



Young Farmers Conference

Reviving the Culture
of Agriculture

December 4 – 6, 2013



STONE BARNS CENTER
FOR FOOD & AGRICULTURE™

WELCOME TO THE 2013 NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS CONFERENCE

December 4-6, 2013

We're thrilled to have a wonderful lineup of speakers and presenters for our 6th annual gathering for beginning farmers. In this brochure, you'll find information about workshops, lodging, the conference schedule, and more.

In the following pages you'll find over 65 workshops covering seven broad topic areas: vegetable cultivation **VEG**, animal husbandry **ANI**, land access **LA**, business **BIZ**, conservation **CONS**, technical skills **TECH**, and resources **RES** (including policy, training, community-building, and more). You'll also find descriptions of Pre-Conferences and a series of one-on-one Consulting Sessions with experts in farm business planning, farm financing, and food law. Note that pre-registration for Pre-Conferences and Consulting Sessions is required.

Choose the workshops and Consulting Sessions that support your farm business or the agricultural enterprise you plan to start in the future.

Workshops are located onsite at Stone Barns Center and offsite at two satellite locations: Historic Hudson Valley **HHV** and the Pocantico Conference Center **PCC**. Shuttles will transport participants to and from the satellite locations and Stone Barns Center.

PRE-CONFERENCES

Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Farming Smarter, Not Harder—Tune Up Your Business and Increase Your Profit

Have an allergic reaction to business? Want to work less and make more money? Wonder where all the money comes and goes? Find out your farm's profit centers—which parts of your farm make the most money and which may actually lose money. Learn efficient farm planning and analysis, efficient farm office management, key financial statements, and financial tips for success. Set aside the day to finally work on these and other important farm business concerns.

This pre-conference will address:

- Planning for Profit: a step-by-step guide to increase your net profit
- Making a profit on your farm: what is making money and what isn't
- Your marketing strategies
- The Efficient Farm Office: humorous skits and demos outline best practices
- Key farm financial statements: what they are, why they are important, and how they relate to each other
- Quick business fixes

You will leave with:

- Several budgets for different farm enterprises
- Market analysis for your farm
- A roadmap of how to achieve your financial goals

- Rough drafts of key financial statements
- Tips to address common business mistakes

The all-day workshop will be part lecture, part group work sessions, and part individual work sessions. The target audience is any farmer (beginner to experienced, young or old) who feels the need to sharpen their pencil and focus a little more on the business side of farming.

Richard Wiswall is owner/operator of Cate Farm in East Montpelier, VT, where he has been farming organically for 32 years, and is the author of *The Organic Farmer's Business Handbook*. To learn more about Richard and Cate Farm, visit www.catefarm.com and www.richardwiswall.com.

Sustainable Hog Production—Practical Approaches to Fit Your Farm

Join farmer Tom Frantzen and the livestock crew at Stone Barns Center for an intensive introduction to sustainable hog production. The content of the preconference will be designed to address the specific needs and goals of beginning farmers in attendance. In the first part of the workshop, Tom will outline the practices and basic infrastructure necessary to establish a sustainable hog operation, including: animal health, fencing, facilities, indoor winter production, farrowing principles, wean-to-slaughter production practices, grain processing, feed rations, and the economics of hog production. Tom will also

discuss the results from replicated, on-the-farm research trials measuring the performance and growth of hogs raised under different production practices.

In the second part of the workshop, Craig Haney, Stone Barns Center's Livestock Manager, will discuss the nature of pigs and how it can inform our management of a swineherd. Using nature as mentor, he'll focus on the biology of the pig while covering the practical management of rearing pigs for meat. Through handling, herd health, feeding, breeding, farrowing, weaning, and harvest the nature of the pig will be emphasized. The afternoon will include a tour of the woodlands and barnyard where we raise our Ossabaw, Berkshire, and Crossabaw pigs and will introduce farmers to the Center's hog management strategies.

Tom and Irene Frantzen own and operate a 385-acre diversified organic grain and livestock farm in northeastern Iowa. They have been raising hogs farrow to finish since 1973. They have a beef cow herd and feed out the weaned calves.

Craig Haney grew up in the northern Catskills where his family farmed for eight generations. As the Livestock Manager at Stone Barns Center, he oversees a multi-species rotational grazing operation on 23 acres of pastureland and acts as a mentor for dozens of apprentices, interns, and volunteers.

CONSULTING SESSIONS

This year, conference attendees will have the opportunity to sign up for one-on-one consulting sessions with experts in farm financing, food law, and farm business planning. Consulting sessions will run simultaneously with conference workshops on both days of the conference, and beginning farmers will be invited to sign up for consultations when they register for workshops. Consultants and beginning farmers will meet at the Information Table in the Silo Lobby at the start of their session.

This opportunity is made possible through NOFA-NY and Stone Barns Center's [Technical Consultancy Program](#), which is designed to facilitate short-term, technically focused mentorships between new and experienced farmers.

Ag Finance Hour is a time to sit down with a specialist, one-on-one, to work on financial planning critical to your farm's success. Meetings will be spent reviewing cash-flow budgets or business plans, answering bookkeeping and QuickBooks questions, evaluating farm financing options and decision making about financing, or learning about The Carrot Project business assistance and loan programs (MA, ME, VT, Greater Berkshires & Hudson Valley). Bring plans, budgets or bookkeeping files you would like reviewed. Or you may choose to send documents in advance to yfc@stonebarnscenter.org

Benneth Phelps is Loan Coordinator at The Carrot Project, a non-profit offering financing and assistance to both farms and food enterprises in the Northeast. Originally a fruit and vegetable farmer by training, she has a decade of experience farming in New England and has worked with The Carrot Project since 2011. Meet with Benneth during **Sessions B, D, or E** to:

- Review cash-flow budgets/business plans
- Evaluate farm financing options and decision making around financing
- Learn about The Carrot Project business assistance and loan programs (MA, ME, VT, Greater Berkshires & Hudson Valley)

Julia Shanks prepares food businesses and farms for growth through business planning, cash-flow planning and financial feasibility studies. A frequent lecturer on sustainable food systems and accounting, she sits on the advisory board of Future Chefs and is the regional leader of Slow Money Boston. Meet with Julia during **Sessions C or E** to:

- Review cash-flow budgets or business plans
- Answer bookkeeping and QuickBooks questions

Food Law Hour will be dedicated to helping you spot the legal issues that will affect your food business. During the consultation, we'll discuss the status of your farm, your crop plan, and your 5-year business plan, and legal concerns.

