

Merging Lanes



Crops:

- Things to think about: will it work with your soil types, will you need different equipment, input costs, do you have a market to sell the product, does this crop offer insurance
- Resources:
 - Gene Schriefer, Extension Iowa County (608-930-9850) <https://iowa.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/field-crops/>
 - Nick Baker, Extension Rock County (608-757-5050) <https://rock.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/crops-soils/>
 - Land Conservation Division (Dane County Land & Water Resources Department) (608-224-3730) email: landcon@countyofdane.com
 - Center for Dairy Profitability (608-263-5665) <https://cdp.wisc.edu/>
 - Kietra Olson, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) (608-224-5112) email: kietra.olson@wisconsin.gov
 - Brian Kuhn, DATCP hemp (608-224-4590) email:
 - Wisconsin Farm Center, DATCP (1-800-942-2474)
 - Local Agronomist
 - Trusted loan officer

Equipment/Sheds/Buildings:

- Things to think about: do you have equipment that you could rent out to help make some money, could you become a custom operator (baler, chopper, etc), do you have buildings or sheds that you could rent out to area farmers
- Resources:
 - Jackie McCarville, Extension Green County (608-328-9440)
 - USDA Dane County Farm Service Agency (608-224-3767) <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/ServiceCenterSummary&stateCode=55&cnty=025>

Going Organic:

- Things to think about: can you handle 3 years to transition land over (if currently using sprays, GMOs, etc.)
- Resources:
 - Claire Strader, Extension Dane County (608-224-3710)
 - Midwest Organic Services Association (MOSA), 608-637-2526 <https://mosaorganic.org/>
 - Midwest Services Association (608-637-2526)
 - USDA Dane County Farm Service Agency (608-224-3767) <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/ServiceCenterSummary&stateCode=55&cnty=025>
 - Angie Sullivan, DATCP (608-224-5095) https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/OrganicFarmingAndFood.aspx
 - Current organic landowners/producers

Rent out land/CRP/CREP program/sell wooded land/logging:

- Things to think about: do you need all of you crop ground? Could you rent some out? Could you sell wooded land? Can you put some of your acres into CRP/CREP/Grassland and receive payments but need to know how long the land is tied into those programs? Do you have enough timber that you could log it?
- Resources:
 - Maria Jose Fuenzalida, Extension Dane County (608-224-3708) <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/>
 - Land Conservation Division (Dane County Land & Water Resources Department) (608-224-3730) email: landcon@countyofdane.com
 - Marie Raboin, Land Conservation (608-224-3742) email: raboin.marie@countyofdane.com

- Area realtors with a history of selling farmland
- Loggers

Special Talent:

- Things to think about: do you have a talent where you would need a few classes to become certified and could make some money using that talent (custom sprayer, welder, etc), or do you have a talent where you could make things and sell them on the side
- Resources:
 - Maria Jose Fuenzalida, Extension Dane County (608-224-3708) <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/>
 - Jackie McCarville, Extension Green County (608-328-9440)
 - Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (608-266-3131) <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/>
 - Continuing studies at UW (608-262-1156) <https://continuingstudies.wisc.edu/>
 - Continuing education at Madison Area Technical College (608-258-2301) <https://madisoncollege.edu/continuing-education>

Switching Livestock Species:

- Things to think about: if switching from dairy to beef what genetics/traits to you want from the offspring, will your current facilities work, what kind of feeding changes need to occur, how long will it take before you can sell the animal
- Resources:
 - Gene Schriefer (beef, sheep, goats), Extension Iowa County (608-930-9850)
 - Amanda Cauffman (beef and swine), Extension Grant County (608-723-2125)
 - Jackie McCarville, Extension Green County (608-328-9440)
 - Maria Jose Fuenzalida, Extension Dane County (608-224-3708)
 - Jeff Swenson, DATCP (608-224-5082)
 - Breeding companies
 - Other farmers who are doing this

Value Added Ag:

- Things to think about: are there rules/regulations, start-up costs, do you have a market to sell the product, will your current facilities work, insurance
- Resources:
 - Gene Schriefer (beef, sheep, goats), Extension Iowa County (608-930-9850)
 - Maria Jose Fuenzalida, Extension Dane County (608-224-3708) <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/>
 - Jackie McCarville, Extension Green County (608-328-9440)
 - USDA Dane County Farm Service Agency (608-224-3767) <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/ServiceCenterSummary&stateCode=55&cnty=025>
 - Norm Monson, DATCP (608-224-5135) <https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/DAD/editedCounselorListMay2016.pdf>
 - Kietra Olson, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) (608-224-5112) email: kietra.olson@wisconsin.gov
 - Center for Dairy Profitability (608-263-5665) <https://cdp.wisc.edu/>
 - Other farmers who have done this kind of thing