

Ag Producer Survey

A - Local Business Environment

1. What is your overall opinion of (LOCATION) as a place to do agricultural business?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very Poor

2. What are your top three (3) reasons for operating your agricultural business in (LOCATION)?

(Select three.)

- ☐ Access to customers
- ☐ Access to information (e.g., Extension and research)
- ☐ Access to markets
- ☐ Access to suppliers
- ☐ Agricultural business environment
- ☐ Availability of workforce
- ☐ Land ownership
- ☐ Natural resources
- ☐ Operating expenses
- ☐ Proximity to family
- ☐ Quality of life
- ☐ Support services (e.g., banking, health care, legal, etc.)
- ☐ Other:

3. How would you rate the local support system (e.g., suppliers, processors, transportation, etc.) for your farm business?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Very Poor

4. What support is not provided by the local community?

(Provide one response only.)

5. What support could be provided better by the local community?

(Provide one response only.)

How important to you are each of these sources of information on agricultural issues?

6. Commodity organizations

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

7. The LOCAL PAPER

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

8. Farm Bureau

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

9. Farm publications

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

10. The Internet

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

11. Ohio Department of Agriculture

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

12. Ohio State University Extension

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

13. Other farmers

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

14. Television/radio

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

15. USDA agencies

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

16. Other

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

Other

17. Please specify your "Other" sources of information.

(Provide one response only.)

Rate each of the following as to its importance to your agricultural business.

18. Availability of labor

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

19. Availability of land for production

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

20. Biotechnology in agriculture

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

21. Contract farming

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

22. Cost of healthcare

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

23. Cost of labor

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

24. Cost of land to purchase

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

25. Cost of land to rent

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

26. Cost of liability & property causality insurance

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

27. Environmental regulations

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

28. Government subsidies

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

29. Global free trade

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important

- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

30. Increase in the county's population

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

31. Increase in large-scale farm operations

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

32. Mergers among ag supply companies

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

33. Quality & quality of water

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

34. Securing adequate credit & financing

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Not Important
- ☐ Somewhat Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important

Future Viability

35. How do you feel about the future viability of the agricultural economy in (LOCATION)?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Very Optimistic

- ☐ Optimistic
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Pessimistic
- ☐ Very Pessimistic

36. Please explain.

(Provide one response only.)

37. Please list your top 3 greatest challenges to the future viability of your own agricultural business.

(Provide one response only.)

38. Please list the types of activities, programs or other support systems that you feel are necessary to properly address each of your challenges.

(Provide one response only.)

B - Operations and Future Plans

Where do you do most of your farm business?

(Check one for each.)

39. Farm services (e.g., veterinarian, nutritionist, etc.)

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

40. Financing

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

41. Professional services (e.g., legal, insurance, accounting, etc.)

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County

- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

42. Supplies (e.g., feed, fertilizer, chemical, seed, etc.)

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

43. Transportation

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

44. Other

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

Please specify "Other"

45. Other:

(Provide one response only.)

Where do you sell most of your production of the following products?

(Check one for each if it applies to you.)

46. Breeding stock

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

47. Christmas trees

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

48. Equine

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

49. Fruits & vegetables

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

50. Grain

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

51. Livestock

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

52. Mile & other dairy products

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
- ☐ Outside Ohio

53. Nursery

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
- ☐ Neighboring County
- ☐ Elsewhere in Ohio

- ☐ Outside Ohio

54. Timber

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
☐ Neighboring County
☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
☐ Outside Ohio

55. Other

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ This County
☐ Neighboring County
☐ Elsewhere in Ohio
☐ Outside Ohio

Please explain "Other"

56. Other:

(Provide one response only.)

Do you plan to make any changes in your operation? Please indicate the type of change and the time frame for each.

(Check one for each.)

57. Add agritourism

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
☐ 1 - 3 years
☐ 4 - 6 years

58. Change type of livestock

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
☐ 1 - 3 years
☐ 4 - 6 years

59. Increase livestock

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
☐ 1 - 3 years
☐ 4 - 6 years

60. Decrease livestock

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

61. Increase acres farmed

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

62. Decrease acres farmed

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

63. Rent all or part of the farm

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

64. Start growing different crop(s)

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

65. Other

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Do not plan to make any operational changes
- ☐ 1 - 3 years
- ☐ 4 - 6 years

Other

66. Please specify "Other":

(Provide one response only.)

67. If you are planning to grow, process or market different crop(s), what are they?

(Provide one response only.)

