

**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."*

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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® 2018



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



# Farm Beginnings® Agenda

## January 6, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Building Networks, Value Clarification & Goal Setting

- Holistic Management - Ralph Tate

## January 20, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Whole Farm Planning

- Complete session on Holistic Management – Ralph Tate

## January 27, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Building Your Business Plan

- Farm Planning and Marketing - Paul Rohrbaugh, Natural Grass-fed Beef, Pasture Poultry and Egg Producer
- Travis Dunekacke – Niche Pork Producer and Marketer

## February 3, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Marketing and Farm Planning & Farm Leases

- CSA Organic Vegetable Farm - Everett Lundquist & Ruth Chantry (Common Good Farms)

## February 9-10, 2018 - Healthy Farms Conference – Lincoln, NE

## February 24, 2018 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Farming in Small Spaces

- Urban farming or space is limiting – John Porter – Extension Educator, UNL
- Farm Leases & other legal matters – Amy Swoboda – Legal Aid of Nebraska

## March 3, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Financial Management

- Ralph Tate

## March 17, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Farm Loan Opportunities and Crop Insurance

- Farm Loan Programs & Resources for Beginning Farmers – Karla Bahm from NE Department of Ag; NAP Crop Insurance, FSA Loans & Microloans, USDA Farm Service Agency Representatives - Wes Finkner or Gina Essink

## March 24, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Marketing and Finances

- Organic Crops and Direct Market Poultry and Beef – Dave & Deb Welsch, West Blue Farms and
- Enterprise Budgets for Entrepreneurs - Rex Nelson, Extension Educator-UNL

## April 7, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Food Safety & Farmer's Responsibility, Farming on an Acreage & SARE Resources

- Connie Fisk, Northwest Regional Extension Associate
- Gary Lesoing, Extension Educator Nemaha County & SARE State Coordinator

## April 21, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – What Have We Learned?

- Farm Beginnings® Graduate Presentations

## April 28, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Presentations of Farm and Business Plans by Farm Beginnings® Participants

### 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](mailto:glesoing2@unl.edu)

A **\$50 deposit** is required to reserve your spot and must be returned with the application. Due January 3, 2018.

Classes will be held at the

### Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office

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