

Welcome to an intriguing challenge – becoming a grower of organic/environmentally sustainable food. We need you and will do everything we can to help you acquire the know-how and resources you need. Not so long ago we could depend on farm families to nurture the next generation of farmers. But the large scale, export oriented agricultural model dominant on the prairies has not inspired farm-raised youth in large enough numbers to take on the food-growing life. Enter – YOU! The Organic Food Council of Manitoba and the partners involved in this program hope that the Manitoba Farm Mentorship program can provide some of the guidance and support of a family. But the driver of your education needs to be you. Setting your learning objectives early will help you find the right mentor farmer, as well as courses, workshops and resources that meet your needs. There is great potential and a huge diversity of growing methods and markets to aim for. We'll help you uncover what Manitoba has to offer, but the sweat, ingenuity, experiments and passion it takes to make a farmer will come from you. We hope you enjoy the process.

Setting Your Learning Objectives

As you embark on farmer training, it's important to clarify your learning objectives – for yourself and your mentor farmer!

1. What is my main reason for interning on a mentor farm?
2. What new knowledge do I want to gain and what is my timeline?
3. What skills do I want to learn and what is my timeline?
4. How will these new skills and knowledge further my farm plan?
5. How will I measure the success of achieving my learning objectives?