

# Survey of Wisconsin Women Farmers

Environmental Resources Center; 445 Henry Mall, Rm. 202, Madison, WI 53706-1577

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. It is designed to be completed by women farmers in direct marketing or value-added enterprises. Please check one response for each question unless otherwise directed. If you have any questions about this survey please contact Astrid Newenhouse at (608) 262-2635.

## **SECTION ONE: You and Your Farm**

**A1. a. Are you a woman farmer?**

- Yes                       No *(If no, please return the survey in the enclosed envelope)*

**b. Do you make or help make the main decisions about how this farm is managed?**

- Yes                       No *(If no, please return the survey in the enclosed envelope)*

**A2. Which best describes your role in making management decisions about your farm?**

- I am the principal operator of this farm (the one most responsible for daily decisions)  
 I am an equal partner in a jointly managed farm  
 I am an involved, but not the principal decision maker in the management of this farm

**A3. Do you or your spouse or life partner work off-farm? (check all that apply)**

- I work off-farm full-time  
 I work off-farm part-time or seasonally  
 I do not have off-farm work  
 My spouse or life partner works off-farm full-time  
 My spouse or life partner works off-farm part-time

**A4. What county is your farm located in? \_\_\_\_\_**

**A5. (a) In 2008, how many acres did you own? \_\_\_\_\_**

**(b) In 2008, how many acres did you rent? \_\_\_\_\_**

## **SECTION TWO: Your Concerns for Your Farm**

**B1. How often are the following start-up and operations issues a concern or worry regarding your farm operation?**

Issue	Never	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
Access to credit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to labor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farm succession	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**B2. How often are the following business management issues or practices a concern or worry regarding your farm operation?**

Issue	Never	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
Farm Profitability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feasibility planning (business start-up or expansion planning)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Record keeping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marketing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Labor management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):				

**B3. How often are the following production issues or practices a concern or worry regarding your farm operation?**

Issue	Never	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
Chemical fertilizer and pesticide use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ecological health of habitat, wildlife, streams	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farm energy use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil & water conservation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food product safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):				

**SECTION THREE: Conservation Practices**

**C1. Which of the following do you use on your farm for land management?** Please check if you use the practice and if unused check the one reason that best explains why.

Practice	Used on my farm	Reason for Not Using				
		Not familiar with it	Doesn't fit my farm	Low priority for me	Cost too much	Other
Terracing for erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contour farming, strip cropping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
No-till	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conservation tillage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cover crops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated pest management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Riparian buffer strips or grassed waterways	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shelterbelts, windbreaks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife, insect habitat areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Woodland management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)						

**C2. Which of these planning practices do you use for your farm operation? (check all that apply)**

- Soil and water conservation plan
- Manure management plan
- Nutrient and pesticide management plan
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

**C3. Do you now participate in any of the following government programs? Please check if you do and if not, check the one reason that best describes why you don't.**

Government Program	I do participate	Reasons for Non-Participation				
		Don't know about it	Doesn't fit my farm	Low priority for me	Too complicated	Other
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or Conservation Enhancement Program (CREP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conservation Security Program (CSP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wisconsin Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**C4. How much do you think each of the following is a problem on your farm?**

Issue	Does not apply to my farm	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Substantially
Groundwater contamination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Surface water contamination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stream bank erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor soils	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of habitat for birds/animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Woodland/Forest quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ecological health of wetlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):					

**C5. How much do you think each of the following is a problem in what you would define as your region?**

Issue	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Substantially
Groundwater contamination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Surface water contamination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stream bank erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poor soils	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of habitat for birds/animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Woodland/Forest quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ecological health of wetlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):				

**SECTION FOUR: Farm Marketing and Production Practices**

**D1. Which of the following are included in your farm? Please check all that apply.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy cattle/milk production     | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef cattle ranching or feedlot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pig                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry and egg production      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep or goat                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Row crops for animal feed       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable and melon              | <input type="checkbox"/> Oilseed and grains              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree fruit (apple, pear, cherry) | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture (fish) production   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Berries                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse, nursery, flowers    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                     |  |

**D2. Which of the following categories best describes your farm operation?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventional                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Biodynamic           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified organic             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-certified organic         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional organic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |   |

**D3. Which of the following farm products do you sell via direct marketing?**

Please check all that apply.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milk   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yogurt, cheese, or other dairy product |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meat (beef, pork, lamb, wild)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry  | <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable and melon                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Grains or oilseeds                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tree fruit (apple, pear, cherry)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse, nursery, flowers           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Berries  | <input type="checkbox"/> Value-added processed product          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No products from this farm are sold via direct marketing |   |

**D4. Which of the following market venues do you use to sell products from your farm?** For each, please check if you use the venue and if unused check the one best reason why not.

	Used to sell my products	Doesn't fit my farm	Labor requirements too high	Not enough profit	Other
Farmers' market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grocery stores	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restaurants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wholesale	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Supported Ag	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farmstand	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet sales	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Producer pool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Produce auction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U-Pick	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="radio"/>				

**D5. Do you market your products under any of the following eco-labels or value-added labels?** (check all that apply)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> USDA Certified Organic              | <input type="checkbox"/> Grass-fed               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Trade                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Free Range              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Humane                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Alliance certified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Something Special from WI           | <input type="checkbox"/> Buy Fresh Buy Local     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify label): _____ |  |

**SECTION FIVE: Information Sources and Training**

**E1. Do you want information or training on the following topics?**

Topic	Yes	No
Crop production methods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Animal husbandry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainable or organic farming practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental improvement and conservation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marketing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial record keeping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Government programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify):		

**E2. During the past year, have you consulted with any of the following when making decisions about your farm?**

Source of information	Yes	No
Other growers or farmers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grower Association or Farmer Organization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State Department of Agriculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
County Land Conservation Department	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
United States Farm Service Agency (FSA)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
United States Natural Resources Conservation Service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farm supply or equipment dealers, or producer coops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Organic certifier	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bankers, financial consultants, or private paid consultants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**E3. How important is each of the following as a source of information for your farm?**

Source of information	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Other growers or farmers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Television	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipment dealer or supplier brochures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farm magazine or newspaper	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Field days and demonstrations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Univ. of WI Extension publications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conference or workshop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**E4. Would you use any of these internet-based ways to receive farm-related information?**

Way to receive information	Yes	No
Information summary sheet or full reports	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Audio presentation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Power Point or slideshow	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Training modules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Video presentation (YouTube)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interactive on-line class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

***Thank you for your time. We are interested in learning more about your farm. If you are willing to talk with us, please include your name and phone number below.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_