Jason Foscolo is the managing partner at a law firm that specializes in farming and food business. Jason is prepared to help new and beginning farmers with the knowledge they need to establish business entities, to manage their risk through insurance agreements and supplier agreements, or assist with the purchase or lease of property. Jason is a regular host of food law workshops around the country and a guest speaker at colleges and law schools on the subject of food policy, regulation, and law. Farmers regularly seek the advice of the firm on real estate, tax law, food safety regulation, contract law, and business law. Meet with Jason during **Sessions C or D** to discuss:

- Farm business structures and legal concerns

Farm Business Tune-Up Hour: Farming has a tremendous positive environmental and social impact, but that is a moot point without economic sustainability. A farm needs to thrive financially to stay in business. Bring your business or financial concerns, and we'll discuss the best solutions for them. Homework will be assigned and followed-up via email or phone.

Richard Wiswall is owner/operator of Cate Farm in East Montpelier, VT, where he has been farming organically for over 30 years. To learn more about Richard and Cate Farm, see his full bio under Pre-Conferences. Meet with Richard during **Session B** to discuss:

- Business planning, financials and farm financing
- Farm Planning
- Vegetable crops financing
- Farm planning

SESSION A

Thursday, 9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

A1 Advanced Pastured Poultry Production

In this advanced presentation, Jeff Mattocks takes pastured poultry beyond the fundamentals. He discusses management techniques, flock health and disease control, environmental issues, feed and feed supplementations, as well as breed crosses and genetics. Learn in a deeper sense what affects birds and what the advanced grower can do to maximize flock health, productivity, and profitability. *Jeff Mattocks, The Fertrell Company* **ANI / West Hay Barn**

A2 Food Law for Farmers

Farmers and food producers operate in a unique legal environment. This workshop will discuss the many specialized laws and regulations applicable to farmers, covering such topics as farm finance, leasing and contracting, labor law and internships, food safety liability, and food safety regulation. *Jason Foscolo, The Food Law Firm* **BIZ / East Hay Barn**

A3 Drip Irrigation 101—for Farm, Field, and Greenhouse

This workshop will provide an introduction to the use of drip/low-volume irrigation in fields and greenhouses. Understand basic

system anatomy, components, and design concepts applicable at a variety of scales and settings. Explore the basic hardware components from valves and filters to tape and emitters. Discuss water sourcing from potable and non-potable sources, wells, pumps, ponds, and rainwater catchment. Introduce the latest technological advances in irrigation such as weather-based control, web-based/smartphone control systems and soil-moisture sensing. Explain system care, maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair. Acquire hands-on experience by constructing a simple system. *Megan Allison, MiraCosta College, Department of Horticulture* **VEG / Resource Center**

A4 Planning for Profit

Farming offers fundamental satisfaction: producing food, working outdoors, being one's own boss, and working intimately with nature. But unfortunately, because many farmers avoid learning about the business end of farming, they often work harder than they need to, or quit farming altogether because of frustrating-- and often avoidable-- losses. This workshop will focus on the planning and analysis tools needed to run a profitable farm, in an easy, step-by-step format. Tips for beginner farmers will finish the session. *Richard Wiswall, Cate Farm, The Organic Farmer's Business Handbook* **BIZ / Hay Loft**

A5 Ecology and Conservation on the Farm

Join Laura Perkins of Stone Barns Center and Joseph Heller of USDA for an introduction to ecology and conservation on the farm. Laura will provide farmers with practical tips for how to maintain a healthy

ecosystem and productive farm on the property. Joseph will introduce farmers to a number of conservation programs that support conservation on the farm and help offset costs for conservation-based projects. *Laura Perkins, Stone Barns Center; Joseph Heller, USDA, NRCS* **CONS / Conference Room**

A6 Why Every Farm Should Have a Sugaring Operation—Even if You Don't Have Any Maple Trees

This workshop will explore the benefits of developing a maple sugaring operation and offer ideas for expanding your existing sugaring operations. You will learn about the economics of sugaring and marketing opportunities with maple, birch, and walnut sap. Several examples of community-based sugaring models will be covered to demonstrate how you can work with others to develop a sugaring operation through buying sap, boiling it on shares, or leasing others' trees for tapping. If you don't already have a sugaring operation, by the end of this workshop, you'll be making plans to buy your first evaporator; and if you are already sugaring, you will be well equipped to expand your production and sales. *Michael Farrell, Cornell University* **VEG / PDR I**

A7 Raw Milk Production Workshop Food safety begins in the soil, and raw milk is no exception. This workshop will explore the soil's relation to immunity in our plants, herds, and humans. It will also cover what to look for in a dairy animal before you purchase and what to monitor when you bring her home. The workshop will

cover various milk tests and how to interpret them, and the daily practices that can improve quality, quantity, and safety. Participants will learn how to manage the lactation curve and to score animals to monitor health. Learn what we should be trying to "scale" and how to be profitable even in the smallest of herds. This workshop is designed for any size or species of dairy herd and is complimentary to any state raw milk permit program. *Tim Wightman, Farm to Consumer Foundation* **ANI / PDR II**

