**Student USDA Coexistence Factsheet Worksheet**

**Using the USDA Coexistence Factsheet article, compare the following crop sectors using this diagram. Determine how they how they are different.**

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| **Certified Organic** | **Conventional** | **Biotechnology** |
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| **How are the three crop sectors alike or what do they have in common?** |

**USDA Coexistence Factsheets Biotech Farming**

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| What is coexistence? |  |
| How do you define biotech farming? |  |
| What is the science behind biotech? |  |
| How was breeding done in the past to change the genetic makeup of seeds? |  |
| What is the USDA’s role in biotech farming? |  |
| What is the FDA and EPA’s role in biotech farming? |  |
| What percentage of cotton, soybeans and corn planted in the US was biotech in 1996? |  |
| What are the major uses for biotech crops? |  |
| What is identity preservation (IP)? |  |
| What does coexistence mean for biotech farmers? |  |
| How has the use of biotech crops helped farmers? |  |
| What are some future opportunities for biotech farming? |  |
| How could biotechnology help people with peanut allergies? |  |
| What biotech crop could help improve the health of people in developing countries? |  |

**USDA Coexistence Factsheets Conventional Farming**

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| What is coexistence? |  |
| How do you define conventional farming? |  |
| Why is conventional breeding done? |  |
| What is GE? |  |
| Why can conventional farmers often receive premium prices? |  |
| What is Identity Preservation (IP) crops? |  |
| What is the importance of Identity Preserved (IP) crops? |  |
| What is one example of an IP crop and what is unique about this crop? |  |
| What is comingling? |  |
| Why should IP crops not be comingled with other crops? |  |
| What is a typical market which conventional farmed crops are used? |  |
| Why is commingling a risk that conventional farmers must manage well? |  |
| What are some future opportunities for conventional farmers? |  |

**USDA Coexistence Factsheets Organic Farming**

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| What is coexistence? |  |
| How do you define organic farming? |  |
| What is excluded from certified organic farming? |  |
| Why do certified organic farmers receive premium prices? |  |
| Why can conventional farmers often receive premium prices? |  |
| What are organic farmers (like others) committed to? |  |
| What does a USDA certification require from a farmer? |  |
| Who regulates the creation, production, handling, labeling, trade and enforcement of all certified organic products? |  |
| List three statistics that are impressive in organic marketing? |  |
| Why is pesticide and herbicide drift a problem for an organic grower? |  |
| How does an organic farmer improve the soil? |  |
| What is a cover crop? |  |
| What soil management practices do organic, conventional, and biotech farmers all employ? |  |
| What is the prediction for organic industry in the year 2018? |  |
| What does the future of organic farming look like? |  |

**Student USDA Factsheet Handout**

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| Which method of farming did the farmer (your instructor) choose and why? |  |
| Which method of farming would you personally choose for farming or do you think is the best? Why? Cite at least three reasons. |  |
| Do you think that coexistence farming methods can work? Why or why not? |  |