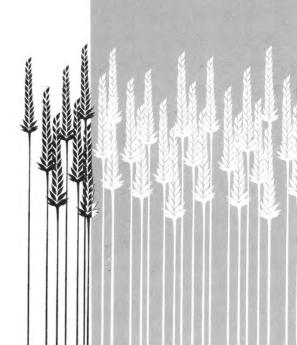


# ADDENDUM AND QUICK START GUIDE

Windows Version





## System Information

### Hardware Required

#### Software Required

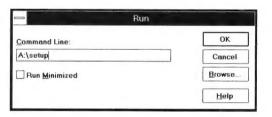
## Installing SimFarm

IBM 386 and above and 100% compatibles 2 MB RAM (4 MB RAM recommended) Hard drive with at least 6 MB free disk space VGA graphics card with Windows 3.1 drivers Microsoft-compatible mouse required

Windows 3.1 or above (MS- or PC-DOS 5.0 or higher recommended)

SimFarm must be installed to a hard drive. It will take up about 6 MB of disk space, and each saved game will occupy about 150K. To install SimFarm:

- 1. Boot your computer and start Windows.
- 2. Insert SimFarm Disk 1, the Setup disk, into your A: or B: floppy drive.
- Open the File menu in Windows Program Manager and select Run....
- 4. In the Command Line box, type **A:\Setup** or **B:\Setup**, depending on where you put the disk, and click on the **OK** button.



5. The Setup program will initialize. Click on the **Continue** button and follow the directions as they appear on the screen. You will be given the opportunity to register your copy of the game with your name, by typing it into the provided box. If you later forget who you are, you can remind yourself by choosing About SimFarm for Windows from the Help menu, where you can see your name in lights.

- 6. The installer will then offer you some initial drive/directory setup defaults and the opportunity to change them. There is a Help button for the faint of heart.
- 7. Once the path is established, click on **Continue**; you will see a progress bar displaying the names of the files being installed and the running percentage of their installation. Change disks when you're prompted and click **OK**. You can abort the installation at any time by clicking on the **Cancel** button. If you already have a Maxis program group in your Program Manager, the SimFarm icon will be placed in it; otherwise a Maxis program group will be created for your gaming pleasure.

While SimFarm is installing is a wonderful time to fill out the registration card. As a registered user, you'll have access to free technical support, and receive information on upgrades.

- Double-click on the SimFarm icon.
- Maxine the Cow will welcome you to SimFarm. When you tire
  of her milky good cheer, click anywhere on the screen or
  press any key and you will see the Select A Region window.
  Grab your hat and the manual's Tutorial and you'll be taking
  a hayride through your farm property in moments.

Starting SimFarm (with Windows running)



## Special SimFarm for Windows Features and Changes

#### **Menu Changes**

Here are all the little Windows version features and changes that aren't covered in the manual

#### **FILE MENU**

About SimFarm for Windows has been moved to the Help menu.

#### **OPTIONS MENU**

**Minimize Pause** has been added. If this option is selected the game will always and automatically be paused while SimFarm is minimized to an icon, and will stay paused until the SimFarm window is restored.

AutoScroll has been removed.

#### WINDOWS MENU

The **Farm Expert** has been moved to the Help menu.

#### VIEW MENU

The new View menu has been added to give you the option of toggling the Control bar, Status bar and/or Message bar on or off, so you can see more farm and less controls on your screen.

The View menu also allows you to switch back and forth between active windows using either the keyboard or the mouse. Open windows can be seen under the View menu in the order in which they were opened. The active window will have a checkmark next to its name.

#### **HELP MENU**

The Help menu lets you access the Windows Help system to get on-screen documentation about features and procedures of SimFarm. Select **Help Index** to see a list of program topics that can be selected to access their respective information. You can also

do help searches and move back and forth between topics using the Windows Help commands.

The Farm Expert is also now available from the Help menu.

**About SimFarm for Windows** is now in the Help menu.

The Toolbar no longer contains the words "Plant" and "Spray" on the Plant and Spray buttons; there are now icons on the Plant and Spray buttons.

The button with the question mark that provided a pop-up help box naming all of the Toolbar's functions has been removed. Clicking and holding on a Toolbar button will display that button's function in the Status Bar.

The "History" arrow that let you read the most recent game messages has also been removed.