A8 Food Safety Starts at the Farm: Smallholder Livestock Production for Food Safety

As small farms have diversified and looked toward moving livestock outside, diseases that we have long forgotten have the potential to resurface. This workshop will focus on how to raise livestock to mitigate the threats of diseases of food-borne illness and economic importance. *Michele Pfannenstiel, Dirigo Quality Meats* **ANI / HHV**

A9 Investment Decisions and Partial Budgeting

Have you ever had a hard time weighing the costs and benefits of new opportunities, such as selling at a new farmers market or purchasing new equipment? This workshop on partial budgeting will provide you with a framework for informed decision making. Partial budgeting analysis allows farmers and business owners to assess the costs and impact of an investment decision, such as the purchase of new equipment, a facility upgrade, or a new line of business. Julia will

show you how to evaluate whether an investment is affordable given projected returns and provide sample materials to allow you to fully understand how and why to use this tool. *Julia Shanks, Julia Shanks Food Consulting* **BIZ / PCC I**

A10 Soil Fertility Management

The topic of soil fertility management is very broad, so this workshop will be focused on the basic principles and applied examples of soil management practices used on our farm. The first part of the workshop will cover the basic science of soil formation, chemistry, soil testing and interpretation, and soil biology. The second part will be focused on the application of these principles: how to calculate and apply soil amendments and compost, utilize cover crops, and design cropping rotations to enhance soil biology-plant symbiosis. The latter part of this workshop will also go into specific details about how to utilize crop and mycorrhizal fungi interactions. The specific techniques include reducing tillage, cover crop alleys between crop beds to act as fungal reservoirs, plant family rotations that build fungal populations, and the application of fungal inoculants. *Zach Wolf, The Farm at Locusts on Hudson* **VEG / PCC II**

SESSION B

Thursday, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

B Consulting Session I

Ag Finance Hour with Benneth Phelps

B Consulting Session II

Farm Business Tune-Up Hour with Richard Wiswall

B1 Women in Agriculture

Women have always made important contributions to our agricultural system and yet, historically, their work, like that of many underserved populations, has often been ignored or undervalued. As the average age of American farmers rises, an increasing number of female farmers gives us a reason to be hopeful. This panel brings together experienced and beginning female farmers who will discuss some of the challenges that they have faced, what inspires them, and their strategies for success. *Cheryl Rogowski, Rogowski, W. Rogowski Farm; Wendy Johnson, Gardening at the Dragon's Gate; Meg Paska, The Homestead at Seven Arrows, Brooklyn Homesteader; Erin Bullock, Mud Creek Farm; moderated by Mel Weiss, Stone Barns Center RES / West Hay Barn*

B2 Sustainable Hog Production

Want to learn more about farrowing principles, indoor winter production, and grain processing? Join Tom Frantzen, owner and operator of a 385-acre diversified organic grain and livestock farm in northeastern Iowa, for an introduction to sustainable hog production. The content of this workshop will be designed to address the specific needs and goals of beginning farmers in attendance. *Tom Frantzen, Frantzen Family Farm ANI / East Hay Barn*

B3 Selling to an Urban Market

In this session, staff from Greenmarket's technical assistance program, FARMroots, will focus on marketing information for beginning and experienced farmers and processors. Presenters will share ideas for how to use mainstream marketing tactics to better understand customer behavior at farmers markets. They will also provide resources and advice on gaining access to capital and developing a sound business plan, as well as marketing and risk management. Attendees will also hear about the history of the Greenmarket program, how growers and producers become eligible to sell in New York City Greenmarkets and Greenmarket's specific mission, rules, and regulations. Long term planning programs to address farm succession and new farmer development will also be covered. *Liz Carollo and Challey Comer, Greenmarket BIZ / Resource Center*

B4 A Farm, A Field and Family Medicine Chest

Every farm and family needs a collection of medicines and useful supplies "just in case." This workshop will focus on how to create such a toolbox. Discussion will include a selection of basic homeopathic medicines, herbal remedies, and commercial products that can form the basis for a whole farm and family medicine chest. As part of a discussion about the larger scope of health and balance, participants will be introduced to different herbal and homeopathic preparations, their indications, and how they might be incorporated into health care on the farm.

Susan Beal, Laughing Oak Farm RES / Conference Room

B5 Four-Season Greenhouse Strategic Planning and Crop Selection

Practical modeling for diversified soil greenhouse systems requires a balance of inputs and production techniques to achieve the highest quality. This hands-on workshop will offer soil management techniques, seasonal environmental conditions, limiting factors of production, as well as plant health and selection. In addition, we will discuss tracking and evaluation practices to improve production awareness seasonally. *Jack Algieri, Stone Barns Center VEG / PDR 1*

B6 Farm to School: A Market and Outreach Opportunity

This session will introduce attendees to farm to school selling as an additional market for farm products and a means of community outreach. Presenters will offer an overview of farm to school, share success stories, and give attendees the knowledge and tools to engage with and sell to schools in their communities. During the 2011-2012 school year, farm to school programs spent at least \$13 million on local food, and more than half of involved schools work with at least 20 different farmers. Farm to school can be an especially exciting avenue for market expansion because school purchasing compliments other markets by making use of what might otherwise be less profitable products. Schools also do most of their local purchasing in the spring and fall when other markets might not be as active.

