Issues of Data Collection for Agricultural Businesses

Presented to An International Expert Working Group June 26, 2011 Niagara-on-the-Lake Ontario, Canada Craig Yunker, CY Farms





BATAVIA TURE

INSTANT LAWNS

2010
Business of the Year

Presentation Outline

- **#Overview of our businesses**
- **#Issues of Data Collection**
- #Implications of changes in the industry on data collection
- **#Questions/Discussion**

What is CY Farms?

- **#** Collection of economic activity
- ## 4 Related Businesses
- **#CY** Properties Real estate holding company
- **#CY Farms 5600 acre vegetable & grain farm**
- **#CY** Heifer Farm 4000 head dairy replacements
- **#**Batavia Turf Commercial sod production
- ★ Central payroll/HR 40-60 employees
- #50% Hispanic

What is CY Farms?

- # 4 Owners -2 are retired, 2 managing partners
- # 4 Entities Common ownership
- **#** CY Properties, LLC
 - □ Real Estate 3300 acres owned
 - Farmland 2800 acres cash rented
- # CY Farms, LLC
 - Row crops, forages and vegetables -5600 acres
 - Contract vegetable harvesting
 - Nutrient management
- **#** Batavia Turf,LLC
- **#** CY Heifer Farm,LLC
 - Custom raising dairy replacements 4000 head

What is CY Farms?

Contract Services

- △CY Farms
 - ■Nutrient management for CYHF & Provitello Veal
- □ Batavia Turf
 - ☑ Green roof production for Vegetal I.D.
 - **区**Contract turf installation
- - Research contracts
- - Batavia Sports Park RE rental of sports fields

CY Properties

- **#Owns all real estate, leased to CYF, CYHF** & BT.
- **#Leases sports fields to municipality**
- **#Leases hunting rights to hunters**
- **#**Capital improvements, drainage & buildings

CY Farms Processing Vegetables

- **#Snap beans**
- **∺**Green peas
- **#Contract production**
- **#Cooperative production**
- **#Contract** pea harvesting in joint venture

CY Farms Produce

- **#Onions**
- **#**Cabbage
- **#**Storage & packing onions
- **#**Storage & packing cabbage
- **#Contract cabbage qualified supplier**













Batavia Turf

Bluegrass for residential, commercial use Bluegrass blends for athletic fields Distributor of infield mix and clay Supplier of seed, fertilizer materials Sell & market for contract producers Contract services for Vegetal I.D.

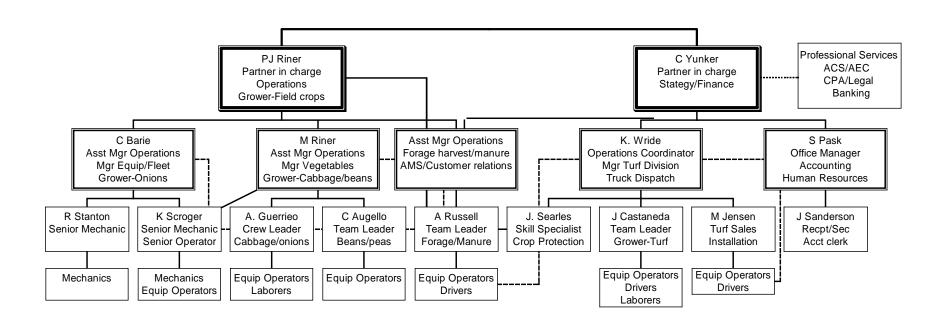
CY Heifer Farm

- **#Contract heifer raising**
- #4000 head from wet calves to springers
- **#Currently 7 dairy customers**
- **#Co-located with large veal operation**
- ****Buys forage from CY Farms**
- **#Contracts with CYF for nutrient mangt.**
- **#Does** contract research



CY Farms Organization

CY Farms, LLC





Changes in Vegetable Marketing

- ***** Mechanization
- # Increasing economies of scale
- **#**Concentration of production
- **#**Concentration of markets
- **X** Technological developments
- #Grower/Packer/Shipper
- ****** Self Distributing Grocery Retailer
- ****Sophisticated supply chain management**

Integration of the Food Chain

- **#**Forces driving integration
 - Efficiency

 - Responding to consumer demands
- **#Forms of integration**
 - Qualified suppliers
 - Contract production

Agriculture of the Future

#Increasingly bi-polar

- - Niche markets − very responsive to specific market
 - ∠Life-style farms off farm income
- Large commercial, industrialized farms
 - ∨ Very specialized, low cost commodity producers

Impact of Change

- **#Changes in crop enterprises**
- **#Lower value to higher value crops**
- #Drop crops w/out comparative advantage
- **#Increased contract production**
- ****Less independence**
- **#Coordinated production**
- **#Integrated systems**

Problems in data collection

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Ownership
  Minority interests
  Complex profit sharing arrangements
Land use
  Multiple crops
  Field swapping
Decision making
  Layers of management
  Contract production
  Cooperative agreements
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Implications for data collection

Information is needed for policy decisions
Information has value
Information collection costs money
Should contracts for data collection be developed?

Thank you

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