Approaches to Accessing Land for Gardens and Farms

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1. **Factors to be considered in land selection for farms and gardens:**
   a. Farm business goal assessment: type, methods, scale of production,
   b. Irrigation need: water availability - source, quantity, quality, methods of irrigation, cost, etc
   c. Climate: rainfall, temperature, sunlight, Relative humidity, etc
   d. Elevation
   e. Farmland characteristics:
      i. Location: distance, access, zoning, neighborhood, market, access to machinery,
      ii. Soil characteristics: fertility, toxicity, reclamation cost, etc
      iii. Topography: slope, aspect, erosion, etc
      iv. Land size: how much available compared to the business goal
   f. Lease condition: durations, cost, watering schedules, role of the landowner, etc
   g. Ownership: methods, durations, etc
   h. Land use policies and regulations

2. **Methods of accessing land for farm and garden**
   i. Networking
   ii. Partnership (interest group, advisers, etc)
   iii. Real Estate Agency
   iv. State Land Trust
   v. USDA FSA (www. resales.usda.gov)
   vi. Reservations (Tribal land)
   vii. Cities (future project land)

3. **Land Tenure options**
   i. Lease (cash, fee-title, etc): iii. Purchases
   ii. Crop-Share: iv. Partnership (mutual benefits)

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