Chelsey Simpson, National Farm to School Network **BIZ / PDR II**

B7 Growing and Incorporating Cut Flowers into the Farmscape and Market Garden

Join Shannon Algieri, Flower and Herb Grower and Educator at Stone Barns Center, as she discusses cut flower production on the farm. This class will highlight techniques of raising flowers from seed to harvest, focusing on successful varieties, planting schedules, garden maintenance, and winter storage practices. Shannon will emphasize good harvesting etiquette, efficient utilization of field and greenhouse space, and the value of tracking data. There will also be class time dedicated to creative ways of designing and marketing cut flowers for a value-added market base. This is a perfect workshop for farmers and gardeners who want to start up or develop flowers as a highlighted crop commodity. *Shannon Algieri, Stone Barns Center* **VEG / HHV**

B8 Sustainable Land Access through Leasing

A growing number of young farmers are seeking land access by leasing farmland from passive landowners. This workshop will introduce the Iroquois Valley Farms, a socially responsible private farmland company, and its Young Farmers Land Access Program. Iroquois Valley Farms' sustainable variable-lease structure will be compared to and discussed in context with other common lease structures that farmers may encounter. The workshop will also cover buy options and how they can be used to protect against displacement from

leased land. *David Miller and Kevin Egoft, Iroquois Valley Farms LLC* **BIZ/ PCC I**

B9 Agroforestry

This workshop will present an overview of agroforestry systems applicable to farms and forest lands in the eastern temperate United States. We will focus on agroforestry as a toolbox for diversifying, intensifying, and expanding production, while simultaneously restoring and increasing ecosystem functions and services. First, we'll explore the global use of agroforestry in traditional farming systems, and look at patterns from both tropical and temperate U.S. We'll then discuss five forms of agroforestry: alley cropping, silvopasture, forest farming, productive buffers, and home forest gardens, and their applications in our climate. Next, we'll look at landscape assessment tools for planning site-appropriate agroforestry systems. Finally, we'll examine some of the most promising tree and understory crops for agroforestry systems in the eastern US, and discuss their market potential and management considerations. *Connor Stedman, Carbon Farming* **VEG / PCC II**

B10 Small Engine Mechanics

Through a basic understanding of small engines, attendees will learn how to maintain farm machinery. This workshop will explain the internal workings of small engines, how to disassemble and reassemble small engines, as well as troubleshooting tips. Some prior knowledge may be helpful. *John DiMarco, Stone Barns Center* **TECH / Garages**

SESSION C

Thursday, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

C Consulting Session I

Ag Finance Hour with Julia Shanks

C Consulting Session II

Food Law Hour with Jason Foscolo

C Consulting Session III

Ag Finance Hour with Benneth Phelps

C1 Organizing for Our Collective Success

The National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC) represents, mobilizes, and engages young farmers to ensure their success. We believe strong networks are vital to successful farms and winning change, so we're building a network of young farmer chapters in every region. From California to Kansas to Georgia, NYFC chapters come together to share meals, opportunities, and strategies for overcoming obstacles in markets, supply chains, and land access. Sophie Ackoff and Kate Greenberg of NYFC will give you the tools you need to organize fellow young farmers in your region. *Sophie Ackoff and Kate Greenberg, National Young Farmers Coalition* **RES / West Hay Barn**

C2 Climate Change and Agriculture

The climate is changing: summers are hotter and winters are warmer, and we are also observing more severe weather and shifts in precipitation patterns. The decade 2001-2010 was the hottest recorded ever, and the trajectory is set for the average global temperature to continue to rise into the future. The anticipated increases in

temperature along with changes in precipitation patterns and greater variability in the weather have profound implications for agriculture. Growing seasons will be longer, making it possible to use new crop varieties; but at the same time pest infestations may increase and droughts and flooding will compound risks. To remain viable farmers will need to have the necessary tools to both mitigate and adapt to climate change. This will be an interactive session where participants will have an opportunity to share their own experiences as they adapt to a changing climate. *Mike Hoffmann, Cornell University*
CONS / East Hay Barn

C3 If I Knew Then What I Know Now: Lessons from a Beginning Farmer

What's the difference between an asset and equity? Where do you start with setting up a record-keeping system? What are some important things to include in a partnership agreement? Business and taxes are the last things on the mind of a beginning farmer, but if you don't get in the know, you'll be dealing with a headache come winter. Get the real dirt from beginning farmer and agriculture specialist Marisa Alcorta. Marisa started a five-acre farm in 2012 with three other women to produce fruit and vegetables for a 40-member CSA, a farm stand and wholesale markets in Davis, CA—all while they each held full-time jobs. Join us for a lively discussion about what she learned in the process about partnerships, taxes, marketing, keeping records, and other topics that make you want to kick something. *Marisa Alcorta,*

National Center for Appropriate Technology
BIZ / Resource Center

C4 Breeders, Savers, and Sowers

This panel will bring together a continuum of individuals who perpetuate a healthy and productive regional food system. The cycle of breeding, saving, trialing, selling, and archiving seeds requires care, knowledge, attention, and relationship. We will share questions with this panel to provide an inside perspective of regional seed production and discuss why this is worth maintaining as part of our culture. *Petra Page-Mann, Fruition Seeds; Michael Mazourek, Cornell University; Ken Greene, Hudson Valley Seed Library; moderated by Jack Algieri, Stone Barns Center*
VEG / Hay Loft

C5 Integrating Food Safety into Your Business Plan

Dreams of local food production often run into the hard realities that food is among the most regulated industries in America. This session will discuss current food regulations and industry standards and how to build food safety into your business plan to drive down costs, improve marketability and create a culture of food safety at your farm. *Michele Pfannenstiel, Dirigo Quality Meats*
ANI / Conference Room

C6 New Farms on the Block: Moveable Commercial Vegetable Production on Urban Acreage

