

# Top 5 Tips for Farms to Secure Their Financial Future

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# 1. Managing The Business

- We will save this for other discussions:
  - Production
  - Strategic Planning
  - Risk management
  - Families financial situation

## 2. Risk Management: You

- In addition to managing the business affairs, it is important to take care of ourselves
- What if you are unable to work?
  - Healthcare access
- Avoiding any family financial pitfalls by Managing personal finances
- Trying to let go of certain responsibilities to others such as: Partners, Spouses, Staff, Your Next Generation

# 3. Make a plan for Retirement, and work the plan!

- While plans do not always go as... we hoped, we tend to fare better with a plan in place
- Setting goals that address questions like:
  - Where? What type of lifestyle, when?
- Business succession planning
- Diversifying your wealth
  - Have non-business financial assets/investments

# Retirement Planning Continued...

- Diversifying your wealth
  - Investing beyond the business
    - (Gutter and Saleem, 2005)
      - Many account possibilities
      - Opportunities to learn about investing strategies
  - Take advantage of tax breaks for saving/investing

# 4. Business Succession Planning

- Transitioning the family enterprise to the next generation:
  - Set a vision
  - Set a timeline
  - Define roles
- Create
- Execute

# 5. Have Open and Honest Communication

- Central theme to all of these is **listening** and **talking**
  - Your spouse
  - Your children
  - Your financial advisors
- Be honest
- Be open
- These topics are sensitive to everyone involved
- “Fair” differs from family to family

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