

Appendix 1

Farmers' Classification of Themselves, Chihota, Zimbabwe

Farmer type	Strengths	Weaknesses
Young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy to conduct operations • Grow modern types and varieties of crops • Opportunities to get new knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have no farming implements • Have no arable land • Have no children to help with farming
Old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have farming implements • Have arable land • Have children to help with farming • Grow traditional types and varieties of crops • Have old and new knowledge to impart to new generations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have less energy to conduct operations
Male	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have better opportunities • Own farming implements: their lands are worked earlier • Are in charge, get the bulk of proceeds from crop sales • Decision-makers • Good planners • Own fields • Prefer garden crops 	
Female	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow all types of crops • Better farmers than males • Do not go beer drinking • Do a lot of work in the fields • Plan operations in a timely fashion • Devoted to work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not own farming implements • Do not own fields • Their fields are prepared last • Fall under husbands, not rewarded for their labor • Not leaders in farming issues
Have draft animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare lands on time • Have manure • Can use livestock for other purposes • Operations are easy and timely • Get good yields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle destroy other people's crops • Some prepare fields of others before preparing their own
Have no draft animals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late land preparation • Carry out operations late • Field operations are difficult • Have no access to manure • Get low yields
Have cattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have manure • Have resources • Timeliness of operations • Have milk, meat, and <i>lobola</i> (dowry) • Have access to cash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause soil erosion • Can destroy crops of other farmers • Do not have grazing areas
Have no cattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borrow • Provide labor for others • Cattle herders • Buy cattle from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay operations • Little manure, low yields • Lack of resources • Lazy at times • Cruel to livestock • Gain when their crops are unintentionally destroyed by livestock
Have manure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have good plant stands • Get high yields 	
Have no manure		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have crops of poor quality, low yields
Have implements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to perform timely operations • Get good yields • Have necessary implements • Operations are made easy 	
Have no implements		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed operations • Get low yields • Do not have cattle and other implements
Have garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable income from year-round production • Sell produce • Provide enough to family • Well-paying enterprise • Help others • Produce several crops a year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause soil erosion • Some are encroaching into grazing areas • Use large quantities of water • Do not help the needy • Small arable lands • Workaholics

Farmer type	Strengths	Weaknesses
Have garden (cont'd.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always busy (throughout year) • More income than dryland farmers • Not as affected by adverse weather (droughts) as dryland farmers • Diversity of crops • Mainly grow horticultural crops 	
Dryland farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan ahead of time • High volume of output for storage • Market their crops • Maintain contours • Large landholding to be inherited • Big arable lands • Practice crop rotations • Have time to relax 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get only one crop per year • Receive income once a year • No stable income because of seasonality of production • No adequate financial resources to prepare/plan next season • Expose to negative effects of adverse weather (droughts)
Have large fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attain high yields • Wide variety of crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread inputs thinly over large area
Have small fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low total harvest • Narrow variety of crops • Apply inputs to smaller piece of land, therefore sometimes attain high yields 	
Own fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow crops in both dryland and gardens 	
Do not own fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borrow fields temporarily from other farmers 	
Have fenced fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field protected from livestock 	
Have no fenced fields		
Work outside the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can afford to hire labor 	
Do not work outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct operations on their own, do not use hired labor 	
Work in groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick operations • Team spirit • Share knowledge and experiences • Team up to buy inputs • Share labor • Encourage each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations can be delayed by some group members
Work individually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No-one will delay operations • Little knowledge • Slow with operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No-one to encourage/correct another • If sick, no-one will work in field
Industrious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work hard in their fields • Attain high yields • Feed visitors • Send children to school • Seek advice from other farmers • Healthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workaholics • Always thinking
Lazy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source of labor for others • Good messengers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not perform timely operations • Want to rest more than work • Beg for food • Feign sickness when rainy season starts • Always away from their farms • Do not feed their families • Do not send children to school • Do not care • Do not follow what others are doing
Adequate cash for farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can hire labor • Can buy inputs early • Plan well • Timely operations • Attain high yields • Can afford to sell farm produce 	
Inadequate cash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations always conducted late • Attain low yields • Cannot attain high yields • Cannot grow crops well • Not enough production for home consumption
Rich	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable income • Timely operations • Adequate farm implements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not give implements for free

Farmer type	Strengths	Weaknesses
Rich (cont'd.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care about farm activities Adequate food supply Adequate inputs (freezer) 	
Poor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot afford seed, fertilizer Do not produce adequate amount of food Delay operations Lazy and sometimes cruel
Farmers with knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have resources Have enough food Sell to others Attend Agritex (extension) lessons Know how to plan for next season Have good homestead Know how to look after livestock Timely operations Good crops Attain high yields Practice crop rotations Know when to establish crops Use manure Not jealous 	
Farmers without knowledge		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operations not timely even if using own implements Delay operations Work hard but get poor yields Do not practice crop rotations Jealous Do not use manure Cause erosion Do not plan activities Do not attend Agritex (extension) lessons Do not know how to look after livestock Use outdated farming methods
Have Master Farmer certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledgeable about farming operations 	
Do not have Master Farmer Certificate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes not sure of operations
Sell their produce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed society Have cash Good role model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little food for home consumption
Subsistence farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce enough for family Honest, do not steal from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not help others Hate those who sell Do not send children to school
Perform operations on time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have knowledge Attain high yields Have enough implements Produce good crops 	
Do not perform operations on time		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give names to rains to explain their lateness Do not have implements Do not attain high yields
Attain high yields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have high yields every year Sell to others Plant early 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrogant
Do not attain high yields		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack resources Attain low yields Run out of food stocks before next harvest
Plan operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operation done on time Get good crop stands Crops wilt if rains arrive late 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crops can be eaten by livestock
Do not plan operations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive farmers No rotations Lack resources