### Table 2. Domains through which power may be experienced as a woman farmer/landowner in the US (adapted from Collins 1990)

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| **Domain** | **Description** | **Example power disparity** |
| **Structural domain** | Laws and policies that distribute power in inequitable ways | The US Government distributed land with a gender (and racial) bias under patrilineal inheritance, thus privileging male white settlers24. Subsequent laws granted limited rights to white women married to white men25, yet through the mid-20th century numerous laws prevented women from independently owning and operating farms and accessing credit24. As recently as 1974 women were not permitted to apply for a credit card without a male co-applicant26. Laws such as these also shaped hegemonic and interpersonal inequities in power that continue today27. |
| **Disciplinary domain** | Entities that implement and enforce (or fail to implement and enforce) laws and policies distributing power | The USDA has discriminated based on gender when granting credit28. Effects of such discrimination (e.g., wealth accumulation, type of agricultural production) continue; after controlling for farm size and type, farming still has one of the largest (40%) gender-wage gaps of US professions29 |
| **Hegemonic domain** | Entities that circulate ideas related to who has power | Until 2017, USDA NASS census collection formats allowed for only one farm operator. This excluded many women from identifying as farm operators30. Forcing a farm to identify a single operator also reinforced patriarchal stereotypes about exclusive and unilateral (rather than joint) decision-making power31. A study completed in 2024 found that online image searches in the US for ‘farmer’ preferentially return images of men at a rate disproportionally higher than expected even using the pre-2017 census values32, meaning women farmers, even by conservative estimates, are under-represented in visual media. Additionally, women landowners are ‘not on the radar’ of agricultural professionals who distribute funds and technical assistance33 which limits their access to needed resources34. Even future agricultural professionals undervalue the experiences and knowledge of women landowners35. |
| **Interpersonal domain** | Individual experiences, expression, and awareness of who has power | Women farmers and landowners are rendered invisible by male-centric material in popular media36 and by the abundant use of male pronouns used in agricultural settings when referring to a generic farmer37. Women are not perceived as having decision-making authority and experience gender-based discrimination from tenants, neighbors, lenders, and service providers preventing them from equitable access to agricultural programs, information, and networks34,38,39 |
| USDA - United States Department of Agriculture; NASS - National Agricultural Statistics Service, an agency responsible for collecting and reporting information related to agricultural production within the USDA | | |