

## Introduction and Consent

*Welcome.* Thanks for accepting our survey request. The approximate total time of this survey will be around 30 minutes. The information you provide will be used for research purposes only. In accordance with Purdue University policies, your responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone other than the two researchers working on this project. Next, please read the Consent Form.

### **Consent. RESEARCH PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM**

**Key Information:** Please take time to review this information carefully. This is a research study. Your participation in this study is voluntary which means that you may choose not to participate at any time without penalty. If you decide to take part in the study, please write your name at the end.

**What is the purpose of this study?** Our goal from this research survey is to understand the impact of natural disasters on Indiana specialty farmers' household spending and other financial decisions.

**What will I do if I choose to be in this study?** You will fill in financial information about your household and farm. Additionally, you will watch some pictures related to a disaster, and maybe other unpleasant pictures. Finally, there are some hypothetical financial questions and household characteristics.

**What are the possible risks or discomforts?** Some of the pictures might feel unpleasant. Secondly, breach of confidentiality is always a risk with data, but we will take precautions to minimize this risk as described in the confidentiality section.

**Are there any potential benefits?** We believe the results of this survey will help the government to further understand the needs of specialty crop growers in Indiana.

**What alternatives are available?** You can either fill the mail survey or the online version as described in the letter.

**Will I receive payment or other incentive?** You may receive one of the five \$200 gift cards. Your odds of winning a gift card are 1 to 199. Please note that according to the rules of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), payments that are made to you as a result of your participation in a study may be considered taxable income.

**Are there costs to me for participation?** There are no anticipated costs to participate in this research.

**Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?** The project's research records may be reviewed by the US DHHS Office for Human Research Protections, and by departments at Purdue University responsible for regulatory and research oversight. Your research records will be only available to the research team. All paper and online records will be destroyed after we transfer data to Purdue computer.

**What are my rights if I take part in this study?** You have the right to withdraw from this study at any point, including any data that is collected. However, we recommend that you consider taking the whole survey, so our study can reflect the situation of specialty farmers with greater confidence. Meanwhile, you can't withdraw the collected data, once the data is transferred to Purdue University's computers.

### **Who can I contact if I have questions about the study?**

If you have questions, comments or concerns about this research project, you can talk to one of the researchers. Please contact the research team key member:



To report anonymously via Purdue's Hotline see [www.purdue.edu/hotline](http://www.purdue.edu/hotline)

If you have questions about your rights while taking part in the study or have concerns about the treatment of research participants, please call the Human Research Protection Program at (765) 494-5942, email ([irb@purdue.edu](mailto:irb@purdue.edu)) or write to:

Human Research Protection Program - Purdue University

Ernest C. Young Hall, Room 1032, 155 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2114

#### Documentation of Informed Consent

I have had the opportunity to read this consent form and have the research study understood. I am prepared to participate in the research study described above. (Please write your name below).

### Introductory Questions

Q1. How do you see yourself: Are you generally a person who is willing to take risks in financial matters or do you try to avoid taking risks in financial matters?

(Please tick only one box on the scale, the value 0 means **completely unwilling to take risks** and the value 10 means **very willing to take risks**).

0											10
completely unwilling to take risks											very willing to take risks
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q2a. In the past 12 months, how many acres of these crops were planted and insured?

	Acres Planted	Acres Insured
Vegetables, Melons	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Fruits, Nuts, Berries	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
All Other Crops	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Q2b. Do you engage in farm financial planning for worst times like farm/crop losses due to flood or drought?

- Yes  
 No

Q2c. Has an extreme weather event ever affected your farm?

- Yes  
 No

Q2d. Is climate change important to your farm management decisions?

- Yes  
 No

**Q2e.** Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements (pick one choice for each row).

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
1. Weather and climate change presents more risks than benefits to Indiana agriculture.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. I am worried about weather and climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q2f.** Select below all the financial instruments that are available to you to run the farm operation.

Insurance	Government Loans	Bank Loans	Relatives Loans	Personal Savings	Supplier Credit	Credit Cards	Don't have access to any of these
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Q2g.** Which three financial instruments would you use after farm losses due to a disaster? (select three most important)

Insurance	Government Loans	Bank Loans	Relatives Loans	Personal Savings	Supplier Credit	Credit Cards
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Household Expenditure Questions

**Q3.** In the past 12 months, what was your **average monthly income** from **farm and non-farm** sources all together? (you can also divide annual **after-tax income** over 12 to get this)

**Q4.**

In the past 12 months, what were your **average monthly household expenses** for the following categories (don't include farm-related expenses)? Add all expenses and write the total in last cell

(Total). Total expenses should be less than or equal to average monthly income in Q3, unless you took loans in the last 12 months and spent it on these categories.

1. Health Insurance Cost and Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses	<input type="text"/>
2. Food (including Food Away from Home)	<input type="text"/>
3. Education and Child Care	<input type="text"/>
4. Rent Expenses for Household Use	<input type="text"/>
5. Mortgage Interest and Property Taxes	<input type="text"/>
6. Transportation Expense for Household Use	<input type="text"/>
7. Vehicle (Fuel, Maintenance, Insurance) for Household Use	<input type="text"/>
8. Entertainment	<input type="text"/>

9. House Furnishing (internal home decor)	<input type="text"/>
10. Clothing and Personal Care	<input type="text"/>
11. Utilities and Household Supply	<input type="text"/>
12. Contributions to Outside Alimony and Charity	<input type="text"/>
13. Life/Disability Insurance and Retirement Expense (or Savings)	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total</b>	<input type="text"/>

**Q5.** Please multiply your **average monthly income in Q3** by **(0.74)** and write your answer in the empty box:

(Income in Q3) x 0.74 =

*A Scenario.* Following are two images showing the impact of crop freeze and flooding. Imagine you were first hit by a crop freeze in late spring, and then recently by heavy flooding. Due to these events, you suffered crop losses and home damages. These losses affect your average monthly income. Your average monthly income in each of the next 12 months will be **equal to the amount calculated in Q5** previously, which is 26 percent less than **the income in Q3**. Please note that the **income in Q5** is all you have got for monthly spending, even after receiving insurance money, or partial loan acceptance, or using a part of your savings. And there is no opportunity or time to earn extra non-farm income. And you run the same size farm operation in the next 12 months as in the last 12 months.



