

Developing Livestock Feed Interventions with the Feed Assessment Tool (FEAST)

Lesson 5: Individual Farmer Interviews



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Lesson 5: Individual Farmer Interviews

Overview of Individual Farmer Interview Questionnaire



Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- List and summarize the major topics covered in the FEAST Individual Interview Questionnaire
- Record data from interviews using the Individual Interview Questionnaire
- Use probing / follow up questions to get more specific, quantitative information during an interview

Key Terminology

- **Extrapolate** – To estimate or make assumptions about a larger, unknown situation based on a limited set of known data

Recap of Lessons 3 & 4

Now that you have:

- Collected data from the focus group discussion
- Selected 9+ individual farmers (3 from each landholding category)
 - Small farmers (below average land holdings)
 - Medium farmers (average land holdings)
 - Large farmers (above average land holdings)

...it is time to proceed with the Individual Farmer Interviews!



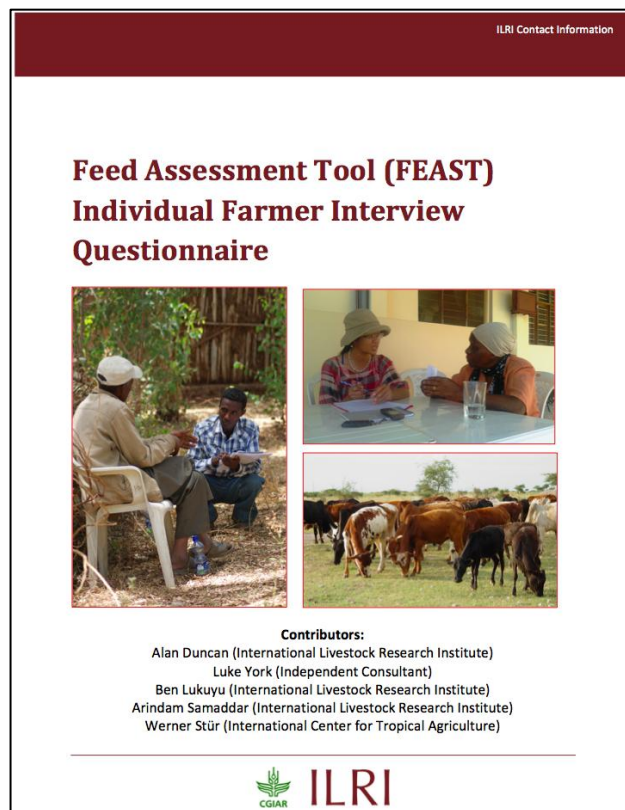
Objectives of Individual Farmer Interviews

- Gather specific information from individual farmers about farming practices, livestock production, feed resources
- Calculate averages based on individual responses to extrapolate numbers for the entire community
- Data collected may be imprecise, but should prove adequate for our purposes



Individual Interview Questionnaire Overview

Refer to your copy of the Individual Farmer Interview Questionnaire and follow along as we review each section.



The Interview Questionnaire



- Animals – livestock inventory
- Crops - yields and areas to derive crop residue availability
- Feed Resources
 - Cultivated forages – yields and areas
 - Collected fodder: proportion of diet
 - Purchased feed
 - Grazing: proportion of diet



The Interview Questionnaire (cont.)



- Sources of household income
- Production
 - Milk production
 - Sale of livestock
- Seasonality.
 - Feed supply: overall seasonal availability
 - What is fed in different months?

Questionnaire Overview

Review Individual Farmer Interview Questionnaire



Interview Questionnaire – General Info

General Information

- What sort of organizations might smallholder farmers belong to?

Date of Interview:

Interviewer Name:

Respondent Name:

Landholding Category: Landless | Small | Medium | Large (circle one)

Occupation:

Name of Settlement:

Name of Village:

GPS Coordinates of Interview Location:

Latitude: Longitude:

It is interviewer's responsibility, not respondent's, to determine GPS coordinates (if possible).

How much land do you own?: Acres | Hectares | Local Units (circle one)

How much land do you cultivate?: Acres | Hectares | Local Units (circle one)

If local units, name of local unit: 1 hectare = Local units

Cooperative / Organization Affiliations (which household members?)



