

Ag Allies Mentor Self-assessment



Adapted from "The On-Farm Mentor's Guide: Practical Approaches to Teaching on the Farm," written by Miranda Smith and published by New England Small Farm Institute.

Agree **————→** Disagree

1	2	3	4	5	NA	
						Other farmers ask me for advice.
						I have a fertility plan and conduct regular soil tests, etc.
						I participate in continuing ed (workshops, technical assistance, research projects, periodicals, online reports, etc.)
						I have improved in one or more areas of agriculture over the last 2 years. Please list or describe:
						I know where to find help with farming/agribusiness challenges.
						I maintain my equipment in good repair.
						I feel confident in my technical farming skills.
						I communicate well.
						I have experience as an instructor or mentor (military or in the farm community).

1	2	3	4	5	NA	
						I have a business plan.
						I have a marketing plan.
						I keep good farm records.
						I am knowledgeable about risk management and legal considerations on the farm.
						I manage my farm in compliance with state, local, and federal laws/regs.
						The appearance of my farm indicates good management.
						My farm is achieving annual increases in profit/sales.
						I am either free from debt or managing borrowing and debt appropriately.
						I maintain a website and/or social media.
						I feel confident in my farm/agribusiness management skills.

I feel competent to mentor a beginning farmer in these areas:

___Soil science

___fertilizing and amending

___making compost_____

Plant science/ Crop production

___seeding, transplanting, culture, harvest, post-harvest handling, packing

Specify plants/crops_____

___food safety

Animal science

___ health care ___ preventative ___ emergency ___ hoof care/farrier ___ other _____
___ nutrition/rations
___ reproduction (___ insemination genetics/breeding ___ nutrition ___ birthing ___ baby care

Marketing

___ market research ___ branding ___ digital/social ___ website design

Business

___ business planning ___ farm taxes

Equipment

___ operation ___ repair Types: _____

Other areas:

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