



Project Audiences

- All beginning farmers who seek land to farm - or who want to improve their tenure situation - in New England (RI, CT, MA, VT, NH, ME)
 - 46% of New England farmers report operating a farm for less than 10 years (Ag Census 2012)
 - Half are women, and include immigrant and veteran farmers
 - Varied farm types, but a high percentage are diversified and rely heavily on direct-to-consumer sales
 - Stage of farming: start-up to less than 10 years



Project Audiences (cont.)

- Transitioning farmers
- Non-farming landowners (private, institutional, public)
- Community leaders
- Policymakers
- Service providers



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Land Access for New England's Beginning Farmers: Phase 2

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Gaining ground for farmers

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Partners/Collaborators

- Partners and management team
 - Kathy Ruhf, Land For Good (LFG), Project Director
 - Jim Hafner, LFG, Evaluation & administration
 - Andrew Marshall, LFG, Educational and state team activities
 - Annette Higby, attorney, Succession & Transfer Task Force
 - Ben Waterman, UVM-Extension, Linking Task Force
 - Bob Wagner, consultant, Innovations Task Force
- 30+ collaborators
- Evaluation consultant



Key Approaches

- Training and events: land access workshops, leasing clinics, farm transfer school, owner-seeker mixers
- Develop educational tools and resources
- Coordinate/promote regional farm link programs
- Technical assistance to BF farm seekers and transitioning farmers (STAT)
- Investigate and share best practices and innovations
- State service provider teams
- National conference



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Overall Target Outcome

By the end of this project, we will have helped:

- Over 2,000 BFs access land or achieve more secure tenure



Outcomes by Goal

1. 1,650 BFs make informed land access decisions; 25% acquire land or more secure agreements.
2. 50 exiting farmers plan for succession; 40% of them plan to transfer to a BF.
3. Linking sites help over 1,400 BFs access land; 10% acquire land or more secure tenure
4. 750 providers deliver better BF land access services; BFs use best practices to acquire land or improve tenure.
5. At least 400 trained and supported to access land through more effective service provider networks. At least 500 professionals in New England and nationally deliver services to enable BFs to access land.



What can we share?

- Knowledge about land access issues and approaches
- Resources about land access and transfer
- Insights into how land access relates to other beginning farmer challenges and programs



What do we hope to learn?

- How others address land access for BFRs
- Farm succession approaches and expertise
- Land access issues for particular populations
- State and regional variation in land tenure, access, and transfer issues



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Keep in touch!



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