**Getting Started with Farm or Ranch Transition**

**Resources**

**12 Elements of Healthy Relationships**

This blog provides guidance on how to evaluate the health of various kinds of relationships and provides a list of 12 elements including communication, honesty, and trust.

<https://wellbeing.jhu.edu/12-elements-of-healthy-relationships/>

**Characteristics of Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships**

This list provides categorical details of what characteristics make up a healthy and unhealthy relationship.

<https://youth.gov/youth-topics/teen-dating-violence/characteristics>

**Farm Succession Strategies: 8 Ways to Communicate**

The struggling farm economy means that farm transfers from one generation to the next may be happening in a sped-up process, instead of over several years. Good communications is vital. Loss of communication leads to lack of trust and can eventually lead to devastating consequences.

<https://www.agriculture.com/farm-management/estate-planning/farm-succession-strategies-8-ways-to-communicate-successfully>

**Generational Needs and Expectations For Successful Farm and Ranch Succession**

In order for there to be a successful transfer of assets and management to the next operating generation, there are several things that should be considered. If they are ignored, the transfer could experience more stress than necessary. This article lists some of those considerations and outlines conversations and discussions that need to occur to have a smoother transfer from one generation to the next

<https://cap.unl.edu/succession/generational-needs-and-expectations-successful-farm-and-ranch-succession>

**Family Conversations on Succession: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly**

Tips for farm families to begin communicating early, communicate effectively, and communicate often to avoid misunderstanding.

<https://www.thepigsite.com/articles/family-conversations-on-succession-the-good-the-bad-and-the-ugly>

**Trading Places Worksheet Seeing** things from multiple perspectives can be especially useful when you disagree with someone and cannot move forward. While helpful in developing empathy, it may also provide an insight into the actions needed to resolve an issue and move on.

<https://positivepsychology.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Trading-Places-Worksheet.pdf>

**Writing SMART Goals for Your Farm**

Rutgers University Agricultural Experiment Station provides an accessible guide to writing SMART goals and their benefits.

<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1263/>

**Who Gets Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate?**

The Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?™ Video helps family members understand and address common decision making obstacles when passing on personal possessions. This free 38-minute YouTube video is filled with practical suggestions, proven strategies, and real-life stories.  Use it to plan ahead, or help make decisions after a death to optimize your inheritance planning and protect your family relationships.

<https://extension.umn.edu/transferring-non-titled-property/who-gets-grandmas-yellow-pie-platetm-video>

**Overarching Transition and Succession Planning Resources**

**Iowa State University Extension Ag Decision Maker**

Iowa State University’s Ag Decision Maker provides extensive comprehensive resources on farm transition and estate planning for farm families from business arrangements, to evaluating an estate plan, transferring assets and management, to related websites.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/wdbusiness.html>

**Land for Good Toolbox for Farm Transfer Planning**

Land for Good created an extensive toolbox for farmers and farm families who are planning for — or thinking about — farm succession and transfer. It offers useful guides, worksheets, articles, and other resources to inform decision-making and planning. Materials are most relevant to commercial farm succession and transfer in New England, but many apply to other situations and geographies.

<https://landforgood.org/resources/toolbox/toolbox-farm-families/>

**Transition Planning: 12 Steps to Keep the Family Farming**

This accessible fact sheet from Kansas State Extension outlines 12 steps to increase the possibility of a successful farm transition.

<https://www.agmanager.info/sites/default/files/MF3074.pdf>

**The Transition Planning Checklist**

Adapted from the Farm Transition Planning Checklist and Flowchart, developed by Margaret Smith with assistance from the Iowa Farm Transition and Beginning Farmer Working Group in 2013, this handy checklist is a practical roadmap to help farm families through the transition planning process. It outlines all of the considerations and steps involved in transitioning a farm or ranch, including considerations for communication, finances, values, and goals.

<https://practicalfarmers.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Fact-Sheet-2-Checklist-1.pdf>