Crop Freeze



Flooding

Q6.

In each of the next 12 months, your **average monthly income** will be **equal to the amount in Q5**. How would you spend **this new lower amount** on the following categories?

1. Health Insurance Cost and Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses	<input type="text"/>	
2. Food (including Food Away from Home)	<input type="text"/>	
3. Education and Child Care	<input type="text"/>	
4. Rent Expenses for Household Use	<input type="text"/>	
5. Mortgage Interest and Property Taxes	<input type="text"/>	
6. Transportation Expense for Household Use	<input type="text"/>	
7. Vehicle (Fuel, Maintenance, Insurance) for Household Use	<input type="text"/>	
8. Entertainment	<input type="text"/>	
9. House Furnishing (internal home decor)	<input type="text"/>	
10. Clothing and Personal Care	<input type="text"/>	
11. Utilities and Household Supply	<input type="text"/>	
12. Contributions to Outside Alimony and Charity	<input type="text"/>	
13. Life/Disability Insurance and Retirement Expense (or Savings)	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Total</b>	<input type="text"/>	

### Financial Decision Questions

Q7.

Imagine you need a loan of **\$100,000** for farm investment and household expenses in the next 12 months. Think about who would you ask for such a loan: family, relatives, bank, farm service agency? Keep thinking about this question as you will answer it later. Now move to the next question, Q8.

Q8. Imagine you are offered a farm investment opportunity, called the "first opportunity," that will pay you an **annual net return of either \$10,000 or nothing (\$0)**. The chances are half-and-half like a coin toss: \$10,000 when heads turn up and \$0 when tails turn up. Alternatively, you are offered a "second opportunity" that has a **fixed annual net return all the time**.

If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$100**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q9, if you select No)

Q9. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$500**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q10, if you select No)

Q10. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$1,500**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q11, if you select No)

Q11. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$3,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q12, if you select No)

Q12. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$4,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q13, if you select No)

Q13. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$5,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q14, if you select No)

Q14. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$5,500**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q15, if you select No)

Q15. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$7,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q16, if you select No)

Q16. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **\$9,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No, I don't select second opportunity** (move to next question, Q17, if you select No)

Q17. If the fixed annual net return of the second opportunity is **greater than \$9,000**, would you choose such opportunity instead of the first opportunity?

- Yes, I select second opportunity.** (move to Q18 if you select Yes)
- No.** (If you select No, move to next question, Q18)

**Q18. Who would you ask for a \$100,000 loan as mentioned before?** (you can select multiple choices)

- Family
- Relatives
- Bank
- Farm Service Agency

**Q19. How do you see yourself in the next 12 months: Are you generally a person who is willing to take risks in financial matters or would you try to avoid taking risks in financial matters?**

(Please tick only one box on the scale, the value 0 means **completely unwilling to take risks** and the value 10 means **very willing to take risks**).

<b>0</b> completely unwilling to take risks	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> very willing to take risks
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Household Characteristics Questions

**Q20. What is your Gender?**

- Male
- Female

**Q21. Are you married?**

- Yes
- No (If you answer No, then don't fill "Your Spouse" part in Q22, Q23, Q24, Q25.)

**Q22. What is your and your spouse's race?**

You	White	American Indian	Asian	Black or African American	Other
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your Spouse	White	American Indian	Asian	Black or African American	Other
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q23. What is your and your spouse's education?**

You	4 year degree and beyond	Some college or associates	High school	Less than high school
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your Spouse	4 year degree and beyond	Some college or associates	High school	Less than high school
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q24. At which occupation did you and your spouse spend the majority (50 percent or more) of your work time in the past 12 months?**

You	Work other than farming	Farming	Not in workforce
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your Spouse	Work other than farming	Farming	Not in workforce
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q25. What is your and your spouse's age?

Your

Your Spouse

Q26. How many people lived in your household in the past 12 months?

(include yourself, spouse, children, and any other living in your household)

### Concluding Questions and Notes

Q27. In the past 12 months, what was your farm operation's legal status for tax purposes?

(you can select multiple choices)

- Family or Individual Operation
- Legal Partnership
- C-corporation or S-Corporation
- Other such as Trust or Cooperative

Q28. In the past 12 months, what percentage of farm operation business did your household own?

Q29. In the past 12 months, what was the total amount of your

Household Assets

(like financial accounts, personal home, vehicle, and other assets).

Farm Assets

(like financial accounts, farm land, trees, property, vehicles, livestock).

*Final Note.* Thank you for your valuable time. Your answers will be of great help to understand Indiana specialty farmers' vulnerability. Please **provide your phone number** in space below so we can contact you, in case you win **\$200 prize**.

In a couple of months, you can start checking this link [\[REDACTED\]](#) to see the winners of \$200 prizes. We only provide the first name of the winners for confidentiality reasons. If the above link doesn't work, please send an email to [\[REDACTED\]](#)

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