



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

Cultivating Success: A Comprehensive Beginning Farmer Training and Mentorship Program for Idaho

Iris Mayes

University of Idaho Extension

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development
Program Award No. 2015-70017-04755

Project Audience

- Project access will be located throughout Idaho
- Who: beginning farmers and ranchers and experienced mentor farmers
- Type : small acreage farming such as row crops, small herds, value-added
- Stage of farming: first 10 years matching up with experienced mentor farmers





Partners/Collaborators

- Who are the key people on your team?
 - Colette DePhelps, Rural Roots, project manager for mentor farmers – coordinating seven mentor farmers & other activities
 - Cinda Williams, UI Extension, Co-PI North Idaho
 - Ariel Agenbroad, UI Extension, Co-PI Southern Idaho
 - Other UI Extension faculty throughout Idaho: Co-Pis: Montessa Young, Jennifer Jensen, Lauren Hunter, Rikki Ruiz



Key Approaches

- How are we helping?
 - Development of mentor handbook and online resources: land link, capital networking
 - Interactive live webinars
 - Short courses
 - Mentor networking
 - On-farm classes and mentoring
 - Project evaluation & lessons learned



Overall Target Outcome

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

- Project participants will be involved at various levels. We expect to reach at least 500 Idaho farmers, many women, Native, & Hispanic, or socially disadvantaged (40%) with a broad reach.
- We expect a subset of those farmers to go further into farm education (180), planning (160), skill improvement (100), & new land leases (10) for example
- Each objective has similar target numbers



What will you have to share?

- Farmer-mentor handbook
- Online resources
 - Beginning farmer/rancher decision tree
 - Networking information
 - Webinars
 - Farm planning resources
- Project evaluation methods



What do you hope to learn from other projects?

- Innovative programs
- How to achieve inclusivity
- State-of the art in sustainable ag education
- Innovative evaluation methods
- Innovative online delivery or methods



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

Keep in touch!



Iris Mayes: imayes@uidaho.edu
<http://www.cultivatingSUCCESS.org/>
<http://www.uidaho.edu/extension>