

Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers

SOC: 11-9013 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$87,980

Median Salary

11,100

Employment

-1.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 18.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

7.0/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	4.2/10	Investigative	6.8/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	7.8/10
Enterprising	8.6/10	Conventional	7.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Analytical skills, Critical-thinking skills, Initiative, Interpersonal skills, Mechanical skills, Physical stamina

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers oversee the **operation and management of farms, ranches, and agricultural businesses**. They plan and coordinate crop production, livestock care, and resource management to ensure efficient and sustainable agricultural operations. Their work is critical in food production, resource conservation, and agricultural business management.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy working outdoors, managing operations, and applying knowledge of agriculture and business.

What Do Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers Do?

These professionals plan, direct, and coordinate all aspects of agricultural production and management.

Common responsibilities include:

- Planning and overseeing crop cultivation and livestock operations
- Managing farm labor, equipment, and resources
- Monitoring soil, water, and environmental conditions
- Implementing pest, disease, and nutrient management strategies
- Ensuring compliance with safety, environmental, and agricultural regulations
- Maintaining financial records, budgets, and production reports
- Marketing products and coordinating sales or distribution

Key Areas of Agricultural Management

Agricultural managers may focus on specific crops, livestock, or operational strategies:

- Crop Production and Management: Planting, harvesting, and managing crops
- Livestock and Animal Care: Raising and caring for animals, breeding, and health management
- Resource and Equipment Management: Maintaining machinery, irrigation, and land
- Financial and Business Management: Budgeting, accounting, and marketing agricultural products
- Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship: Implementing conservation practices and regulatory compliance

Skills and Abilities Needed

These professionals combine agricultural, business, and managerial skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires a combination of education, experience, and practical knowledge:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, science, and business skills
- Bachelor's Degree (optional but beneficial): Agriculture, agribusiness, or related field
- Hands-On Experience: Work in farming, ranching, or agricultural operations
- Professional Development: Training in modern farming techniques, equipment, and management
- Continuing Education: Staying updated on agricultural technology, market trends, and sustainability practices

Where Do Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers Work?

They are employed in organizations or own operations focused on agriculture and food production:

- Farms and Ranches

- Agribusiness Companies
- Agricultural Cooperatives
- Research and Extension Services
- Government and Regulatory Agencies

Work environments include fields, barns, greenhouses, offices, and processing facilities.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires physical effort, problem-solving, and knowledge of both agriculture and business. Managers must handle unpredictable weather, market changes, and resource challenges.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy working outdoors and managing operations
- Are knowledgeable in agriculture, livestock, or crop production
- Have strong leadership and problem-solving skills
- Can adapt to changing conditions and challenges
- Want a career contributing to food production, sustainability, and agribusiness management

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in agriculture, biology, environmental science, and business
- Gain hands-on experience through internships, summer work, or family farm involvement
- Develop skills in machinery operation, resource management, and financial planning
- Explore agricultural programs or degrees at the undergraduate or vocational level
- Learn about sustainable practices, market trends, and regulatory compliance

Farmers, ranchers, and agricultural managers lead the production of crops and livestock, ensuring efficient, sustainable, and profitable operations that support communities and food systems.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/farmers-ranchers-and-other-agricultural-managers.htm>