

Leveraging your Experiences: Recordkeeping for Farming Success

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You can find this worksheet and a copy of the spreadsheet we will be working through at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/p5oygb36hskilql/AmzfUN0ZX_/Public

Excel Basics

Addition	=a1+b1+c or =sum(a1:c1)
Subtraction	=b2-a2
Division	=b3/a3
Multiplication	=a4*b4
Average	=(sum(a1:a5))/5 or =AVERAGE(a1:a5)

Useful Excel Tools

Naming a selection (range) - By naming a selection, you're able to identify the data set you'll want to draw from when pulling information from one sheet to another

Creating a list (data validation) - By creating a list you'll ensure that your entries are consistent so they can be pulled accurately from one sheet to another

Referring to a cell - =\$A1 vs =A\$1 vs =\$A\$1

Filter - Use to show portions of your dataset

Useful Excel Formulas

=Sumif(range,criteria,sum_range) - Use to sum values that meet a specific criteria

- range: the range of cells you want to search for "criteria"
- criteria: the criteria that defines the numbers you would like to add (e.g. ">10", "=Leeks")
- sum_range: the range of values to sum

=Vlookup(lookup_value,table_array,col_index_num,range_lookup) - Use to search for a value from one part of a spreadsheet to place into a cell.

- lookup_value: value you want to search for
- table_array: data you want to search through
- col_index: column number containing data you want returned from the search
- range_lookup: always use 'false' (this returns an exact match for the lookup_value rather than 'true' which will find the closest match)

Examples

- Notebook and pen
- Audio recordings
- Laminate sheets with alcohol pens
- Smartphone/tablet
- Binders with printed sheets

Integration

- How often will you be inputting data? Daily? Weekly? Monthly?
- How much time do you need to devote to your system? Is this realistic at the height of the season?
- Consistency wins!

Analysis

- Pivot Tables - Allow you to group and view your data in different ways.
- Crop/farm Planning
 - Adjusting days to maturity, Adjusting yield per row foot
 - Recording fluctuations in days to maturity and yield based on time of year
 - Costs
 - Resource needs (soil, cooler space, labour)
- Market Data
 - Predicting ebb and flow of sales at market
 - Complementary and substitute crops
 - Where you making/losing money