



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), 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

And Welcome! Sally Brown

MONTANA SUSTAINABLE GROWERS UNION
HOMEGROWN QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NEW FARMERS (PRODUCE/FRUIT)
(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. Previously Certified Organic? If so, for how long?

2. How long have you been farming?

3. Provide a complete list of all your crops. (Please update this list as it changes.)

4. Do you use any treated seeds? If so, please describe.

5. Do you start your own plants? If so, please describe any greenhouse materials used – soil mix ingredients, foliar sprays, pest and disease inputs, etc.

6. What are the major components of your soil and crop fertility plan? Please include crop rotation, green manure plow-down, summer fallow, compost, animal manure, soil amendments, foliar fertilizer, mulches, etc. If compost or manure is used, please describe the source.

7. What type of irrigation system do you use?

8. What is the source of your irrigation water?

9. What disease prevention strategies do you use? Please list all disease management inputs.

10. What are your problem pests and how do you control them? Again, include prevention and any inputs used.

11. What weed control methods do you use? If you incorporate any mulch, please list the materials used and the source.

12. What type of conservation practices are used on your farm? Please address soil erosion issues, riparian management, wildlife habitat, etc.

13. What, if any, buffer areas do you maintain to protect your crops from possible contamination?

14. Do you share any equipment with other farmers? If yes, is that equipment used to apply synthetic chemicals?

15. Are your crops washed? Of so, please describe your source of water.

16. What types of containers are used for harvest and where do you source them?

17. Please describe your post-harvest handling procedures and equipment.

18. How are your crops stored before being transported to market?

19. Where do you sell your crops?

20. 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: _____