Grainshed Indicators to Consider

Geography and Scale

- Geographic borders (physical distance)
- Political boundaries
- Distance from farm-to-processor
- Distance from processor-to-end-user

Supply Chain Structure

- Diversity of actors (farmers, processors, manufacturers, distributors, retailers)
- Number of intermediaries
- Production volumes
- Product/end-use diversity

Infrastructure and Capacity

- Number and distribution of processors per region
- Capacity utilization (over, under, at)
- Storage and aggregation facilities (number and locations/distribution)
- Transportation infrastructure (Yes/No, type, cost, regularity)

Economic Viability

- Profitability (e.g., net income, ROI, asking farmers if they are profitable in a survey)
- Product quality (e.g., number of rejected loads, quality discounts etc.)
- Price stability and predictability
- Local economic benefits – value creation and retention (e.g., number of jobs created)

Sustainability and Equity

- Environmental sustainability (e.g., # of acres in organic, no till, cover etc.)
- Producer characteristics (e.g., # of female, BIPOC farmers etc.)

Resilience and Relationships

- Supply reliability (e.g., how reliable are your suppliers? Very reliable, not reliable)
- Trust and collaboration
- Market diversity
- Technical assistance
- Workforce succession
- Business longevity