This workshop will focus on the establishment and development process of an inner-city commercial vegetable farm

that is also a social enterprise. In four years, Sole Food has turned four and a half acres of contaminated city land into intensive fruit and vegetable farms and employed 25 people who face multiple barriers to employment. Beginning with the initial hurdles in design, we will work through the ups and downs of the operation with the group, discussing barriers encountered and systems developed. We will touch upon growing techniques, crop choice, staffing issues, permitting and lease agreements, as well as how to diversify revenue streams. Because Sole Food is a work in progress, this workshop will be an opportunity to share our learning process with participants and discuss how this model could be adaptable to other cities. *Lissa Goldstein and Seann Dory, Sole Food Street Farms*
VEG / PDR I

C7 Rotational Grazing

Rotational grazing, or management intensive grazing, is a pasture management system which divides large pastures into sections and moves animals frequently. Using this system can lead to higher forage production per acre, control weeds, and reduce parasite loads on livestock. In this workshop, we will cover some of the basics for a few different species including cows (beef and dairy), goats, sheep, and chickens. *Sean Stanton, Blue Hill Farm*
ANI / PDR II

C8 Sustainable Nutrient Management for Specialty Crop Farms

Many small-scale diversified producers rely on spring compost applications to support their vegetable production and intensive

management practices. Learn about the long-term effects of crop rotations and compost application on key nutrient levels in your soils, and about how to mitigate nutrient imbalances to decrease pest, weed, and disease pressure and save money. This workshop will discuss a new collaborative research project, supported by the National Science Foundation, that is being undertaken by the Drinkwater Lab and AgSquared, to help producers adopt more sustainable nutrient management regimes. We will discuss and solicit feedback on a new software tool that is being developed to help producers make more sustainable nutrient management decisions. *Laurie Drinkwater, Cornell University; Giulia Stellari, AgSquared* **VEG / HHV**

C9 Building Your Social Media Foundation

We will review best-practices for brands, both large and small, to succeed in building online community through social messaging. We'll discuss blogs and channels, such as Twitter and Facebook, and will discuss which daily tactics lead to success with social media. Attendees will leave with a foundational social "routine," a greater understanding of what works on social, and the beginnings of a scalable social strategy. **BIZ / PCC I**

C10 Beekeeping for Beginners

This class will cover the value of beekeeping, bee anatomy, castes and behavior, useful equipment and tools for beekeeping, the differences between Langstroth and top bar beehives, how to get started and work in the hive, and a little bit of Stone Barns Center's philosophy about

chemical-free beekeeping. *Dan Carr, Stone Barns Center* **ANI / PCC II**

SESSION D

Thursday, 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

D Consulting Session I

Ag Finance Hour with Benneth Phelps

D Consulting Session II

Food Law Hour with Jason Foscolo

D1 Small-Scale Dairy Processing

In this workshop, we will cover all the basics of small-scale dairy processing including bottling milk, making cheese, making butter, financials, equipment, labor, etc. We will discuss dairy processing on both a home and farmstead scale. The workshop will include a short cheese-making demo (ricotta) and a cheese tasting with a walk-through on how to really taste and experience farmstead cheeses. *Suzy Konecky, Cricket Creek Farm* **ANI / Resource Center**

D2 Incubator Farms Panel

More and more incubator farming projects are popping up all over the nation. This panel will have representatives from Intervale Center (VT), New Entry Sustainable Farmer Project (MA), and Prairie Crossing Farms (IL). Panelists will outline the project they are associated with, followed by a Q&A session. Come to learn about the different projects as a potential participant or someone involved in organizing an incubator project yourself. *Mike Sands, Prairie Crossing Farms; Eva*

Agudelo, New Entry Sustainable Farmer Project; Maggie Donin, Intervale Center **LA / Hay Loft**

D3 Processing and Packaging: Post-Harvest Success for the Small-Scale Grower

From seed to harvest, you've worked hard to ensure you've raised a fine crop. However, growing the food is just half the battle! Don't diminish the quality of your produce with poor handling, processing, and packaging techniques. Join Max Apton, SBC vegetable field foreman, as he explores best practices for harvesting, processing, storing, and packaging vegetables so that your produce reaches the consumer in the best possible shape. This class will be led through the lens of the small-scale market grower, producing diversified vegetables for restaurants, CSAs and market. *Max Apton, Stone Barns Center* **VEG / Conference Room**

D4 Sign on the Dotted Line: Sustainable Lease Law Basics & Beyond

This workshop will include a discussion of: 1) pros and cons of leasing; 2) lease law basics; 3) encouraging multiple-year leases to facilitate sustainability; 4) possible options for encouraging both risk-sharing between landlords and tenants and rent flexibility to facilitate long-term leasing (such as rent adjustment indices, flexible rent provisions, graduated rent provisions, and crop shares); 5) options to encourage/allow for sustainable practices in farm leases, including cost-sharing and incorporated federal conservation plans; and 6) other creative leasing options such as ground leases, shared equity, and

transfers of farming rights. The presentation will also cover ways to reduce risk in farm leases, such as increasing specificity and clarifying vague provisions, creating a mechanism for each party to terminate a long-term lease agreement, anticipating a landlord bankruptcy, and handling organic certification issues. Finally, the presentation will cover negotiation tactics for beginning farmers, review a sample lease, and encourage audience questions about their lease experiences. *Amanda Heyman, Fare Grange Law* **BIZ / PDR I**

D5 Sell the Best Potatoes Around

Consumers who buy fresh produce expect the best eating experience. There are hundreds of different varieties of potatoes and they perform differently when cooked. John Mishanec, retired Cornell University vegetable specialist, and Blue Hill Chef Dan Bartush will provide a taste tour through some of the best potato varieties and see why it is also important to select the right variety for the intended recipe. Establish an identity for selling the best potatoes around! *John Mishanec, Cornell University; Dan Bartush, Blue Hill* **VEG / PDR II**

