

Whole Farm Planning

On-Farm Experience

Objectives:

- Develop a resume with references that showcases both conceptual and practical skills.
- Develop a business plan from information generated in previous modules.
- Create a definition and show proof of “sustainability” that incorporates environmental best management practices, economical viability, and farm safety/health methods.
- Establish a farm mentor contact who can attest to the amount of practical experience gained.
- Understand the importance of farm health and safety, and design ways to implement health and safety tactics on the farm.
- Understand the ultimate consequences of production practices through cost-benefit analysis.
- Show ability to physically raise crops/livestock included in the whole farm plan through an independent test plot.

Questions to Answer:

- Do you have a legitimate resume written?
- Do you have a legitimate business plan written?
- What environmentally sound practices are important to you?
- How can you maximize the efficiency of your resources?
- Are you able to apply knowledge gained in previous whole-farm planning modules to an on-farm experience?
- Do you have the skills necessary for your chosen type of production?

Overview of Assignments:

- Attend a workshop, lecture, or seminar on any production practice topic.
- Establish a year-round record keeping system.
- Raise a sampling of all crops and livestock included in the whole farm plan under the supervision of an established farm mentor.