



Farm Co-op Readiness Checklist

Is Your Team Ready for the Collective Adventure?

Section 1: Foundation & Model Commitment

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Does the entire team agree on the single biggest problem the co-op is being created to solve (e.g., risk-sharing, labor burnout, quality job?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you researched the cooperative model enough to be confident it's the best business structure for your shared goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The difference between a farm that burns out and a farm that thrives is not passion — it’s system.

The Farm Coop Academy’s – Collaborative Farm Business Toolkit provides the exact, farm-tested blueprints you need to move from "No" to "Yes" on your readiness checklist. It is the complete set of templates and processes to:

- **End the Chaos:** Get clear agenda templates and decision-tracking logs
- **Resolve Conflict:** Implement effective communication processes and feedback scripts
- **Gain Clarity:** Define clear roles, accountabilities, and a fair profit-sharing model

Your checklist is your diagnostic.
Farm Coop Academy’s **coaching and toolkit** is the proven path to get every checkpoint to "YES" and build the resilient, successful farm co-op you deserve.

Stop carrying the load alone. Get the Toolkit now:

[Farm Coop Academy - Collaborative Farm Business Toolkit](#)

Section 2: Communication & Conflict Readiness

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Do you consistently use a clear agenda template (like tactical meetings) that ensures meetings are short, clear, and lead to concrete action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the group chosen and agreed to one clear decision-making model (e.g., consent, consensus, majority) and does everyone understand how it works?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does your team have a simple, agreed-upon process or script for giving and receiving feedback that feels safe and useful?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the team discussed and agreed upon a simple mediation process for peers and leads to prevent conflicts from escalating?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does every member feel safe to express a dissenting opinion or raise a concern without fear of personal conflict or retribution?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a reliable system (paper, spreadsheet, or app) to track decisions, tasks, and follow-ups to ensure things don't fall through the cracks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3: Roles & Accountability

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Has the core team completed a role-mapping exercise to clearly define accountabilities, domains, and policies for each key role (e.g., production, sales, administration, etc)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you collectively identified the key complementary skills needed for the farm and business, and are those skills currently present in your founding group?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a clear understanding of who decides what, how, and when for key operational areas (e.g., purchasing, planting schedule, hiring)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a clear, documented membership pathway map that outlines the criteria, timing, and onboarding steps for new members?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you had open and honest discussions about equity and fairness between founding members and future new members?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 4: Collective Business & Farm Readiness

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Is there a detailed seasonal staffing plan template or equivalent document that outlines how the shared workload will be managed during peak seasons?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the group discussed and selected a profit-sharing model (e.g., patronage, wage increase, etc.) that is perceived as fair by all potential members?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a commitment to consult with a co-op developer or lawyer to address the legal and regulatory complexity after the team's "soft points" are aligned?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you conducted a preliminary budget and identified the initial funding needs and potential sources (member loans, external loans, grants)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 5: Market Readiness

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Have you collectively decided on your farm's core product offerings and the primary market channels (e.g., CSA, wholesale, farm stand)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you defined your co-op's unique promise and differentiator (Positioning) that sets you apart from competitors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a strategy to build a segmented list and a plan for initial outreach to your target audience (e.g., Do you know your Primary Avatar)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a campaign calendar or equivalent plan for your first product launch or major sales period?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 6: Mission & Future Vision

Checkpoint	Yes	No	In Progress
Have all core members aligned on the fundamental mission, objectives, and values for the co-op?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do all members agree on what a "successful and resilient structure for growth and succession" looks like in 5 years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>