

With funding from the USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Grant Program, the Center for Rural Affairs, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society are sponsoring six beginning farmer and rancher workshops in Nebraska.

These workshops are focused on the beginning farmer and rancher. Three workshops will focus on the concepts of mob grazing and/or marketing grass-fed beef. In the morning established farmers and ranchers that utilize one or both of these concepts will speak about their operations and answer questions.

Following lunch there will be a session on beginning business planning. During these sessions participants will learn about basic business principles, i.e. net worth, cash flow, income profit and loss statements and how these can be important business tools in a mob grazing and grass-fed beef operation.

There will also be three workshops that focus on the beginning farmer and vegetable/fruit production. At these workshops established produce growers will discuss their operations and the various production and marketing strategies they use on their farms. Similar to the previously mentioned workshops, beginning business planning principles will be discussed and explained as to how they can be used in a vegetable/fruit farm.

All of these workshops are free and include: refreshments, lunch and some resources as part of the workshops.

Pre-registration at least three days before each workshop is required so we can plan accordingly for lunch and handouts. Date, time and location of the workshops are listed below. To register call Gary Lesoing at University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Nemaha County at (402) 274-4755.

An area Beginning Farmer and Rancher Workshop will be April 9, at the Ramada Inn, 301 S. 2nd Ave, Kearney.