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Interview Questionnaire – Section 1

Livestock Holdings

- If farmer does cannot estimate weight of his/her animals consult literature or local extension staff.
- What local breeds of animals are prevalent in this area?

Type of Livestock	# Currently Owned	Approx. weight per animal (kg)	Dominant Breed
Local Dairy cows – lactating			
Local Dairy cows - non lactating (dry)			
Local Dairy heifers (>6mths old - < 1 st calving)			
Local Dairy calves (<6mths old) – female			
Local Dairy calves (<6mths old) – male			
Improved dairy cows – lactating			
Improved dairy cows - non lactating (dry)			
Improved Dairy heifers (>6mths old - < 1 st calving)			



Interview Questionnaire – Section 2

Crops Grown on Farm

- Exclude crops grown solely for fodder (we will address fodder crops in a different section)
- What are some local units for crop yields?

Cultivation Area & Yield (if using local units, specify below)			Residue Use (%) (if any allocated to 'other', specify below)				
Crop	Area	Yield	Feeding	Burnt	Mulching	Sold	Other*



Interview Questionnaire – Section 3

Cultivated Fodder

Crop	Area

Name of local unit (Area): 1 hectare = Local units



Interview Questionnaire – Section 4

Collected Fodder

- Thinnings
- Weeds
 - From cropping areas
 - Roadside
- Naturally Occurring Grasses
- Other naturally occurring green material

Contribution of collected fodder to animals' diet (%):

 %

Interview Questionnaire – Section 5

Purchased Feed

Feeds Purchased	Price / Local Unit	Typical Quantity per Purchase	Number of Times Purchased per Year

Name of local unit (Mass): 1 local unit = kilograms

Local Currency:



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Interview Questionnaire – Section 6

Grazing

Contribution of grazing to animals' nutrition (%): %



Interview Questionnaire – Section 7

Sources of Income

- What would you expect the major non-agricultural sources of income to be for local farmers?

Income Source (Select 4)	Contribution to Income (%)
Cash crops	
Charcoal making	
Dairying	
Draft animals	
Fattening - cattle	
Fattening - sheep and goats	
Food crops	
Handicrafts	
Laboring/service	
Off- farm business	
Poultry (eggs)	
Poultry (meat)	
Remittances	
Other (Specify)	
Other (Specify)	
<i>Must add up to 100%</i>	<i>100</i>



Interview Questionnaire – Section 8

Livestock Sold

Type of Livestock	# of Males Sold	Approx. weight per male (kg)	# of Females Sold	Approx. weight per female (kg)
Number of cattle sold over past 3 years				
Number of goats sold over past 3 years				
Number of sheep sold over past 3 years				
Number of buffalo sold over past 3 years				



Interview Questionnaire – Section 9

Sale Price of Livestock

- What factors might cause the market price of a species to vary over the course of a year?

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Market price for cattle (per head)												
Market price for sheep (per head)												
Market price for goats (per head)												
Market price for buffalo (per head)												



Interview Questionnaire – Section 10

Sale Price of Milk

- What factors might cause the market price of milk to vary over the course of a year?

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total average milk yield (litres/day)												
Average price received for <u>milk</u> (per litre)												
Amount of milk <u>retained</u> for household use (litres/days)												



Interview Questionnaire – Section 11

Seasonality

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Feed availability (score 0-10)												



Interview Questionnaire – Section 11 (cont.)

Seasonality

- Make sure all numbers add up to 10

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Crop residues (eg. Rice straw, maize stover)												
Legume crop residues from legume crops (eg. chickpeas, lentils)												
Green forage (eg. roadside weeds, cut fodder crops)												
Grazing												
Concentrates (eg. Wheat bran, grains, oilseed cakes)												
Other – Specify												
Other – Specify												
Must add up to 10!	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

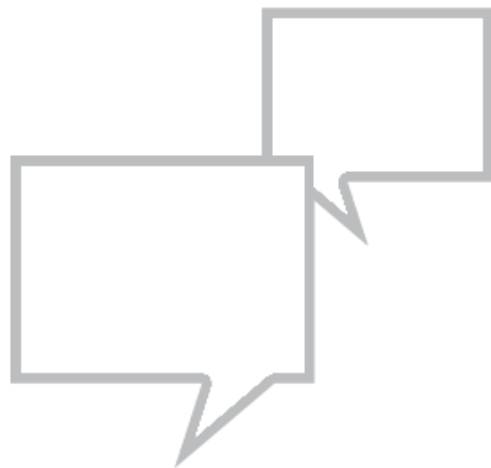


Discussion Question #1

Discuss the following with the class:

How would the following question types apply to an individual farmer interview?