On-line help for SimFarm is available in a number of ways:

- Select Help Index from the Help menu.
- Press the F1 key.
- Press Alt-F1 to open the help system to the section explaining the currently active SimFarm window.
- Click on the question mark buttons in the Map window and Bank window to open the help system to the section explaining these windows.

If there is any late-breaking information that we couldn't put into the manual or this addendum, it will be found in a file in the SimFarm directory on your hard disk. It is called README. WRI and can be read by double-clicking on its README icon in the Maxis Program Group, or by first running Write, then opening README. WRI.

### **Toolbar Changes**

#### **Control Bar Change**

#### On-Line Help

## The README File



## **Troubleshooting** and Technical **Support**

SimFarm for Windows is a sophisticated program that pushes your computer to its limits and makes the most of your computer's sound and video capabilities. Any time you push the envelope of technology, there are bound to be a few glitches. If you have problems running SimFarm for Windows, don't panic and don't despair—think of yourself as a technology pioneer, and look through these troubleshooting suggestions. You'll be up and running before you know it. And if these suggestions don't get your farm growing, the wonderful Maxis Technical Support staff will be there to help you.

#### First Things First

If you have a problem—or even before you have a problem make sure that your computer meets all the hardware and software requirements as spelled out on the box and at the beginning of this addendum.

#### Memory—The Common Culprit

If SimFarm (or any Windows application) won't run, the first usual suspect to round up is a lack of memory (your computer's memory, not yours). There are a few ways to deal with memory shortages:

- Quit all Windows applications except Program Manager, then try to run SimFarm. (This will also eliminate any rare but possible conflicts between different applications.)
- Make sure you are running Windows in 386 Enhanced mode, with virtual memory turned on. This lets your computer use some of your hard drive memory to temporarily store information that would normally be kept in RAM memory.

WARNING: Using virtual memory while using disk compression (Double Space, Stacker, Super Store, etc.) is very tricky. We don't recommend it!

Please consult your Windows manual and refer to the section on Memory for complete details—but here is a brief summary of how to set up Virtual Memory:

- 1. Open the Main program group in the Program Manager.
- 2. Double-click on the Control Panel icon to open the Control Panel window.
- 3. Double-click on the 386 Enhanced icon (it looks like a computer chip).\*
- 4. Click on the Virtual Memory button located on the right side of the Enhanced dialog box.
- 5. This will open the virtual memory dialog box, from which you can view and change the current virtual memory settings. Click on the Help button and read it all (or look in your Windows manual) before you change your virtual memory. This is serious stuff.
  - \* If there is no 386 Enhanced icon present in your Control Panel window, you are not running Windows in 386 Enhanced mode. We recommend running in 386 Enhanced mode when using this software. You can force Windows to run in 386 Enhanced mode by typing WIN /3 [ENTER] to start Windows. Of course, your computer must be a 386 or higher to do this.

If you have a sound card but don't get sound, your sound card may not be installed correctly for Windows. To test it, open up the Accessories group located in the Program Manager, and double-click on the Media Player icon. Next, open the File menu, select Open..., and load in the file called Canyon.mid. Click on the play arrow. If you don't hear music, then your sound card isn't installed properly. Please consult the documentation that came with your sound card or contact the manufacturer for assistance.

No Sound?



#### System Lock-ups and General Protection Fault (GPF) Messages

If your system locks up, or you get General Protection Fault (GPF) messages, then chances are your computer has an old version of a sound card or video card driver. Drivers are like little interpreters that tell Windows how to communicate with and control sound, video and other cards. As the cards, Windows and programs are updated and improved, the drivers have to be updated and improved, too. Often new drivers are developed to fix problems in the old ones. Updating to the most current version of the driver ensures that you have the most bug-free driver available. Using old driver versions can cause problems. Here's how to deal with drivers:

SOUND CARD DRIVERS—If you have a sound card and you experience lock-ups or General Protection Faults (GPFs), your sound card drivers may require updating. Below are some steps that you can take to determine if your sound card drivers need to be updated to the latest version.

- Read ALL OF THE DIRECTIONS BELOW before you make ANY changes to your system.
- 2. Open the Main program group in the Program Manager.
- 3. Double-click on the Control Panel icon. (This will open the Control Panel window.)
- 4. Double-click on the Drivers icon in the Control Panel window.
- 5. Remove all drivers that make reference to Midi and Wave.

