Supporting Pennsylvania New Farmers in the Start-up, Re-strategizing and Establishing Years
Models for the Future on Farm Demonstrations

Models for the Future will provide on-farm demonstration sites illustrating best management practices and create learning centers for new farmer networks.

Study Circle Networks

For farmers establishing their businesses who want to learn from each other and discuss challenges with invited experts.

New Commercial Fruit Grower School

This ten week program provides a foundation on which to build a commercial tree fruit business.

New Women in Ag Study Circles

A comfortable environment for peer to peer learning.

VIDEOS AND CASE STUDIES
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Target Outcomes

After three years

- 193 of 215 (89%) of study circle participants will have increased knowledge.
- 172 of 215 (80%) will HAVE adopted new practices based on discussions and models.
- 30 participants will have started farming and 175 continued farming.
- 120 will have adopted practices that improve profitability or productivity.
- 172 (80%) will have adopted practices that improve environmental sustainability.
- 100 (50%) will have adopted practices that increase personal/social well being.
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Audience

Refining • Years 7-10

Establishing • Years 3-7

Start-Up • Years 0-3

- Actively committed to becoming a farmer

Planners

- Investigating farming as a career

Explorers

- Next Generation Young Growers
- Next Generation Latino Producers
- New Women Farmers
- General Audience
Audience

New Women in Ag Study Circle Network
Young, Establishing and Next Generation Farmer Study Circle Network
Start Farming Hub
Bilingual Study Circle Network
COLLABORATORS & PARTNERS

Bozzelli Family Farm

Anton and Lisa Good Work Farm

Corey McCleaf McCleaf Orchard

Larry, Art, and David King Harvest Valley Farm

Brett Sadington Bedminster Orchard

Jake Scholl Scholl Orchard

Arturo Diaz, Michael and Jesse King Twin Springs Fruit Farm

Extension Educators & Specialists
Tianna DuPont
Lee Stivers
Steve Bogash
Tara Baugher
Patty Neiner
Bob Pollock
John Esslinger

Advisors
Kathy Demchak, Berry Specialist
Beth Gugino, Vegetable Plant Pathologist
Kari Peter, Tree Fruit Pathologist
Greg Krawczyk, Tree Fruit Entomologist
Shelby Fleisher, Vegetable Entomologist

Collaborators
Casa de la Cultura
Young Grower Alliance

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Impact so Far. . .

- **10** model plots were established with seven farmers across the state.
- **52** new farmers attended Study Circles which discussed marketing, production and business (goal 120 per year).
- **52** new women farmers participated in Women in Ag Network Study circles (goal 75).
- **27** new farmers attended the New Commercial Fruit Grower School (goal 30).
- **83** participants (86%) increased knowledge.
- **75** participants (78%) plan to adopt new practices.
Try a Study Circle

- Start with an advisory group of new farmers.
- Have them identify key topics important to them.
- Start each session with an invited speaker.
- Seed the room with other experience.
- Facilitate discussion.
- Share a meal to encourage networking.
Looking to learn. . .

- Creative ways of recruiting/inviting additional participants.
- Discussion/presentation topics you have found to be of interest for the target audiences that we may not have thought of yet.
Keep in Touch

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extension.psu.edu/start-farming

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