Diversification a Sustainability Tool

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What is Farm Diversification?

- Farm diversification is when a farm changes from traditional farming activities by adding new **profitable crops or activities**. This can be replacement of current activities or in addition to traditional farming pursuits. Farm diversification can involve anything, from adding pastured poultry and organic beef production to starting a bed and breakfast or setting up a local tourist attraction.
Potential Advantages of Diversification

- Increase farm revenue and net income
  - Gross receipts, shared depreciation & overhead
- Improved security
  - Reduced dependency upon one crop’s success
  - Increased appeal to future generations
- Improved resource utilization
  - Land, buildings, labor, equipment
- Enhancement of other crops
  - Improved soil, disease & weed management
- Environmental benefits
  - Biodiversity, soil & water
Diversification Considerations

- Environmental conditions
  - Temperature, sunlight, rainfall, soils, etc.

- Skills and expertise
  - On-farm or external

- Resource requirements
  - On-farm - Physical assets, capital, etc.
  - External – Storage, transportation, seeds, etc.

- Interest

- Market Access and Marketing
  - Supply and Demand
Thanks!  Gracias!  Obrigado!