

## **Interview questions for farmer interviews:**

### **I. Farm description**

1. Would you mind telling me more about the history of your farm?
2. How long have you been farming?
3. What is the total farm size? How is it broken down by tenure (owned versus rented land)?
4. What crops (or livestock) are produced?
5. Do you have any certified organic acreage? If yes, how much, and which crops are produced organically?
6. Are there any notable features we should know about the farm, such as bordering on a natural riparian area, presence of ponds, special certifications (Fish Friendly Farming, etc.) or notable marketing arrangements?

### **II. Motivations/benefits/challenges of agroforestry practices**

1. Please describe what practice(s) you use in which you integrate perennial tree or vine crops with other crops in time or space.
2. When did you start doing this?
3. Why were you interested in trying this? Were your primary motivations financial, environmental, labor management-related, health, or others?
4. Where or how did you learn about this kind of practice or how did you first think of using it?
5. Do you see any specific beneficial effects from this practice – on your crops, yields, pest control, quality of soil, labor needs, production costs?
6. Have you experienced any particular challenges or pitfalls in utilizing this practice? (i.e. trade-offs in production, farm and labor management, pest management, food safety and water usage)
7. How do you think this system responds to drought? (How has it done in the past few years?)
8. Would you recommend your practice(s) to other farmers? (Why/why not?)

### III. Information needs and networking

1. What are currently your 2 or 3 biggest knowledge gaps with respect to this practice?
2. Do you know other farmers who do anything similar, or any other agroforestry practices?
3. Do you have any thoughts about why more farmers are NOT doing this? What is the perception of agroforestry practices in the farming community?
4. What types of media do you prefer to access for farm information (e.g. trade magazines, websites, phone apps, personal communication with trusted friends and advisers)?
5. How much of the information regarding farming practices comes from talking to other farmers versus media? Is the information being shared detailed or general? What type of information is being shared? Have other farmers visited your farm/have you visited other farms?
6. Have you ever been a member of any online discussion forum, Facebook page, or e-mail listserv for the purpose of sharing/learning farming information? If yes, what are the pros and cons of such groups? If no, why?
7. Would you be interested in being a member of a farmer-research network for research and knowledge sharing? Who else should be part of such a network? Would you be willing to share data derived from your farm (e.g. soil analysis, land equivalency ratio for crop yields, pest status, etc.)?

## **Interview questions for non-farmer interviews:**

### **I. General Overview**

1. Are you familiar with any farmers using agroforestry practices in California? If yes, would you be able to name anyone? Where is it being done? What are the types of practices being utilized? (please describe)
2. Have you seen these practices increasing/decreasing in the last decade? Are there any trends? If yes, what are the perceived motivators?
3. What are the pros and cons of these agroforestry practices?
4. From your perspective, what are farmer primary motivations - financial, environmental, labor management-related, health, or others?

### **II. Information needs and networking**

1. What are currently the 2 or 3 biggest knowledge gaps with respect to this practice?
2. If there were ways to share new research on a particular knowledge gap, what would be an effective way to do this? What types of media do you think are most effective in sharing knowledge?
3. What types of media do you prefer to access for farm information (e.g. trade magazines, websites, phone apps, personal communication with trusted friends and advisers)
4. Have you ever been a member of any online discussion forum, Facebook page, or e-mail listserv for the purpose of sharing/learning farming information? If yes, what are the pros and cons of such groups?
5. Would you be interested in being a member of a farmer-research agroforestry network for research and knowledge sharing? Who else should be part of such a network?

### **III. Motivations/Future Implications of agroforestry practices**

1. Do you have any thoughts about why more farmers are NOT doing this? What conditions would make agroforestry practices more attractive?
2. In your opinion, in what ways will land value, climate change and drought impact the future of agroforestry practices?
3. Even though there is a rising trend of farmland changing from annual to perennial crops, this transition still involves moving from one monocrop to another monocrop.

Do you see an opportunity here for establishing more integrated cropping systems?  
Do you foresee any regions that show more potential in California?

4. Do you know any researchers working on agroforestry systems?