

Values Clarification Worksheet New & Beginning Farmers

Use this worksheet to ask yourself detailed questions about your land tenure goals and values. What does tenure mean to you?

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1.	Describe your dream farm. Use the following questions as prompts: What are the physical features of the land? How many acres are there of cropland, hay land, pasture, woods, etc? What are the soils and slopes like? Do you own it, rent it or manage it? Do you share responsibilities for the land with anyone else? Describe the farm buildings and infrastructure (fence & water systems wells, washing stations, etc) Is there a farmhouse, or do you live off-farm?
2.	What are your values and beliefs regarding: Land ownership?
	Leasing farmland?
	Managing someone else's farm?
	Being in partnership with co-owners?
	Farming a parcel of land on a cooperative farm which is owned by a social investor?



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3.	You've identified your thoughts about land ownership and rental of farmland in item 2 above. Think about how your land tenure preferences fit into your farming plans at this time and how you predict that might change over time.
4.	What are your biggest concerns about owning or leasing farm property?
5.	What do you see (at this point) as the ideal acquisition path for you? (One example might be: start with short-term rental, eventually own all the land you farm.) Why is your ideal acquisition plan a good scenario for you? What are its risks?