

Horticulture Research Protocols

Cherry Tomato Enterprise Budget, 2018

Objectives:

- 1. Determine differences in enterprise budgets for cherry and salad tomatoes at three farms.
- 2. Determine differences in labor efficiency for various tasks.

Farmer-cooperator will:

- Follow Research Protocols for study
- <u>Take photos</u> throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions
- Turn in all data by November 2018

Practical Farmers of Iowa will:

- Help set up research protocol.
- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed.
- Publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets.
- Provide \$550 cooperator payment at conclusion of project year.

RESEARCH PROTOCOL

Crops: Cherry tomatoes and salad tomatoes (variety of farm's choosing).

In-field practices:

- In-field practices may vary by farm. Report general practices used, as requested in the excel workbook.

Data Collection:

- **Harvest:** Farmers will provide their own harvest sheets, including: harvest date, pint count, total lbs of both marketable fruit.
- **Labor:** Labor should be recorded on the labor log. <u>Please be mindful of MARKETING labor and costs...</u> this seems to be our weak spot every year! I would suggest, if you track this time and cost for CSA, farmers market, etc, allocate the revenue % of cherry tomatoes.
- Other costs and inputs: will be recorded in the excel workbook.

Please send all data to PFI by November 1, 2018.

Take photos!

<u>Contact:</u> Liz Kolbe, Horticulture Coordinator (515) 232-5661 liz@practicalfarmers.org