



## THE FARM APPRENTICE MENTORING (FAM) AM I READY TO BE A FARMER? SELF-ASSESSMENT

**Name:**

**Email Address:**

**Phone #:**

**The purpose of this self-assessment tool is to assist you in identifying your strengths and weaknesses in operating a farm business, and your personal suitability as a farmer. Your honesty in answering the questions below will help you to identify your weaknesses and develop a strategy to strengthen your weaknesses.**

1. Perhaps the Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program may be a good fit for that strategy.

**Please circle the most appropriate answer.**

2. Farming is high on my list of priorities now and in the future.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral Agree      Strongly Agree

3. I have a particular crop in mind that I feel I could make a go of it here on Maui.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral Agree      Strongly Agree

4. I have enough on-farm experience to operate my own farm.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

5. I know the growing parameters of my crop, and have grown the crop numerous times.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

6. I'm proficient in soil and nutrition management.



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Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

7. I know all the pests that can attack my crop, and have strategies to remedy each problem.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

8. I know the time commitments in growing my crop, and I'm committed to this venture.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

9. I'm a self-starter, and can plan and accomplish my own work on schedule.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

10. I have the skill and motivation it takes to be self-employed.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

11. I enjoy physical work in all kinds of weather, good and bad.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

12. I have the mechanical ability to repair my own machinery, fix broken pipes, etc.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree



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13. I'm enjoy working by myself.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

14. I know how much it will cost to set up my farm operation.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

15. I have a timeline, and I know how long it will take to set up my farm before I can plant, harvest, and sell my crop.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

16. I have the business background to manage my farm as a business.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

17. I have access to important resources in order to successfully manage my farm.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

18. I can successfully manage personnel and farm workers.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

19. I'm proficient at managing money.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral      Agree      Strongly Agree

20. I have access to financing in order to expand my crop beyond the grant stage.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

21. I know the cost of production associated with my crop.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral

Agree      Strongly Agree

22. I know my competitive advantages in growing this crop over other areas of the state.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral



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Agree                      Strongly Agree

23. I know who my competitors are for my crop in Hawaii and on the mainland.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral

Agree                      Strongly Agree

24. I understand the market niches for my crop.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral

Agree                      Strongly Agree

25. I have markets thoroughly thought out for my crop.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral

Agree                      Strongly Agree

26. I'm familiar with wholesale and retail prices for my crop.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral              Agree              Strongly Agree

27. I'm familiar with the failures associated with farming in Hawaii.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral              Agree              Strongly Agree

28. I'm aware that farming nationally is one of the most hazardous occupations.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral              Agree              Strongly Agree

29. I'm familiar with the laws related to food safety, pesticides, and farm worker safety.

Strongly disagree                      Disagree              Neutral              Agree              Strongly Agree

30. I'm aware that farming is one of the most stressful occupations.

Strongly disagree              Disagree              Neutral

Agree                      Strongly Agree



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31. I can handle the stress of rebuilding and replanting after a major crop disaster.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral  
Agree      Strongly Agree

32. I can be assertive without being aggressive when it comes to getting things done.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral  
Agree      Strongly Agree

33. I will get other members of my family committed to the development of my farm.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral  
Agree      Strongly Agree

34. I will seek out training opportunities to improve by knowledge to increase my chance of success in my farm operation.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral  
Agree      Strongly Agree

35. I'm proficient at first aid and CPR in case of an accident on my farm.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral  
Agree      Strongly Agree

36. I'm accustomed to living far from basic services found in small cities and towns, such as doctors, restaurants, and shopping centers.

Strongly disagree      Disagree      Neutral



## **THE FARM APPRENTICE MENTORING (FAM) AM I READY TO BE A FARMER? SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Agree

Strongly Agree

**How many 'strongly agree' answers did you score?**

**How many 'agree' answers did you score?**

**If you scored a large majority of the statements in these two categories, it may indicate that you have a moderate chance for a successful farming career. Although this is just a self-assessment, we hope that this tool will help you get a sense of where you are at personally and professionally in your farming career.**

**For statements where you answered 'neutral', 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree', you can look for areas in your assessment where the FAM program might help you. Listen carefully to the FAM Program presentation and use this assessment to reflect before deciding to apply.**

**Thank-you for being honest in your answers!**

**NOTES OR COMMENTS**