



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

JOURNEYMAN FARMER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

A large, stylized green letter 'J' that serves as the first letter of the word 'Journeyman'. A small green leaf is attached to the middle of the vertical stem of the 'J'.

Julia Gaskin

University of Georgia

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development
Program Award No 2015-70017-22861



Project Audience

- Who are you aiming to help?
 - Where are they: Georgia
 - Who are they: New farmers and limited resource farmers
 - Type: Small fruit & vegetable production or small ruminants production
 - Stage of farming: Beginning farmers for small farm business planning; Start-up and exploring for certificate program



Partners/Collaborators

- Who are the key people on your team?

Lead Institutions

- Julia Gaskin, Sustainable Ag Coordinator , **UGA**
- Tenisio Seanima, Farm Services Coordinator, **GA Organics**
- Dr. Niki Whitley, Small Ruminant Extension, **Fort Valley State University**

Small Business Planning Training

- Ellen Bauske, Center for Urban Ag, **UGA**
- Van McCall, AgAWARE, **Ag South Farm Credit**
- Matthew Kulinski, Georgia Grown Program Manager, **GA Department of Ag**
- Laura Katz –Small Business Development Center Area Director, **UGA**



Partners/Collaborators

- Who are the key people on your team?

Small Fruit and Vegetable Production Training:

- David Berle, Horticulture Department Professor, **UGA**
- George Boyhan, Athens Extension Vegetable Specialist, **UGA**
- Tim Coolong, Tifton Vegetable Specialist, **UGA**
- Tenisio Seanima, Farm Services Coordinator, **GA Organics**
- Beth Oleson, **Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Assoc.**

Small Ruminant Production Training:

- Niki Whitley, Extension Animal Science Specialist, **FVSU**
- Tom Terrill, Animal Science Professor, **FVSU**
- Bob Waldorf, Banks County Extension, **UGA**
- Forrest Connelly, Stephens County Extension, **UGA**



Partners/Collaborators

- Who are the key people on your team?

County agents volunteering to coordinate and run the program with local experts.

NE GA - Monte Stephens, Adam Speir, Amanda Tedrow, Stephen Patrick, Amber Arrington



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Key Approach

- How are you helping?
 - Comprehensive training to teach business, production and hands-on skills
- Trainings/Hands-on Program
 - Small Farm Business Planning: Fall 2015. Habersham and Oconee Counties thru Ag Credit and SBDC
 - Small Fruit and Vegetable Production: Winter 2016. Habersham County
 - Small Ruminant Production: Winter 2016. Oconee County
 - Graduates enroll in hands-on program as interns, mentees or limited incubator farm situations



JOURNEYMAN FARMER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

UGA Extension is launching the *Journeyman Farmer* program that provides a comprehensive training for beginning farmers. The program includes a three step training:

Step 1 - Small Farm Business Planning
Step 2 - Small Fruit & Vegetable Production or Small Ruminants Production
Step 3 - Hands-on Production

Sign Up Now for the 1st Step - **Small Farm Business Planning!**
Spaces are limited.

Journeyman Farmer Certificate Schedule:	WHEN:
Small Farm Business Planning: Fall 2015. Habersham and Oconee Counties	Three-night training. Thurs. Oct. 22, 6:30 – 8:30 PM Thurs. Oct. 29, 6:30 – 8:30 PM Thurs. Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Small Fruit and Vegetable Production: Winter 2016. Habersham County	WHERE: Oconee County Extension Office 1420 Experiment Station Road Watkinsville, GA 30677
Small Ruminant Production: Winter 2016. Oconee County	
More Information at: www.SustainAgGA.org	

TO REGISTER: Contact Oconee County Extension Office at (706) 769-3946.

Supported by:   

Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program
Developing the Next Generation of Sustainable Farmers in Georgia
In partnership with:

    



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Key Approach

- Facilitated webinars led by county agents and local farmers/experts
- Forms farmer networks and connections for further technical assistance
- Recognition for completing program





Overall Target Outcome

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

- 35 people (including 30% socially disadvantaged) start a farm
- 350 early-stage farmers improve their operations by adopting better business practices
- 3 new trainings for beginning farmers
- 11 agents trained to deliver courses
- 7 farmer support networks formed



What do you have to share?

- Ag Credit and SBDC for local business expertise
- Leverage resources like the Master Goat Training
- Form a comprehensive training program



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What do you hope to learn from other projects?

- Good ideas for implementation



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Keep in touch!

Julia W. Gaskin

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