Beginning / Emerging / Immigrant / Young Farmer Resources

Suggested reading:

- **Start Your Farm**: The Authoritative Guide to Becoming a Sustainable 21st Century Farmer, by Forrest Pritchard, Ellen Polishuk - theexperimentpublishing.com/catalogs/fall-2018/start-your-farm


- **Building a Sustainable Business**, MM Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (MISA) - www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books/Building-a-Sustainable-Business

- **The Market Gardener**, By Jean Martin Fortier - https://newsociety.com/books/m/the-market-gardener


- **The Urban Farmer**, By Curtis Stone - https://newsociety.com/books/u/the-urban-farmer

- **Fearless Farm Finances**, by Jody Padgham, Paul Dietmann, Craig Chase. Published by MOSES. https://mosesorganic.org/fearless-farm-finances

- **Farming While Black** - Soul Fire Farm’s Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land, by Leah Penniman - www.soulfirefarm.org/media/farming-while-black

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Educational, Financial and Land Access Assistance

**Big River Farms** - bigriverfarms.thefoodgroupmn.org

Big River Farms offers education in organic agriculture for aspiring farmers who have historically been underrepresented in farm ownership -- immigrants, people of color, and refugees. We provide mentorship and guidance in managing 1/8 to 6-acre plots of certified organic land at Big River Farms, our 150-acre incubator farm near Marine on St. Croix, MN.

**U of MN Arboretum – Farm at the Arb Sustainable Horticulture Training Program**

arb.umn.edu/content/farm-arb

This program is a hands-on technical training in local food production for sale and community health. It is offered in collaboration with the U of M Dept. of Horticultural Science and Extension. Trainees receive classroom, lab and field experience at the MN Landscape Arboretum and working farm sites, including a 14-week paid work experience in vegetable production at the Arboretum and local farms.

**Land Stewardship Project Farm Beginnings Program** - landstewardshipproject.org/morefarmers/farm

Farm Beginnings provides wide range of trainings, including Farm Dreams, Farm Beginnings, and the Journeyperson Course. We are working to improve land access for family farmers through organizing to reform key policies. LSP has developed a Farm Transition Toolkit and a clearinghouse that connects landowners and land seekers.

**University of Minnesota Extension** - extension.umn.edu

We bring Minnesotans together to build a better future through science-based knowledge, expertise and training. U of MN Extension works in rural, suburban, urban and tribal communities and beyond. Making a difference by connecting community needs and University resources to address critical issues in Minnesota.

**Commercial Fruit & Vegetable** - extension.umn.edu/commercial-fruit-and-vegetable-growers

Managing a Farm - extension.umn.edu/managing-farm

**Small Farm Start Up School** - Pine County UMN Extension: Contact Rod Greder; gred0014@umn.edu

**The Sustainable Farming Association of MN** - www.sfa-mn.org

The Sustainable Farming Association advances environmental stewardship, economic resilience and strong, diverse communities through farmer-to-farmer networking, education, demonstration and research.
Most young and beginning farmers don’t have a long financial track record. Starter Loans can be used for equipment, operating, land or many other purposes. We offer relaxed underwriting standards and reduced loan fee schedules, discounts up to 85%.

Contact: Sai.Thao@Compeer.com

USDA Farm Service Agency Loan Programs
www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs

Microloan Programs: Minority, Women and Beginning Farmer and Rancher Loans, Native American Tribal Loans.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that helps farmers promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, farmers receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices and systems that enhance environmental benefits on farmlands.

National Young Farmers Coalition - www.youngfarmers.org

The National Young Farmers Coalition is a national advocacy network of young farmers fighting for the future of agriculture. We change policy, build networks, and provide business services to ensure all young farmers have the chance to succeed.

Farm Commons - farmcommons.org

Farmers should be empowered to take action on the legal situations that affect their operations. Our educational resources help farmers identify issues, break them down into manageable steps, and give farmers the confidence to move forward.

Finding Farmland

MDA’s Farmlink - www2.mda.state.mn.us/webapp/props4sale

The Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture Farm Link is a list of MN farm properties that are for sale, rent and/or farmers interested in providing opportunities to a beginning farmer. This is not a complete list of all properties available in MN. It is a tool to assist prospective farmers find properties or opportunities to farm.

Information posted on this website is only as accurate as the information provided by the parties involved. We encourage direct contact with the seller, renter, or realtor.

Renewing the Countryside Farmland Access Hub - www.renewingthecountryside.org/farmlandaccess

The Farmland Access Hub is a consortium of partners dedicated to assisting beginning farmers with their quest for land tenure. Finding quality, affordable land is challenging. Our Farmland Access Navigators are trained to guide beginning farmers through the process of finding property and securing land tenure. They provide assistance to farmers in IA, MN, and WI.

Farmland Access Navigators - www.renewingthecountryside.org/farmlandaccessnavigators

Land Stewardship Project Seeking Farmers-Seeking Land Clearinghouse
https://landstewardshipproject.org/morefarmers/seekingfarmersseekinglandclearinghouse

Are you looking to rent or purchase farmland? Are seeking a beginning farmer to purchase or rent your land, or to work with in a partnership situation? The Land Stewardship Project’s Farm Beginnings program has simple application forms available for people seeking farmland or farmers.

Land for Good - www.landforgood.org - Land For Good work to get more farmers on more land in New England and beyond. Entire communities will benefit from increased farming opportunity, healthy lands and a more secure food supply. We hope our work inspires you. Get in touch!

Toolbox of Great resources - www.landforgood.org/resources/toolbox