

INVENTORY: CREATING A LIST OF FARMS/FARMERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

How to generate a preliminary list of farmers:

- Brainstorming around the table
- Town Assessor (chapter lands, livestock and machinery tax rolls, APR)
- CISA list
- MA Dept of Ag Resources
- Farm Bureau
- NRCS/FSA
- Animal health inspector – annual livestock inspection rolls
- Commodity group members
- MA GIS data

Why do we need a list of local farmers?

- Assess needs
- Curious
- Economic/Social Value of farmland
- Quantify resources
- Commonwealth Capital points
- Who is farming?
- Direct communication
- Real estate value
- Data for grants/funding opportunities

Possible Questions for a local agriculture survey:

- What can Ag Com do for you?
- Main barriers to success?
- Long term strategy for viability?
- 5-year plan?
- Ways for local residents to support you?
- State or local regs that cause problems?
- Farm labor/immigration issues?
- Would you participate in Ag Comm. Activities?