68. For the largest percent of your sales, what is your current marketing method?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Retail (direct to consumer)
- ☐ Wholesale

69. Do you plan to make any changes in how you market your products?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Future Plans

70. How long do you plan to continue farming?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Plan to stop farming within a year
- ☐ 1 - 5 more years
- ☐ 6 - 10 more years
- ☐ 11 - 20 more years
- ☐ More than 20 years

71. If you plan to stop farming within a year, what is the primary reason?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Financial reasons
- ☐ Health reasons
- ☐ Personal reasons
- ☐ Retirement
- ☐ Other:

72. If you plan to stop farming within the next one to ten years, what do you plan to do with your farm after you stop farming?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Rent out some or all of the land
- ☐ Sell farm to a non-family member who wants to farm
- ☐ Sell some or all of the land for residential or other non-agricultural purposes
- ☐ Transfer farm to a relative
- ☐ Other:

C - Background on Your Farm and Operation

73. Which of the following most closely describes your current position with this farming operation?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Owner
- ☐ Owner/operator
- ☐ Operator
- ☐ Investor
- ☐ Other:

74. In which of the following townships is your operation located?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Baughman
- ☐ Canaan
- ☐ Chester
- ☐ Chippewa
- ☐ Clinton
- ☐ Congress
- ☐ East Union
- ☐ Franklin
- ☐ Green
- ☐ Milton
- ☐ Paint
- ☐ Plain
- ☐ Salt Creek
- ☐ Sugar Creek
- ☐ Wayne
- ☐ Wooster

75. What were your gross annual sales last year?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Less than \$10,000
- ☐ \$10,001 - \$25,000
- ☐ \$25,001 - \$50,000
- ☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000
- ☐ \$100,001 - \$250,000
- ☐ \$250,001 - \$500,001
- ☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million
- ☐ More than \$1 million

76. How many acres do you farm?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ 50 acres or less
- ☐ 51 - 250

- ☐ 251 - 500
- ☐ 501 - 750
- ☐ 751 - 1000
- ☐ More than 1000

77. Do you rent any of the acres you farm?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

78. If yes, how much?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ 50 acres or less
- ☐ 51 - 250
- ☐ 251 - 500
- ☐ 501 - 750
- ☐ 751 - 1000
- ☐ More than 1000

79. Where does most of your farm production come from?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Dairy
- ☐ Crops (e.g., grain, hay)
- ☐ Livestock, other than dairy
- ☐ Nursery
- ☐ Produce
- ☐ Other:

How many employees from each of the following categories does your agricultural business employ?

80. Full-time employees - family members

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
- ☐ 1 - 2
- ☐ 3 - 5
- ☐ 6 - 10
- ☐ More than 10

81. Full-time employees - nonfamily members

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
- ☐ 1 - 2
- ☐ 3 - 5
- ☐ 6 - 10

- ☐ More than 10

82. Part-time (less than 30 hrs/wk) - family members

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
☐ 1 - 2
☐ 3 - 5
☐ 6 - 10
☐ More than 10

83. Part-time (less than 30 hrs/wk) - nonfamily members

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
☐ 1 - 2
☐ 3 - 5
☐ 6 - 10
☐ More than 10

84. Seasonal and/or migrant employees

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
☐ 1 - 2
☐ 3 - 5
☐ 6 - 10
☐ More than 10

85. Other employees

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Zero
☐ 1 - 2
☐ 3 - 5
☐ 6 - 10
☐ More than 10

Background (cont)

86. How many years have you been farming?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Less than 5 years
☐ 6 - 10 years
☐ 11 - 15 years
☐ 16 - 20 years
☐ More than 20 years

87. Why do you farm?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Family tradition
- ☐ Income
- ☐ Lifestyle
- ☐ Tax shelter
- ☐ Career choice
- ☐ Other:

88. How old are you?

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Younger than 25
- ☐ 25 - 34
- ☐ 35 - 44
- ☐ 45 - 54
- ☐ 55 - 64
- ☐ 65 - 74
- ☐ 75 or older

Are you or your spouse employed off the farm?

89. Yes, part-time

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Self
- ☐ Spouse

90. Yes, full-time

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Self
- ☐ Spouse

91. No

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Self
- ☐ Spouse

Why

92. If yes, what is the primary purpose for off-farm employment?

(Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Career choice
- ☐ Financial necessity
- ☐ To obtain benefits
- ☐ Other:

Please estimate what percentage of your family's net income comes from farm and off-farm sources.

93. Farm sources

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Less than 10%
- ☐ 11 - 25%
- ☐ 26 - 50%
- ☐ 51 - 75%
- ☐ 76 - 100%

94. Off-farm sources

(Select only one.)

- ☐ Less than 10%
- ☐ 11 - 25%
- ☐ 26 - 50%
- ☐ 51 - 75%
- ☐ 76 - 100%

Thank you for completing this survey.

95. In the space below, please add any comments.

(Provide one response only.)

Contact information - OPTIONAL (*required)

First Name*

Last Name

Company

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

Email

Today's Date