

Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey (FRIS)

Potential probe questions for cognitive interviews

For any/all sections:

- How did you come up with your answer for that question?
- What does this question mean to you in your own words?
- Did the respondent leave any cells blank in this section?
- Did they use the “none” boxes?

Section 1:

- Do you rent land from others? Did you include that in question 2?
- Do you rent land to others? Did you include that in question 3?
- How did you come up with the answer for Box A??

Section 2:

- Tell me about the land you irrigated. How is that land used?
- Tell me more about the irrigation you used.
- Does Box B = Box A? Why or why not?

Section 3:

- Tell me about the ground water wells you used.
- Did you use your records to answer these questions?
- Were there any parts of question 5 that you couldn't answer? Why?
- What do the terms “backflow prevention devices,” “flow meters,” “municipal or rural water system” mean to you?
- How did you choose the first three primary wells in question 5?

Section 4:

- Tell me about the surface water you used.
- What do the terms “recycled water” and “on farm reclaimed water” mean to you in question 1?
- Could the respondent fill in all cells in question 2?
- For question 5b, did the respondent report only one unit?

Section 5:

- What did you include in this section (check all include statements).
- Could the respondent fill in all cells in question 2?
- For question 6b, did the respondent report only one unit?

Section 6:

- Could the respondent fill in all cells in questions 1, 2, and 3?
- Were there any terms you didn't understand?

Section 7:

- Could the respondent fill in all cells in questions 1 - 6?
- Were there any terms you didn't understand?
- How did you determine the cost of energy in the second column? Did you use records?

Section 8:

- Were there any types of irrigation that you hadn't heard of?
- Were there any types of irrigation that you thought were missing from the list?
- Did you use records to fill in this section?

Section 9:

- Were you able to find all the crops you grow on the list?
- Did you report for all crops you grow?
- Did you report your pastureland?
- Did you have any horticultural products? Did you include them here?

Section 10:

- Did the respondent use the codes from the top of the page?
- Were you able to find all the crops you grow on the list?
- Did you report for all crops you grow?
- Did you report your pastureland?

Section 11:

- Did you have any horticultural products? Were they grown in the open or under protection? Did you include them here?
- In question 4, did the respondent see the "OR"? Which is easier to report? Why?
- Were there any irrigation methods that were unfamiliar to you?

Section 12:

- Did you use percentages or numbers in the cells?
- Were there any irrigation methods that were unfamiliar to you?

Section 13:

- Did you have any horticultural products? Were they grown in the open or under protection? Did you include them here?
- In question 4, did the respondent see the "OR"? Which is easier to report? Why?
- Were there any irrigation methods that were unfamiliar to you?

Section 14:

- Did you use percentages or numbers in the cells?
- Were there any irrigation methods that were unfamiliar to you?

Section 15

- Did respondent use the ID codes for columns 3 and 4?
- What did you include in each category of expenses? Did you have any irrigation expenses that you did not include in this section? Why?
- Were there any expenses that you were not sure which category to report them in?
- How did you determine the total cost of the expenditure? Did you use records?

Section 16

- In your own words, tell me what question 1 is asking?
- Were any of the answer choices confusing to you?
- How did the respondent react to these questions?

Section 17

- Tell me about the gravity irrigation systems you use.
- Were they used to irrigate acres in the open or under protection?
- Is the type of gravity irrigation system you use listed in the practices?
- Were there any practices that were not clear?

Section 18

- How did the respondent react to question 1?
- Did respondent read all answer choices in questions 1 and 2? Did they check more than one?
- Tell me about more about why you discontinued irrigation (question 2).

Section 19

- Did you have paid labor in <year> for any reason? Tell me about what those laborers did.
- Can you separate out the labor hours and wages used for irrigation from other labor hours? Did you use records to do this?
- Did you have any contract labor in <year>? Tell me about that.

Section 20

- Tell me about the sources of information you use to learn about irrigation.
- What types of information do you get from these sources? Do you get information on reducing costs of irrigation from these sources? Do you get information about conserving water from these sources?

Section 21

- Tell me about the improvements you made to your irrigation or drainage. When did you make those improvements?
- Tell me about the technical or financial assistance you received for the improvements. Is the source you used listed?
- Are there any sources listed that you did not recognize?

Section 22

- Did respondents who did irrigate notice that they did not have to fill this section out?

Section 23

- How did the respondent react to this section?
- Did the respondent use percentages for questions 2 and 3?

Section 24

- Any problems?