

Question List

Alaska FFA Association and USDA Northwest Climate Hub

Grade Levels 6-12

Students can choose five questions from this list or brainstorm five questions for their interviewee.

Personal History

- When did you start farming/gardening/hunting/etc.?
- Why did you start farming/gardening/hunting/etc.?
- Are there any differences between weather in Alaska and weather when you were younger (say a kid or when you first moved here)?
- What was the biggest change you encountered during your years as a farmer/gardener/hunter/etc.?
- Have you observed changes in farming/gardening/etc. in the past few decades? What is your attitude toward any trends you may have noticed?
- How do you see your role in the community?
- Who has had the biggest influence on your life? How?

Basic Questions

- What is your favorite place in Alaska? How has it changed in the last twenty years?
- Are you a first-generation farmer/gardener/hunter etc. or has your family done it in the past?
- What is the hardest part of farming/gardening/hunting etc. for you?
- What is the most satisfying part of farming/gardening/ hunting etc. for you?
- What is your favorite part about farming/gardening/agriculture/working with the land?
- What is your least favorite part about farming/gardening/etc.?
- What are you proudest of?
- What is the hardest thing you have ever had to do in relation to farming/gardening/etc.?

Farming Specific Questions

- How do you deal with weeds? With insect pests?
- Is farming your only source of income?
- Can you think of any tools that contemporary farmers must employ to stay competitive? How do they differ from those that you used in your earliest days as a farmer?
- What do you think was the most useful advance in farming?
- How did this farm start?
- Have you noticed any differences in when plants need to be planted or harvested in the past few decades?

- Do you have any concerns about food security in Alaska?

Climate Change Questions

- Have you made any changes to the way you farm/garden/hunt etc. that have been due to climate or weather?
- What does climate change mean to you?
- In your time in Alaska, what changes have you seen in the length of season or intensity of storms? How do you think that might affect your activity in the future?
- What possibilities do you think might arise if the climate continues to change in Alaska? What issues might arise?
- What do you think we can do to successfully adapt to changes in weather or climate?

Advice for Another Generation

- What advice would you give young people who are interested in farming/gardening/etc.?
- How could young people prepare for a changing climate in Alaska?