# Oregon Agritourism Strategy Process

MARCH- Convene, Share info, identify opportunities and issues, draft vision APRIL/MAY-Refine vision.

Establish five year goals and potential strategies for the next two years.

MAY- Reach out to other key stakeholders to gain input on strategy ideas MAY/JUNE-Prioritize strategies, develop action plan JUNE-Partnership to implement in place Action!

# "Call ahead. And reserve well in advance. Demand for agritourism exceeds supply."

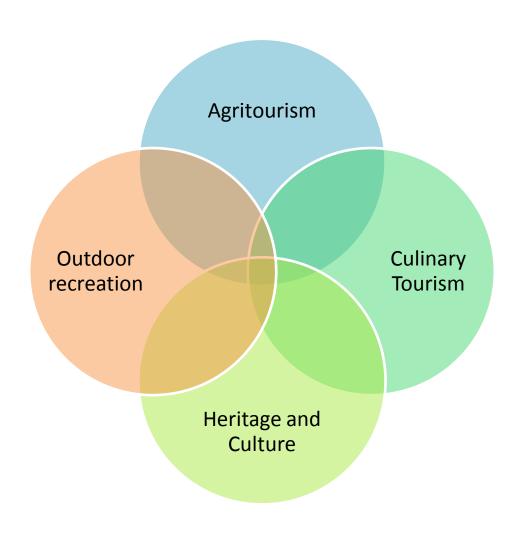


"The Best Farm to Table Restaurants in the Pacific Northwest" Conde Nast Traveler magazine, March 2013

#### Agritourism is...

 "a business conducted by farmers or ranchers on their working agricultural or horticultural operation for the enjoyment and education of visitors. It is intended to promote farm products and generate additional farm income, in the process of providing visitors with entertainment, recreation, participation and education"

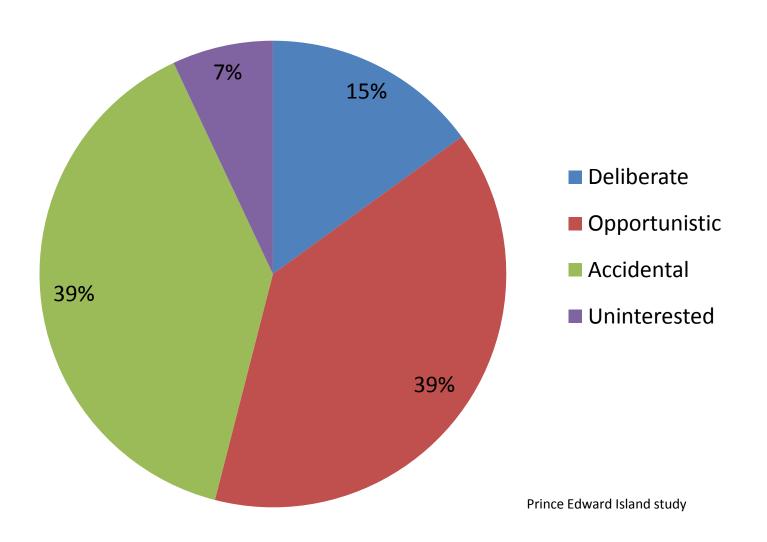
### Agritourism is diverse



#### Such as

- On-farm activities and sales
- Events and "agri-tainment"
- Self-guided tours and trails
- Local foods, whether or not locally sourced
- Guided tour packages, classes, experiences

#### Why collaborative approaches matter



#### **Agritourism in Oregon: The context**

- Shared values: open landscape, farming, entrepreneurship
- "The history of land use laws in Oregon and our growth trends have led to the current situation where there is not a cohesive agritourism polict at all. Agritourism wasn't on the map as something to consider when our original land use system was put in place . . . What is in place is intended to 'stop harmful impacts' rather than 'promote beneficial impacts' of agritourism"

#### Agritourism in Oregon: The lay of the land

- Market position
- Legislative and regulatory strategies
- Marketing
- Organization

 This information based on Summit and Phase I Opportunities document

#### Agritourism: What other states have done

- Marketing support
- Business certification
- Business development
- Fostering networks
- Research
- Policy advocacy
- Destination development

#### **Building an Oregon Agritourism Strategy: Approach**

- Articulate a guiding vision that aligns with our shared values
- Build goals and strategies on existing successes
  - What agritourism is already happening successfully in Oregon?
  - What has contributed to that success?
  - How can we amplify that success?
  - Where are the critical gaps?
- Pursue long term policy strategies as well, but don't get bogged down in what can't happen
- Engage business community and trade associations
- Take positive action collaboratively



Children at Leaping Lamb Farmstay, Alsea

#### **Examples from other states**

- DIG in Vermont: collaborative, industry driven, listing criteria
- Oklahoma: Focus on both product development and promotion
- Colorado: Formal statewide strategy (linked with heritage)



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Cultural, Heritage & Agritourism Strategic Plan

#### **Next Steps**

- Other critical information needs
- Maximizing the effective use of group knowledge and contacts
- Meeting schedule