Farmland Ownership and Rental: Managing for Stewardship

Resource Guide

2/1/18

a. LSP Podcasts (soil health) For example
  - Rick Bieber describes how building soil health saved his farm from financial ruin. http://landstewardshipproject.org/posts/podcast/939
  - A farmer’s wish to not have his land become just one more cornfield provides an opportunity for beginning farmers. http://landstewardshipproject.org/posts/podcast/981

b. LSP Videos (soil health) http://landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/lspsoilbuilders/soilbuildervideos

c. LSP web pages
   i. Conservation Leases http://landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/conservationleases
   ii. Soil Builders Network http://landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/lspsoilbuilders
   iii. Cropping Systems Calculator http://landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/chippewa10croppingsystemscalculator
   iv. Farm Transition Toolkit http://landstewardshipproject.org/morefarmers/farmtransitiontools/farmtransitionstoolkit
   v. Clearinghouse page http://landstewardshipproject.org/morefarmers/seekingfarmersseekinglandclearinghouse
   vi. LSP Beginning Farmer Tax Credit page http://landstewardshipproject.org/beginningfarmertaxcredit

d. University of Minnesota land rental rates web -page https://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/business/land-economics/


f. Other resources
   i. Farmers Legal Action Group http://www.flaginc.org/topic/contracts/
        Frequently Asked Questions on Sustainable and Long-Term Leases in Minnesota covers general leases with a strong emphasis on conservation-oriented terms, answering such questions as whether a landlord can require conservation practices and can a tenant enroll in conservation programs. This is a joint publication of the Land Stewardship Project and Farmers’ Legal Action Group.
   ii. Drake University http://sustainablefarmlease.org/
        Landowner’s Guide to Sustainable Farm Leasing is a useful online and printable resource by Drake University Agricultural Law Center’s Sustainable Agriculture Land Tenure (SALT) Initiative. Select laws related to Minnesota land tenancy included.
iii. Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District - The Rent You Receive Is More Than Just Money: Scroll to the bottom of the Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District home page for a sampling of conservation practices and a sample lease.

iv. Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture at University of Minnesota. [https://www.misa.umn.edu/ask-misa/discussion-groups/farm-transitions-discussion-group](https://www.misa.umn.edu/ask-misa/discussion-groups/farm-transitions-discussion-group)

v. North Central Farm Management Extension Committee - **Tips for Farm Leases and Contracts: Creating Smart, Effective Documents**: A succinct two-pager highlighting the considerations, useful tips and key questions you should ask yourself before signing a contract, plus the elements of a good lease.

vi. National Center for Appropriate Technology - **Tips for Farm Leases and Contracts: Creating Smart, Effective Documents**: A succinct two-pager highlighting the considerations, useful tips and key questions you should ask yourself before signing a contract, plus the elements of a good lease.

vii. Kansas State University - **Pasture Rental Arrangements for Your Farm**: A publication for livestock owners and landowners with pasture to design "workable…and desirable leasing arrangements" based equitably on each others' needs. Such considerations as the cash and material contributions of each side, why to write it down, and how to set a good rate of payment can be found in linked chapters and worksheets.

viii. Green Lands Blue Waters - **Contract Grazing Factsheets**: Included in this series of four by the Midwest Perennial Forage Working Group is one on "Pasture Rental and Lease Agreements." Also on this page is a link to sample leases specific to farmers and landowners with land and livestock to share.