# Article information:

A qualitative investigation of resilience among small farms in western Washington State | Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development  
<https://www.foodsystemsjournal.org/index.php/fsj/article/view/1095>

# Article summary:

1. The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges for small farms in western Washington State, impacting daily operations, production costs, marketing channels, demand, and revenue.

2. In-depth interviews with 15 farmers revealed that resilience among small farms was driven by product diversity, flexibility, multiple forms of support, values, and access to resources.

3. Small farms demonstrated resilience through buffer and adaptive capabilities to absorb and adjust to shocks as well as transformative capability to create new systems and shape future food systems. Future research should focus on promoting resilience attributes and facilitating the ability of farmers to act on resilience capabilities.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "A qualitative investigation of resilience among small farms in western Washington State" provides a valuable insight into the experiences of small farmers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study conducted in-depth interviews with 15 farmers to explore the impacts of the pandemic on their daily farm operations, production costs, marketing channels, demand, and revenue. The authors used thematic analysis to identify drivers of COVID-19 impacts and farm adaptations.

The article is well-written and structured, providing a clear overview of the research question, methodology, findings, and implications. The authors acknowledge the limitations of their study, such as its small sample size and focus on one region in Washington State. However, they provide a useful contribution to the literature on farm resilience during crises.

One potential bias in this article is that it focuses solely on small farms that directly market their products. This excludes larger farms that sell through intermediaries or wholesalers. While this may be appropriate for the research question at hand, it limits the generalizability of the findings to all types of farms.

Another potential bias is that the study only includes farmers from western Washington State. This region has a unique agricultural landscape compared to other regions in the United States. Therefore, it may not be representative of all small farms across the country.

The article does not present any unsupported claims or promotional content. However, there are some missing points of consideration and evidence for claims made. For example, while farmers reported shifting personal and public attitudes towards small farms during the pandemic, there is no discussion about why these attitudes changed or how they may impact future food systems.

Additionally, while farmers discussed resilience via transformative capability -the potential to create new systems-, there is no exploration of counterarguments or potential risks associated with this approach. Future research could benefit from exploring both sides equally.

Overall, "A qualitative investigation of resilience among small farms in western Washington State" provides valuable insights into how small farmers adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic. While there are some potential biases and missing points of consideration, the article is well-written and structured, making a useful contribution to the literature on farm resilience during crises.

# Topics for further research:

* Attitudes towards small farms during COVID-19 pandemic
* Impact of COVID-19 on larger farms and wholesalers
* Agricultural landscape in different regions of the United States
* Risks associated with transformative capability in farming
* Government policies and support for small farms during crises
* Consumer behavior and demand for locally sourced food during COVID-19 pandemic

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/788a9b82aa1718b75ebd5a480cab2696>