Are your family and business in tune? Or are they playing from different sheets of music?

**HARMONY TEST**

1. We seldom feel the need to separate family life from the farm business life.
   
   YES ___    NO ___

2. The farm owner(s) communicate(s) regularly and comfortably with his/ her sons-in-law and daughters-in-law.

   YES ___    NO ___

3. Farm successors regularly ask for and accept advice from the farm owner(s).

   YES ___    NO ___

4. Non-family farm employees do not resent family employees.

   YES ___    NO ___

5. It is unusual for us to discuss the farm business at family social gatherings.

   YES ___    NO ___

6. Our family has grown closer because we can work together in a farm business.

   YES ___    NO ___

7. Family members who work on the farm are comfortable with their relative position and authority in the business.

   YES ___    NO ___

8. Their spouses are comfortable with their positions too.

   YES ___    NO ___

9. Family farm successors have had experience in significant jobs elsewhere before permanently joining the operation.

   YES ___    NO ___
10. Relative pay and “perk” levels seldom are a point of friction among the family members.

YES ___ NO ___

Score yourself by the number of “yes” answers as follows:

9-10 — in harmony
6-8 — discordant
3-5 — out of tune
0-2 — one big noise

Adapted from Successful Farming, October 1994
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