

Worksheet 7: Assessing your Production & Stewardship Preferences

This worksheet is designed to help you consider and narrow down your choices of specific farm product(s).

The list in question 1 is not exhaustive but is a good place to help you start to identify product possibilities.

Regardless of what product(s) you plan to grow or raise, a central question to consider is the type of production management system you will implement. Question 2 looks at some of the broad categories of options. Broadly speaking, conventional systems tend to maximize efficiency through the use of many inputs like machinery, chemical fertilizers or bulk feeds, and pesticides. Alternative systems focus less on efficiency, since they depend on a more intensive management approach that uses less fossil-fuel based inputs. The Sustainable Production Module (xx) explores these systems in greater detail.

In question 3, a list of possible post-harvest processing options is shown. The product at harvest may be sold as is, or else require further processing.

Step 1: Read the left hand side bar information.

Step 2: Explore the following questions:

1. Select the products you are interested in producing from the list below:

- Horticultural Products
 - Vegetables
 - Small Fruits
 - Tree Fruits or Nuts
 - Wine Grapes
 - Forest/Nursery
 - Ornamental/Landscaping Plants
- Crops
 - Grains
 - Silage
 - Hay
 - Forage
- Livestock
 - Meat
 - Dairy
 - Poultry
- Fisheries/Aquaculture
- Other

2. The type of management production system that best fits your whole farm planning vision is a:

- Conventional system (high input, high spray)
- Hybrid Conventional system (low-input, low spray)
- Alternative system
- Organic system
- Other system

3. Using the list below, use a separate piece of paper to jot down each of your product(s) grown or raised, and how you envision that product will be processed after harvest:

- No processing (will be sold for fresh market)
- Minimal processing
 - Washing, packaging for fresh market
 - Washing, frozen, packaged
- Extensive processing
 - Butchering and packaged through processor
 - Value-added product