Unit 2: Agroforestry

Lesson 2: Exploring Agroforestry

Purpose: Agroforestry can have a lot of value when it is implemented properly. It is important to know what considerations you need to take before you begin Agroforestry practices in your own operation. We know there are benefits, but how can we maximize those benefits?

Directions: Access the commodities and products tab on the AgMRC website (http://www.agmrc.org) and find the link to agroforestry. Utilize information located here to answer the questions below:

1. According to the AgMRC website, what are three specific practices used with agroforestry?

2. Search the internet to determine the main cause of the slow development of agroforestry in the United States? The “World Agroforestry Centre” is a helpful place to start.

3. Is there any financial assistance available to establish Agroforestry practices? Where can it be found and what is the assistance?

4. Alley cropping is one of the most common Agroforestry practices. In regard to a crop that you may consider growing (corn, etc.), what is a concern that must be taken into account when developing an alley cropping agroforestry practice? (Hint: Think sunlight)

5. What concerns need to be addressed when considering…
   - Forest farming?
   - Riparian buffers?
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- Silvo pasture?

- Windbreaks?

6. Where could someone find information for implementing an agroforestry system in Hawaii?