D6 Seasonal High Tunnel Cost Share Program: Extending Your Growing Season—Learn How to Apply

This workshop will guide beginning farmers through a federal cost-share application process, the High Tunnel program. The goal is to have workshop participants understand the entire application process, and be fully prepared to meet with their Farm Service Agency staff. The workshop

covers all steps of the application process, including registering with the Farm Service Agency, confirming eligibility, and completing the full Natural Resources Conservation Service application and application packet. Workshop participants will also learn how to find out more about receiving technical assistance from NRCS staff in their region. *Joseph Heller, USDA, NRCS* **RES / HHV**

D7 Soil Science Basics

You may know how to change the pH of your soil, but do you know why it's important? The mechanisms of nutrient uptake? The elegance of the nitrogen cycle? Why all plants (except broccoli!) need a fungal partner? This workshop, back for its fourth year, will focus on the basics of soil science: the physical, chemical, and biological origins, functions, and best management practices of the soil you grow in. You will learn where soil came from, what it's made of, and what lives in it. You will have the opportunity to search for and identify many of the critters that live underground, as well as conduct hands-on soil texture tests that will enable you to assess and manage your soil. *Christopher Roddick, Brooklyn Botanic Garden; Rebecca McMackin, Brooklyn Bridge Park and Mantis Plant Works* **VEG / PCC I**

D8 Intelligent Water Conservation for Farm and Field

Water conservation does not always involve irrigation technology. From ancient indigenous methods used by Native Americans to modern technological devices, this session will highlight tools

available to farmers to conserve water. A multitude of cultural practices, design methodologies, and management techniques will be presented that help farmers conserve water at a variety of scales and settings. This course will touch on relevant plant water use physiology, soil water behavior, and plant/soil relationship concepts. We will introduce agro-ecological principles relevant to sustainable farm water management. We will outline techniques to improve plant water use efficiency and reduce evapotranspiration through creative, non-traditional farm design, planting, and management techniques. We will show how farmers can make the most of the water they have, regardless whether they irrigate or dry farm. From concept to form, this session will help farmers conserve and make the best use of their valuable water resources. *Megan Allison, MiraCosta College, Department of Horticulture* **CONS / PCC II**

D9 Worksongs for Small Farms

Join Bennett Konesni (of Sylvester Manor and worksongs.org) for this small-group, hands-on, sing-out workshop. Participants will learn a collection of songs useful on small farms and try them out while completing the farm task *du jour*. In the process, we'll discuss how to use worksongs as a cultural technology, a tool you can use to improve your crew's effectiveness in the field and transform your experience of mundane handwork. Based on new experience and insights from using worksongs during the 2013 season, we will cover simple call and response songs from the Americas and Africa and may touch on

livestock calls of Europe and Asia. We'll explore the careful steps you can take with your fellow crew to introduce songs into the field setting and touch on details such as leader/group dynamics, field and song layout, working patterns, and the history and modern practice of this lively and useful agrarian tradition. *Bennett Konesni, Edith Gawler, and friends, Sylvester Manor Educational Farm* **RES / Greenhouse**

D10 Designing and Managing the Moveable Greenhouse

We will build a small moveable greenhouse and, in the process, talk about designing for ease of moving, strength, stability, and ease of use. The workshop will highlight the potential of moveable houses and suggested cropping and management plans. *Clara Coleman, Four Season Farm Consulting; Eliot Coleman, Four Season Farm* **TECH / Greenhouse**

SESSION E

Friday, 9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

E Consulting Session I

Ag Finance Hour with Benneth Phelps

E Consulting Session II

Ag Finance Hour with Julia Shanks

E1 The Art of Seed Saving

Saving seeds is as much an art as it is a science. This workshop will cover the practical skills you need to save your own seeds as well as explore the continuum of creativity that's possible through basic selection and more advanced plant

breeding. *Ken Greene, Hudson Valley Seed Library* **VEG / West Hay Barn**

E2 Crop Rotation

This is a practical intermediate to advanced class meant to improve the quality, timing and performance of crops and cover crops. This workshop will cover several strategies for developing crop rotation systems in a variety of diverse farming operations. We will discuss the role of crop rotation as it relates to the resilient agricultural principles and how it positively impacts soil and plant health. *Jack Algieri, Stone Barns Center* **VEG / East Hay Barn**

E3 Electric Fencing

We'll look at how an electric fence works and how to configure a fence to do what you need it to do—psychologically contain different types of livestock and keep out wild animals. We'll also discuss common electric fencing mistakes and highlight temporary electric fencing used for rotational paddocks. *Craig Haney, Stone Barns Center* **ANI / Resource Center**

E4 Listing, Linking, and Learning Panel:

Connecting Beginning Farmers to Land

This session will introduce new resources to aid beginning farmers in finding farmland. Participants will learn about websites, including the new Hudson Valley Farmlink Network, and resources to connect farmers with available farmland, exercises to prepare for approaching a lender or landowner to secure land, and further opportunities for learning about leasing and buying farmland and land tenure arrangements. Columbia Land

Conservancy will share lessons learned from its Farmer Landowner Match Program, and will profile a sample of successful matches. Westchester Land Trust will provide an overview of its Farmland Match Program and offer tips for maintaining healthy landowner-tenant relationships. *Diane Held, American Farmland Trust; Marissa Codey, Columbia Land Conservancy; Kate Sann, Westchester Land Trust* **LA / Hay Loft**

E5 Integrated Pest Management Basics

As a grower, you need to know what problems are in your fields that might affect yield and quality. You need to know the threshold when pests cause economic loss. This class will cover how to quickly and accurately scout your fields giving you information to best manage your crops. *John Mishanec, Cornell University* **VEG / Conference Room**

