ACCESS TO LAND FOR NEW ENGLAND’S BEGINNING FARMERS: PHASE 3

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INTRODUCTION

Land access is a top challenge for beginning farmers (BFs); land transfer is a USDA/BFRDP statutory priority. The long-term goal of this standard project is for more New England BFs to successfully access land to start or expand their farm businesses. The past achievements of our regional approach and strong reliance on collaboration have resulted in many successful outcomes and a strong foundation to move forward. The Land Access Project, Phase 3 (LAP3, 2018-21) will improve and expand services to help BFs access farmland in each New England state, addressing key gaps identified by BFs and service providers.

IMPACT

Over 200 BFs access land or achieve more secure tenure
Outcomes:
- 150 farmers make informed land access decisions
- 100 farmers trained on succession planning
- 200 professionals educated on access & transfer
- 900 farmers educated on succession planning
- 1,600 farmers learn land access strategies
- 5,500 farmers receive educational resources

PARTNERS

Six state partners:

Acquiring Your Farm tutorial will educate and train hundreds of BFs through lessons supported by stories.

FARM LINKING

New England Farm Link Collaborative will make more farm properties available and visible to BFs through the members’ farm link websites.

Nationally...

Farm Link Clinic (2019) will be held for established and emerging farm linking programs across the US. Linking programs generate a lot of interest. Many sprout up, but they struggle to gain traction, sustain activities and deliver expected results. Professionals will learn, share and problem solve to improve programs. To date, 15+ programs have pledged participation.