## Farm Business Plan

## **Demonstration Farm in Bay Area:**

**Solano County** 



Hello, my name is Anthonia, and here's my picture of me and my boyfriend, Akasha. I have about 10 years experience as a micro-farmer in the central valley in Reedley, Ca where I work on a small farm. My interest is to let you know what kind of business it is that I'm trying to set up to support the other farm. The bigger farm is still in Reedley, California. However, I'm interested in setting up a second farm here in the valley as a demo farm for anyone who wants to turn a small area into a sustainable farm. I hope to make videos explaining some of the problems and solutions to small farming and making a YouTube website where people can talk about this subject or what worked for

them. I am looking for space requirements near a half acre or an acre or less because it's just going to be a small farm for me and one attendant. I plan to have an office on site and an attendant staying with the animals full-time 24-7. Many things come up with farms, and there needs to be someone on site to address the structures, watch fencing and to answer questions. The site might require an office structure, a shower, and a bathroom. These would be set up so that they are OK to use in an open field. Water obviously obviously is a issue. I would need water for the trailer as well as for the animals. I might grow crops such as grass, corn, peanuts, and any leafy vegetables that can be grown to feed fresh to the animals. I would also have a vegetable garden for just regular food and eating and donations. I hope to have chickens for eggs and milk from a goat or so. Maybe in time if the goats like the area, I might have a cow at some point but right now that would not be part of the plan. I intend to have the animals and then sell them from the farm, and that's pretty much the what will go on at the farm. Have shelter for the animals to go into when it rains so they don't the chickens usually need a chicken coop and if I don't get a small trailer for rain shelter, then I would have to grill a shelter out of wood that is movable. The goats would require a 6 foot fence all around their area so they don't get out. I usually get temporary fencing, so it can move from place to place as the grace. I hope to grow other crops as possible on site. I don't think it's a big deal to worry about the land being flat or not flat as long as it's OK for the animals to be on. As long as there's some flat area that I might use as a pin, it should be OK but I think it might be all right. If the land was a little uneven, I could find a way to still fence them in, the central valley is very flat area so I must say the land was pretty flat. However, I think a lot of goat owners probably stayed in mountains and it was okay.

Most of the work is just watching over the animals and moving food back-and-forth to feed them and keeping an eye on their fencing. Otherwise the farm animals & crops generally take care of themselves, and the garden would need water.

Thanks for reading over my summary of a small training farm here in the bay area. I hope you will be able to find some land for this purpose.

Some ways I feel like this Farm will benefit the community is that it will create some free food, and also it can provide videos and explanations of how people who have land that they're not using can turn it into a free source of food for their community and a job for someone who needs a job or and or housing. A lot of times open spaces are not used for anything. This is a solution that I found and it's sustainable and it provides food and housing and jobs. It's my little way of giving back. I hope to create a free documentary of this idea on YouTube as I go along, and I hope that the information helps other people who are interested in actually a open piece of land into a food, production and job production area. Although our our country is mostly technology, logically based some agricultural applications of land can be helpful even today.

My ultimate goal is to inspire other people in cities to transfer, unused lots into free food producing areas that provide jobs and housing for the attendants. This would incentivize businesses and counties to utilize unused land by providing immediate jobs and housing to the people who need it. The free food that is provided, could support free food sites in the city and improve the general quality of food of people who are living in cities far away from farms. Because vegetables would become cheaper and more available and abundant even in inner cities, it would give people of all income levels a chance to eat them more often and to investigate what you can do to make a vegetable into a meal.

This project would also improve the connection between people and the environment by seeing farms and vegetables, growing near them, and understanding that the earth is a living working thing that is helping people; so we should help the earth too. It's just another way people can see what this world can do to help and how even if you're not a farmer. It's nice to see what a farm looks like as you're going down the street and not forget that the natural world is a part of whatever we're doing, whether we're in city communities or farms.

Thanks,

From Anthonia or H Washington

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