E6 Transitioning Conventionally Raised Bees to a Treatment-Free Regimen

In this session geared toward established beekeepers, attendees will learn about treatment-free beekeeping and how to effectively transition conventionally managed bees to a completely input-free method of management for optimal long-term honeybee health and a more pure honey and beeswax for your customers. *Meg Paska, The Homestead at Seven Arrows, Brooklyn Homesteader* **ANI / PDR I**

E7 Farm Business Planning: How to Save 100 Hours

Most business plans take a huge amount of time to write, and then spend the rest of

their lives gathering dust in a desk drawer. Busy farmers often do not have time to waste, but farm businesses can achieve better cash flow and greater profits with some basic financial planning. Ethan Roland will share an agile and adaptable process for creating a one-page Farm Business Model that encapsulates the essence of a business plan and takes 1% of the time to create. *Ethan Roland, AppleSeed Permaculture LLC* **BIZ / PDR II**

E8 The New Horse Powered Farm

Join Stephen Leslie to learn how to set up and/or transition to managing a one to 10 acre market garden with live horse power with an emphasis on the bio-extensive method. Tools and systems for successful market gardening with horses will be explained. Other aspects of whole farm management with horses, such as hay making, small grains, and forestry management, will also be considered. Time will be allotted for a Q & A session. *Stephen Leslie, Ceder Mountain Farm at Cobb Hill Co-Housing* **ANI / HHV**

E9 Cooperative Farming

Cooperative farming could be a powerful tool for easing the challenges of starting farm businesses by allowing farmers to combine their enterprises, pool capital, purchase land together, share tools, and otherwise collaborate to manage land and farm businesses. However, forming a multi-owner business is a complex process often requiring working outside traditional lending models, adapting one or more legal structures, and setting up clear operating documents for effective collaboration. This

will be a presentation followed by panel discussion. Faith Gilbert will report back on her SARE-funded research project, in which she maps out the tasks, challenges, and considerations for starting a cooperative farm. Kathy Ruhf and Lynda Brushett will follow with a Q&A to answer technical questions on cooperative development, farm entry, and group land tenure. *Lynda Brushett, Cooperative Development Institute; Faith Gilbert, The Greenhorns and Letterbox Farm Collective; Kathy Ruhf, Land For Good* **BIZ / PCC I**

E10 Introduction to Necropsy for Farmers

A step-by-step demonstration of a necropsy as well as how to photographically document your findings. We will show you how healthy organs look, what normal postmortem changes occur and also discuss what to look for as signs of disease in different organs. You will learn how to humanely euthanize a suffering animal, how to protect yourself from contagious diseases as well as how to know when NOT to perform a necropsy. *Isabel Richards, D.V.M.* **ANI / Western Barn**

SESSION F

Friday, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

F Consulting Session I

Ag Finance Hour with Benneth Phelps

F1 Raising Cage-Free Rabbits

Learn about the ins and outs of raising cage-free rabbits from farmers Julie Engel and Meg Paska. Julie will discuss the "The Coney Garth," an alternative method of

raising meat rabbits in a cage-free, hare-pen-free, pellet-free, Management Intensive Grazing pasture colony. Meg will share her rabbit raising experiences at The Homestead at Seven Arrows, presenting suggestions for the small-scale or backyard rabbit farmer to produce meat rabbits in a stimulating, cage-free environment. *Julie Engel, The Coney Garth; Meg Paska, The Homestead at Seven Arrows, Brooklyn Homesteader; moderated by Craig Haney, Stone Barns Center* **ANI / West Hay Barn**

F2 Protecting Your Working Body: Self Care and Ergonomics for Farmers

Participants will learn anatomy, good body mechanics, and injury prevention as they relate to the specific physical challenges of working on the farm. We will also cover the five movement categories that dominate farm work and specific ways to prepare, maintain, and restore the body for each. The workshop will be tailored to the questions and interests of the group. *Lydia Irons, The Flexible Farmer* **RES / East Hay Barn**

F3 Soils and Fertility: An Introduction and Then Some

This course covers the basics of what soil is, how its various constituents interact, how soils hold fertility, and how that knowledge can be applied toward building a fertility management program for your farm or yard. *Alec Baxt, Farming Up* **VEG / Resource Center**

F4 MIG Welding

Learn the basics of MIG welding, the most widely used welding technique in the

industry. Instruction will include understanding and operating the equipment, technique, pressures, different types of metals, and safety. *John DiMarco, Stone Barns Center* **TECH / Conference Room**

F5 Developing Your Own Grazing Plan

The Grass Whisperer, Troy Bishopp, will take participants through a farmer friendly, practical grazing planning process using simple tools to make farm maps, determine animal needs, pasture potential, paddock sizes, and recovery rates. Using Troy's own 2013 holistic planned grazing monitoring chart, farmers will see how this approach is invaluable to reducing stress, making money, improving soil health, producing quality animals, and getting some much needed time off. *Troy Bishopp, Bishopp Family Farms* **ANI / PDR I**

F6 Congress and Your Farm: The Farm Bill, Food Safety, and What Comes Next

The session will provide an overview of what happened in Federal farm policy in 2013 (Farm Bill! Food safety!), what's next and how farmers can get involved with ongoing work to make federal food policy work for beginning, diversified, and organic growers. Specific programs geared toward beginning farmers that will be discussed include credit, crop insurance, conservation, rural development, technical assistance, and training programs. *Juli Obudzinski, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition; Lindsey Lusher Shute, National Young Farmers Coalition* **RES / PDR II**

F7 60 Ideas in 60 Minutes: An Education Quick-fire

Stone Barns Center educators will present 60 ideas for educating visitors on your farm. In addition to inspiring ideas and exploring new ways to engage visitors, we will review logistical concerns, marketing tools, negotiating partnerships, and other planning essentials. The final 30 minutes of the session will be saved for small group workshops to create a plan for implementing programs on your farm. *Jennifer Rothman, Shaina Robbins, Maura Leppo, Stone Barns Center* **RES / HHV**

