OREGON’S AGRICULTURAL LANDS
Challenges for Succession, Access and Land Use

OREGON’S AGRICULTURAL LANDS
Supply Food System
Support Rural Economies
Support Natural Resources
Sustain Vital Wildlife Habitat

THE DIFFICULTIES FARMERS & RANCHERS FACE
Succession Planning
Access to Land

OREGON’S AGRICULTURAL LANDS

$8.2 BILLION
Agriculture is Oregon’s 2nd largest economic driver.

OREGON’S AGRICULTURAL LANDS
2012 DATA FROM CLATSOP COUNTY

- Average age for the county is similar to the state: 59.1 years for Clatsop County and 59.6 for the state.
- Higher percentage of older farmers than the state: 69.9% are over 55 years of age.
- Total farms: 199, down 20% from 248 in 2002.
- Acres in agriculture: 16,382 (2.4% of Clatsop County).
- Average appraised value: $5,548 per acre, up 57% from $3,543 in 2002.
- Irrigated land: 17% of total farms. Irrigated farmland has decreased 11% since 2002.
- Farm size: The number of smallest farms (1-9 acres in size) increased 5% in number since 2002. 50-179 acre farms increased by 9%, but 180-499 acre farms decreased by 28%. The largest farms (1,000+ acres) increased by 25%.
- Net cash Income per farm: Clatsop County’s average in 2012 was $16,980, up 233% from $5,097 in 2002 and lower than the state average of $22,954. Only 29% of Clatsop farms had a net gain in 2012 (lower than the state average of 36.6%). Of these farms with net gains, the average income was $80,605, up 130% from $34,913 in 2002 and lower than the state average of $102,000.

RESOURCES FOR SUCCESION PLANNING

- Northwest Farm Credit Services offers farm succession counseling to its customers for a fee. Contact michael.stolp@northwestfcs.com or go to www.northwestfcs.com.
- Oregon State Bar has a referral service to connect you with an attorney in your area. Call 503-684-3763 or go to www.osbar.org/public/ris/.
- Small Business Development Centers: There are 19 throughout the state that offer business counseling and can help with succession planning. Head to www.bizcenter.org/ to learn more.
- Ties to the Land is curriculum for family farm and forest succession that is taught periodically. Order the workbook and find tips at tiestotheeland.org/.
- Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts: Find out about Oregon’s community of land trusts (nonprofits that buy or accept donations of land or conservation easements) at oregonlandtrusts.org/.
- Oregon Farm Link connects beginning farmers and ranchers with land holders to help Oregon grow the next generation of family farmers. Read more at oregonfarmlink.org/.

For more info, contact Nellie McAdams: nellie@roguefarmcorps.org, 971.409.6806

To learn more about these trends and the tools available to help offset their impacts check out the recent study: http://centerforsmallfarms.oregonstate.edu/publications