

Farm Beginnings® is an educational training and support program designed to help people who want to evaluate and plan their farm enterprise. Farm Beginnings® participants engage in a mentorship experience and network with a variety of successful, innovative farmers; attend practical, high quality seminars, field days and conferences.

One participant said,
"It has had a tremendous impact on our operation and we have developed a holistic goal for our farm/life and are excited about where we are headed."

A member of the class that is starting a new venture said,
"This program helped me organize my activities and efforts, helping me to understand what the important tasks were."

Another member of the class said,
"This program had a huge impact. I have improved my business plan, my overall efficiency and continue to try new ideas I thought to not be possible."

And finally,
"I found it to be an excellent way for someone such as myself, with no farm background, to understand the planning, scheduling, budgeting and marketing aspects of farming. . . . For anyone who has a desire to improve the quality of their lives while at the same time improving the quality of the land around them, I would strongly encourage them to take the Farm Beginnings® class. They will be glad they did."

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Nemaha County Extension Office
Courthouse
1824 N St Suite 102
Auburn NE 68305



Farm Beginnings® 2019



Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office
8015 W Center Rd
Omaha NE 68124



Farm Beginnings® Agenda

January 19, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – John Porter & Gary Lesoing

- Introduction to the Class, Getting to Know the Participants, Real Colors Personality Test

January 26, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – John Porter & Gary Lesoing

- TBA

February 2, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Ralph Tate

- Holistic Management – Introduction & Decision Making Framework I

February 8-9, 2019 – NE Sustainable Ag Society Healthy Farms Conference – Grand Island, NE

February 16, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Ralph Tate

- Holistic Management – Decision Making Framework II

February 23, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Ruth Chantry, Common Good Farms

- Whole Farm Planning – Deciding on Crops (what to grow, where to sell, how much to charge, how much to grow, farming organically, why?)

March 2, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm

- Beginning Farmer Programs – Karla Bahm, NE Department of Ag
- Farm Loan Programs, NAP Crop Insurance, FSA Loans & Microloans – Jay Schroder, Farm Service Agency

March 9, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Travis Dunekacke, TD Niche Pork & Paul Rohrbaugh, Pawnee Pride Meats

- Deciding what to sell, how much, how to market, developing relationships with customers, realizing your unfair advantage

March 16, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Connie Fisk – Cornell University

- Produce Safety and Farm Food Safety Plan (GAPs and Produce Safety Rule)

March 23, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Ralph Tate

- Financial Management

March 30, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm

- Organic Crops & Direct Market Poultry & Beef, Using Spreadsheets, Managing Cash Flow – Dave Welsch, West Blue Farm
- Enterprise Budgets for Entrepreneurs (developing budgets for different enterprises) – Rex Nelson, Nebraska Extension Educator

April 6, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Amy Swoboda

- Legal Aid of Nebraska, Farm Leases & Legal Matters

April 13, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Sam Wortmann – UNL Horticulture Department

- Organic production of vegetable crops, weed control and strategies and use of cover crops in vegetable production

April 20, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Farm Beginnings® Graduates

- What We Have Learned

April 27, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Farm Beginnings® Students Presentations

- Presentations of Farm & Business Plans by Farm Beginnings® participants

May 4, 2019 – 9:00 am–1:00 pm – Tour of Urban Farms

Course fee - \$500

(Flexible Payment Plan & Scholarships available)

If you would like an application for **Farm Beginnings®**, please contact:

Gary Lesoing

Nemaha County Extension Office

402-274-4755 or

glesoing2@unl.edu

A **\$50 deposit** is required to reserve your spot. Deadline to register is January 16, 2019.

To register go to:

<https://www.regonline.com/farmbeginnings>

Classes will be held at the

Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office

8015 W Center Rd

Omaha NE 68124

