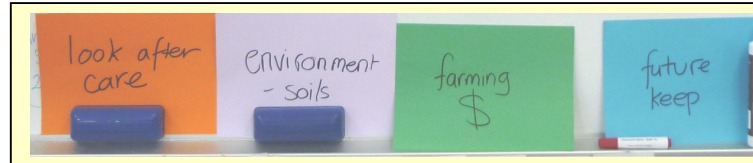


# What does 'Sustainable Farming' mean?

St Joseph's P. S. Senior Class interviewed adults to find out how they would define "sustainable farming" as part of their 'Sustainability and our Farmland Environment\*' unit. We collated the common ideas and made one definition -



'Sustainable farming' means keeping farming going by looking after and caring for the environment to farm well (and make money) now and in the future.

This table lists the replies, with common ideas highlighted:

|   |
|---|
| 1 being profitable while looking after the land   |
| 2 to keep the farm going in a productive manner   |
| 3 to be able to keep farming from season to season  |
| 4 being able to continue to farm successfully for the future  |
| 5 to grow and produce enough cheaply to keep the bank manager happy   |
| 6 while we are farming our land we try to protect and improve it for the future                                 |
| 7 planting different crops to help keep the ground fertile so it can be re-used for the next crop               |
| 8 using the soil in a way that we can produce food without doing any damage to it and the environment           |
| 9 God gave us stewardship of the Earth, so farming in a way that cares for the whole environment and its future |

**10 to look after your farm** so it is there for **future generations**;  
**to look after the soil** so it retains moisture and nutrients to grow **better crops**;  
**to retain organic matter** (like straw) to stop **soil** blowing away



Definitions from St Joseph's PS Senior Class farmer interviews. 23/4/2012

\* Sustainability and our Farmland Environment'  
is the 2012 Lower Wimmera Environmental Education Project (a Wimmera HUB DEECD Strategic Partnership Project)  
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This 2012 project contributes to the Australian Year of the Farmer, the National Year of Reading and the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity.

Training provided by



Jeanie Clark, SPP environmental educator.



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**How to reference this page for the Science Talent Search competition –**

*Copy this first part*

*“What does sustainable farming mean?” by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts\_sustainablefarming.pdf at <http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html> and then add the date and time that you looked at this webpage.*