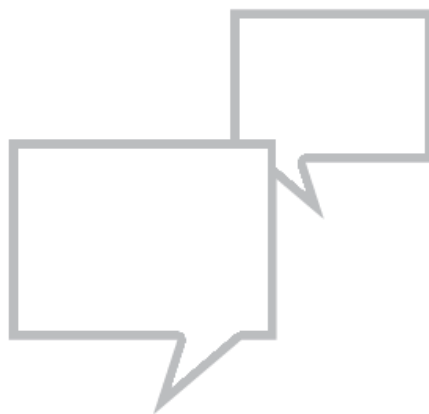
- Open-Ended vs. Closed Questions
- Follow-up / Probing questions
- Prompting questions



Discussion Question #1 (cont.)

Possible answers:

- Because we are looking for specific data, we should use more closed questions than open questions
- Use follow-up and probing questions if the farmer's initial answer does not give data we are looking for
- Prompting question can be used to politely keep interview on topic if farmer digresses



Activity 5.1: Mock Focus Group Discussion

Complete Activity 5.1: Farmer Interview Role Play



Ensuring Farmers Stay for Interviews

- Each interview will take 45-60 minutes
- Might take several hours to complete all 9 interviews,
 - Especially if you do not have assistants
- Risk that farmers will grow tired of waiting and leave before their interview
- Might want to provide meal, gift or other incentive for farmers to stay



Concluding the Individual Farmer Interview

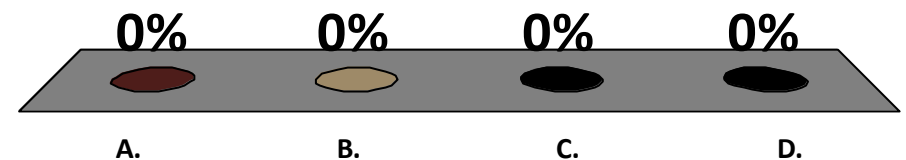


- Thank the interview respondent for their time
- Collect completed questionnaires from all interviews for entry into the FEAST Data Template.

Review Question #1

Ideally, how many farmers should be selected for individual interviews?

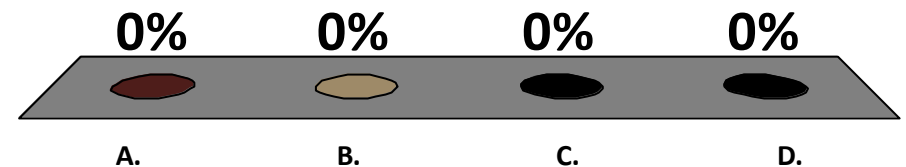
- A. Two farmers from each of the four categories of wealth (by land)
- B. Three farmers from each of the 9 categories of animals
- C. Three farmers from each of the 3 categories of wealth (by land)
- D. Four farmers from each of the 3 categories of animals



Review Question #2

Which source of feed is addressed in the Individual Interview Questionnaire?

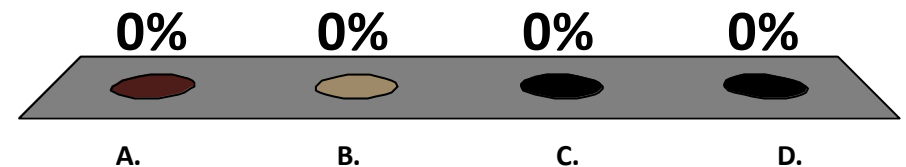
- A. Crop residues
- B. Grazing
- C. Purchased feed
- D. All of the above



Review Question #3

What is the main objective of individual interviews?

- A. Ask farmers what they think of other farmers in the community
- B. Determine the exact output of each farm measured in herd size and crop yield
- C. Gather specific information to help extrapolate overall feed availability and livestock production in the community
- D. To conduct a detailed census of the local population



Lesson Objectives

You should now be able to:

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Questions?