NOTE: Different sound cards have different names for their sound drivers, however, most make reference to Wave or Midi.

- 6. After your sound card drivers have been removed, exit and restart Windows, then try running SimFarm for Windows again.
- If SimFarm runs without any problems (except for the lack of sound), then the sound card driver was the culprit, and you will need to obtain the latest version of your sound

- card driver from its manufacturer. Please consult the documentation that came with your sound card or your local computer store for information on getting new drivers.
- 8. If SimFarm still locks up or has GPFs, please refer to the VIDEO CARD DRIVERS section of this addendum below.
- 9. To re-install the old sound card drivers, consult the documentation that came with your sound card.

VIDEO CARD DRIVERS—If SimFarm locks up or causes General Protection Faults (GPFs), and you have already removed your sound card drivers as explained above, the problem may be with your video card driver. The best way to test this is to switch from your current driver to the generic VGA driver that comes with Windows. Here's how:

- Read ALL OF THE DIRECTIONS BELOW before you make ANY changes to your system.
- 2. Open the Main group in the Program Manager.
- 3. Double-click on the Windows Setup icon.
- 4. Open the Options menu and select Change System Settings....
- 5. This will open a window with various system settings that can be changed.

IMPORTANT!! Write down your current Windows Setup display information BEFORE you change it, so you can easily change it back later.

- 6. Click the down arrow on the Display option and select VGA from the list of available display options.
- 7. Now click on the OK button, which will bring up an option to Restart Windows.
- 8. Click on the Restart Windows button to make the changes take effect.
- 9. Now try to run SimFarm again. If it runs with no problems,



then the problem was your old video driver, and you can either stay with the generic VGA driver, or update your card's driver to the latest version. Please consult the documentation that came with your video card or your local computer dealer for information on obtaining the latest video drivers.

- 10. If the problem persists, and you've tried everything else in this troubleshooting section, it's time to contact Maxis Technical Support.
- 11. To reset your display to the original setting, simply follow steps 1 through 5 and on step number 6, select the display resolution type you were originally using. (Aren't you glad you remembered to write it down before?)

#### Contacting Maxis Technical Support

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Please be sure that you have read the troubleshooting section of this addendum and the README file before calling Technical Support. These tips will solve 99% of all problems. If you still need help, please read the following steps before you call:

- Make sure that your computer system meets or exceeds the requirements defined on the system label and at the beginning of this addendum. The system label is located on the front of the box in the lower-left corner.
- IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, PLEASE BE AT YOUR COMPUTER WHEN YOU CALL. Our techs will be able to solve problems much more quickly if you are at your computer.
- Have your computer on when you call, with your manual and product disks available.
- 4. Have a printout of your WIN.INI and SYSTEM.INI files as well as your CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT files. You can easily print all of these files by typing **MSD** [ENTER] at the C:\ prompt. This will run the Microsoft Diagnostics program, which will allow you to print out a report of your system.
- Write down all of the steps you have already taken to try to solve the problem, along with any error messages your computer has given you.

6. Please try to be nice to the Technical Support staff. They're a fine bunch of hard-working, dedicated computer geeks ... er, nerds ... er, people. They didn't write the program or the manual, so any problems you have aren't really *their* fault. But they will do their best to help you in every way they can to get your games going. Yelling, screaming, swearing, death threats and bomb threats may result in a lower quality of technical support.

Complete instructions for contacting Maxis Technical Support can be found on the Maxis Maxims card that came in your SimFarm box. There are a number of different options that you can use to contact Technical Support. Besides telephone and FAX, we are present on all of the major on-line services. We also maintain a BBS that is free-of-charge to all registered users of Maxis products. The BBS number is (510) 254-3869 and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The maximum baud rate is 14.4k bps and the settings are 8-N-1.

MAKE SURE YOU SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION CARD!



## **Keyboard Chart**

#### File Menu

New Game Ctrl - N
Load Game... Ctrl - L
Save Game... Ctrl - S
Save As... Ctrl - A
Load Crop... Ctrl - C

#### **Options Menu**

Music Ctrl - M Sound Ctrl - O

#### Speed Menu

Ultra Ctrl - 4
Fast Ctrl - 3
Normal Ctrl - 2
Slow Ctrl - 1
Pause Ctrl - 0

#### **Accessing Help**

Help Contents F1 Help for the active window Alt - F1