



Growing the Next Generation of Farmers

Please complete the following assessment to assist you in determine the appropriate place t plug into regional training opportunities.

**If you answer YES to 2 or more of the questions in each step, proceed to the next step...

**If you answer NO to two or more of these questions, consider participating in the suggested opportunity...

| Step 1: Emerging Farmer | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|
| I have attended more than one conference or workshop dealing with sustainable agriculture or homesteading. | | |
| I have visited a working farm or homestead in the last two years | | |
| I have participated in a work related activity on a farm in the last two years. | | |



Farm Learning Opportunities & Farm Dreams
 Field days/Skill Sessions/Farm Tour
 Conferences/Workshops
 Practice growing where you live.
Attend OGS Spring & Harvest Conferences, seasonal Cooperative Extension Workshops; Sign up for Farm Dreams



| Step 2: In-Training Farmer | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| I have explored several different possible farming enterprises | | |
| I have apprenticed/worked one or more farms. | | |
| I have explored the idea and components of operating my own farm. | | |
| I feel I am ready for an intense, long-term farm enterprise planning course | | |



ON-FARM TRAINING ACTIVITIES
 Work Exchanges/Internships/Farm Employment
 Field days/Skill Sessions/Farm Tour;
 Conferences/Workshops
Find on-farm work with OGS's Apprentice Link, Join the CRAFT Farmer Network



| Step 3: Start-up Farmer | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|
| I have explored how to make farming a career or a way to generate supplemental income. | | |
| I understand the planning process that goes into starting a farm business. | | |
| I have created a detailed plan for my future farming enterprise. | | |
| I am well connected to the established sustainable agriculture community. | | |



FARM BEGINNINGS®
 Year-long training program/Whole Farm & enterprise planning/ Connection to a farmer network/Growing season learning plan/On-Farm Field days & workshops
Apply for Farm Beginnings



| Step 4: Seasoned Farmer | YES |
|--|-----|
| I have completed the Farm Beginnings Program | |
| I am interested in further support to make my farm business more successful. | |
| I have identified several areas in my business that could use additional support | |
| I am well connected to the established sustainable agriculture community. | |



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
 Individualized syllabus/Production, marketing and financing assistance/Address land access/Equity building opportunities/Mentorship with an experienced farmer
Contact Cooperative Extension for one-on-one consultation, Connect with the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy & WNC FarmLink for land access support



Growing the Next Generation of Farmers

From Seed to Success

Step 1: EMERGING - Farm Learning Opportunities & Farm Dreams

Field days/Skill Sessions/Farm Tour
Conferences/Workshops
Practice growing where you live.



EMERGING

- Have you attended any conferences or workshops dealing with sustainable farming or homesteading?
- Have you visited a working farm?
- Have you participated in any work related activities on a farm?
- Are you interested in exploring the possibilities of farming?

Step 2: IN-TRAINING - On-farm Training Activities

Work Exchanges/Internships/Farm Employment
Field days/Skill Sessions/Farm Tours
Conferences/Workshops



IN-TRAINING

- Have you taken Farm Dreams?
- Are you looking for the next step in exploring the idea of operating your own farm?
- Have had significant on-farm work experience on one or more farms?
- Are you not sure if you're ready to take Farm Beginnings?

Step 3: START-UP - Farm Beginnings

Year-long training program
Whole Farm & enterprise planning
Connection to a farmer network
Growing season learning plan
On-Farm Field days & workshops

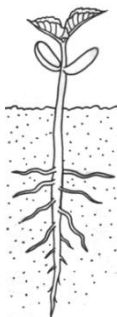


START-UP

- Are you considering a farming as a career or significant portion of your livelihood?
- Would you like to further explore the planning process that goes into starting a farm business?
- Are you ready to create a holistic farm plan?
- Would you like to be better connected to the sustainable agriculture community?

Step 4: SEASONED - Technical Assistance

Individualized syllabus
Production, marketing and financing assistance
Address land access/Equity building opportunities
Mentorship with an experienced farmer



SEASONED

- Have you completed the Farm Beginnings program?
- Are you interested in further support to make your farm business more successful?
- Have you identified several areas in your business that could use additional support?