Phase 2: Farmer and Organizational/Institutional Leader Interviews

Research Sites:
Miami, FL; Lewiston, ME; Columbus, OH; Honolulu, HI, Burlington, VT

This phase is complete. Building on Phase 1, we have finished the following parts of this phase:

- Site visits
- Face-to-face interviews with appropriate organizational and institutional leaders with knowledge of local agriculture, local history, and land-use and development policy
- Face-to-face interviews with local farmers and farm household members

These in-depth interviews provide understanding of the local farming situation (policy, culture, etc.) and its history and explore household characteristics, farm/household goals and values, household employment patterns, farm structure (including farm production and marketing strategies), farmer/household decision-making processes, and anticipated farm growth, development and reproduction.

We are in the process of analyzing the interviews with the qualitative data analysis program HyperRESEARCH. We are recognizing common themes among small and medium farmers at the RUI, including identification of common goals across a range of different farm types.