

S.O.I.L. – ACORN Farm Apprenticeship Application
For farms in Atlantic Canada, please send completed form to:

P.O. Box 6343, Sackville, NB, E4L 1G6

506-536-2867

email: admin@acornorganic.org

website: www.soilapprenticeships.org or www.acornorganic.org/training.html

FARM APPLICATION *

Date _____, Nearest Town/City _____

Phone (_____) _____ Hours you can be reached _____

email: _____

Farmer's Name _____

Family Member's Names _____

Name of Farm _____

Address _____

City/Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Number of apprentices required, and for what time period?

Describe the physical setting of your farm and the nature of the community you live in (e.g. acreage, woods/fields, buildings, close to town? in remote area?, recreation available, etc.)

Describe your farm operation; (e.g. livestock, crops, bees, forestry work, greenhouses, orchards, building projects, haying, logging, machinery used, products made, farmers market, certified organic, transition, IPM etc.)

Describe the work to be performed and the skills to be learned by an apprentice (e.g. care of livestock, plowing, planting, cultivating, harvesting, selling at the market, use of farm equipment, carpentry, food preservation, milking, woods-work, etc.)

What do you expect of an apprentice? (e.g. hours to be worked in a day, how many days a week, heavy physical work, etc.)

Explain how you intend to provide instruction and training to an apprentice (e.g. work along with the apprentice, demonstrate and apprentice works alone, training “classes”, reading to be done, extent of supervision by yourself and others, etc.)

How would you describe your farming library? non-existent____, fair____, good____, excellent____

Do you have access to a farm library (ie. Canadian Organic Growers or the NS Department of Agriculture?)

What resources are there in your community for additional learning experiences for your apprentices?

Can you pay an allowance or a wage in addition to providing room and board? (state if the amount depends upon the experience of the apprentice)

Are all your crops organically grown? If not, to what degree are organic methods used on your farm? _____

Do you want an apprentice to visit your farm before the final arrangements are made? _____

Explain the room and board arrangements (e.g. would the apprentice live with the family, live apart, live apart but eat with the family, are there young children, what household duties would the apprentice share in, would you provide vegetarian meals, what are the rules about smoking - drinking-soft drugs, are there any other important considerations? _____

Tell briefly about yourself, your family, your background, your farming experience, philosophy and goals:

Part 2: REVIEW OF PAST APPRENTICESHIP EXPERIENCES

How long have you had apprentices on your farm? _____

How many do you usually have each season? peak season _____, year round _____

Do you have a written curriculum or list of skills to be learn? _____, If so, would you be willing to share this tool with other farmers? _____

How much time do you spend each day working with your apprentices on an average? _____

What is the greatest amount of responsibility that you have ever given an apprentice?

What are some of the best experiences you have had teaching skills to apprentices?

What are some of the problems you have had teaching skills to apprentices?

What support would you like from SOIL/ACORN in building your apprenticeship program?

Would you like to be connected to other participating farms in your area or those that use the same farmers markets as you?

Would you like to take part in building an accredited training program which has a curriculum, a certificate, and minimum requirements for certification? If so, what role would you like for your farm?

Other suggestions:

* Please feel free to email any farm pictures that you would like us to post with your profile.