



Hello!

Welcome to the Montana Sustainable Growers Union (MSGU). We thank you for your interest and participation. The questionnaire will help us learn more about you, your farm, and your products.

As a member of MSGU, you will be asked to attend two meetings per year, pay annual dues of \$50.00, and participate in the farm visit program – you will visit one farm each year, and another farmer will visit you. There is a rotating, volunteer leadership style of management for this group, which means that some year you may be asked to take on a task.

For now we have two dedicated, non-farming volunteers. Sally Brown is our communications coordinator, and Marci Mansfield donates many hours and very cut rates on web design and maintenance, and well as brochure design. Your generosity in sharing food, flowers, and kind words are greatly appreciated by both.

As a member you will be listed on the MSGU website ([www.homegrownmontana.org](http://www.homegrownmontana.org)), along with a farm bio and pictures, given brochures to distribute, and be supported by a group of knowledgeable growers and producers. A list of benefits of being a MSGU member will be sent to you after your application has been accepted.

The membership committee will review your questionnaire and respond within two weeks.

Please return the questionnaire to:  
Home Acres Orchard  
MSGU  
839 Groff La  
Stevensville MT 5 9870

Email Contact: [sallybrown6@gmail.com](mailto:sallybrown6@gmail.com)

And Welcome! Sally Brown

**MONTANA SUSTAINABLE GROWER'S UNION**  
**HOMEGROWN QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NEW FARMERS (LIVESTOCK)**  
(Please feel free to write on the back, or use extra sheets of paper, if needed. This form can also be emailed to you.)

Farm Name:  
Address (Physical)

Contact:  
Phone:

Address (Mailing, if different)

Email/Fax

1. How long have you been farming?
2. Previously Certified Organic?            If so, for how long?
3. What animals do you raise and what is the size of your herd (flock)?
4. Please describe what farm products are produced by your animals.
5. Are all of your animals Montana born and raised? If not, please explain.
6. Are all animals identified, so that their origin can be tracked?
7. How far are your animals transported for slaughter? How are they transported? How do you insure humane handling and transport?
8. Please describe your water source and how it is made available for your livestock.
9. Do your animals have access to the outdoors, sunlight, fresh air, shade, exercise areas, year-round? If not please explain reasons, length of time, and seasons they are confined.

10. Do your animals have access to pasture? How often?
11. Please list any fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides used on your pasture within the last year.
12. Do you grow your own feed? If yes, please list all feed crops and describe any fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides used on them.
13. If you purchase your feed, please list all feed sources and ingredients, including supplements and trace minerals.
14. Do you feed any urea, mammalian slaughter by-products, manure, mineral oil or plastic pellets for roughage? If so, explain.
15. Do you routinely use any synthetic parasiticides (i.e. Ivomec) in your operation? If yes, please describe.
16. Do you vaccinate your animals? If so, please list vaccines used and at what age they are administered?
17. Do you use any synthetic hormones in your operation? If so, explain.
18. Do you use any antibiotics in your operation? If yes, what kinds?
19. What kinds of medical problems do you routinely treat in your animals and how do you treat them?

20. Do you use insecticides on your animals? If yes, how long after use do you wait before slaughter?
21. What physical alterations (i.e. dehorning, castration, beak trimming) do you use and how do you minimize suffering for the animals?
22. Are your animals finished at a feedlot? Please describe.
23. Where do you sell your animal products?
24. The members of MSGU have made a commitment to abide by the Mission Statement and the Farmer's Pledge. We also agree to attend the twice yearly meetings and to participate in the annual farm visits. These are vital components of our organization. Can you make these commitments?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_