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
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
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
What do you hope to learn from other projects?

- Good ideas for implementation
Keep in touch!

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