Initial questions for landowners to consider when working toward quality, durable leases.

Describe the current agricultural and other uses of your property:

Sketch your vision for the property both now and in the future:

What is the impact of farming activities on you, your family, other users of the property, the neighborhood, and community?

What is your current relationship to the property (for example, do you live there, visit occasionally, work on, enjoy recreation there)?

What do you think that your (or your heirs’) relationship to the land will be in the future? What discussions, plans and decisions have been made to date about the future uses of the property, and what impact might they have on leaseholders?

List the decision-makers (including owners, family members, users) who are currently involved with the property, or who could be in the future:

How much involvement do you have (or want to have) in farming activities?
If you are involved, describe the legal, financial, and practical implications of your involvement:

What are your financial goals and requirements for use of the property?

Describe the property's current land-use arrangement (for example, short term rental, longer-term lease, lease with purchase option, multiple tenants, farm stand):

What are your land management and stewardship preferences? What special features do you value most (for example, the view, orchard, stone walls):

What do you think about public access to the property?

Describe your relationship with the current farmer-tenants (How involved? Sharing responsibilities? Communications?)

What is going well in your current leasing arrangement?

What needs attention or improvement in your current arrangement?

Is there anything that you would like to discuss with your farmer-tenant that you’ve been hesitant to bring up?

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