to support my family in the present and the long term—e.g. retirement and college tuition
 - f. I want to make enough money farming to bring my children into the farm eventually as partners
 - g. I want the farm to supply enough money for health insurance
 - h. Other:
 - i. Other:



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With your partner, compare your list of goals and answer the following questions:

Write down the ways they are different:

Write down the ways they are compatible:

How will you reconcile the differences?

How do your goals and plans affect your family?

Describe your farm goals in 2-3 sentences. This will be the beginning of your farm mission statement.

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