F8 Growing Specialty Crops for Urban Markets

Over the past 15 years, the growers of the East New York Farms Project have established a market for specialty crops that matches the diversity of their Brooklyn neighborhood. Through seed-saving, customer surveys, and SARE grant-funded farm research, we've been able to make selections that meet customer demand. Our workshop will cover what we've learned about growing and marketing these unique crops from around the world. *David Vigil, Deborah Greig, and Mohammed Faroze East New York Farms!* **VEG / PCC I**

F9 Plant Breeding

Gain practical, hands-on plant breeding experience in the greenhouse. Attendees will participate in vegetable pollination exercises and discuss physical controls, environmental health, and other selection process topics. The goal of this workshop is to empower future farmers to reacquaint themselves with their seed through a

cooperative and economic approach. *Jack Algieri, Stone Barns Center; Michael Mazourek, Cornell University* **VEG / Greenhouse**

SESSION G

Friday, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

G1 Agricultural Ethics

What is the relationship between agricultural practice and spiritual practice? As farmers, how can we better cultivate humility, compassion, and ethics in the field? Join this panel for a thoughtful conversation about agricultural ethics. *Fred Kirschenmann, The Leopold Center and Stone Barns Center; Wendy Johnson, Gardening at the Dragon's Gate; Douglass DeCandia, Food Bank for Westchester; Steffen Schneider, Hawthorne Valley Farm; Moderated by Shannon Algieri, Stone Barns Center* **RES / West Hay Barn**

G2 Compost 101

This class will briefly cover the beginning basics of composting, focusing on small farm composting and taking your operation to the next level of production. Learn about resource management, on-farm recycling, and how to make compost with what you have and what is easily acquired. Windrow and forced-air composting as used by Stone Barns Center will also be covered. *Sarah Groat, Stone Barns Center* **VEG / East Hay Barn**

G3 Creative Financing for Farm & Food Enterprises

Financial capital is the money you need to get started or scale up your business. Social capital is the community networks and goodwill that will support your farm through thick and thin. You need both to survive and thrive in agriculture or any small business. We will learn about traditional and unconventional methods to obtain both forms of capital. This will help you build a business that is resilient and more fun! Co-presenter Nathan Winters will highlight his own creative ways he has secured financial resources and built social capital to start his nascent farming operation near Albany, NY. *Rebecca Thistlethwaite, Sustain Consulting & The Mostead Farm; Nathan Winters Hill Hollow Farm* **BIZ / Resource Center**

G4 Finding Affordable Farmland: How Land Trusts Can Help You Find Land

This session will walk farmers through how they can partner with a local land trust to acquire affordable farmland. We will discuss the history and work of land trusts, the details of conservation easements, and strategies for finding affordable land. Co-presenters will include Lindsey Lusher Shute, NYFC, and Jim Oldham, Equity Trust, who are currently working together with Scenic Hudson to protect Hearty Roots Community Farm as a working farm, forever. NYFC will soon release a report on conservation easements to protect farmland affordability. *Lindsey Lusher Shute, National Young Farmers Coalition; Jim Oldham, Equity Trust* **LA / Hay Loft**

G5 Building Local Food Systems: How an Ethical Farmer Earns a Living

Specialty crops from mushrooms and fiber to fiddlehead ferns and hops are an integral part of local food systems. These crops are a unique market challenge to growers, restaurants, and other sellers. Using hops as an example, we will explore the ins and outs of specialty crop markets from production to aggregation, distribution, and marketing. *Eric Sannerud, Mighty Axe Hops Hub, Sunny Brothers Farm, and Mighty Grange Fish & Greens; Ben Boo, Mighty Axe Hops Hub and Cornercopia Student Organic Farm* **BIZ / Conference Room**

G6 Experiences Using Copper Oxide Wire Particles for Barber Pole Worm Control in Northeast Sheep and Goats

This will be a summary of preliminary results for a series of studies conducted in summer 2013 to determine the effect of copper oxide wire particle (COWP) treatment on worm loads in weaned lambs and lactating does. We'll also discuss other innovations in internal parasite control for sheep and goats. *tatiana Stanton, Dept. of Animal Science, Cornell University* **ANI / PDR I**

G7 Pollination Ecology for Farming

Many of the plants you grow have, at the very least, one pollinator partner that helped shape the evolution and distribution of their flowers. From bees to butterflies to birds and bats, pollinating animals are responsible for much of the fruits and vegetables we rely on. This workshop will teach you the basics of pollination ecology as well as how to maximize food production

by encouraging both native and exotic pollinators. Yes, honeybees will be discussed, but this workshop will also cover the exciting world of tomato buzz pollination, the rotten world of fly pollination, and the beautiful life of the squash bee. By the end of the day, you will be able to “read” flowers and come to know the true desires of the organisms you cultivate. *Rebecca McMackin, Brooklyn Bridge Park* **CONS / PDR II**

G8 Whole Animal Butchery

Chef Adam Kaye will be breaking down a pig for restaurant service, Blue Hill style. He will run through the parts of the animal, how they are used at both Blue Hill and Blue Hill at Stone Barns, and offer basic butchering tips. Adam will be assisted by butcher Jose Morquecha. *Adam Kaye and Jose Morquecha, Blue Hill at Stone Barns* **ANI / Western Barn**

G9 Carpentry

Are you interested in developing basic carpentry skills for small farm projects? In this workshop, learn about the different parts of carpentry tools and the purpose for using different types of nails, wood screws, and wood bolts. Ray Cotrufo of Stone Barns Center will cover best methods for construction of walls, windows, and doors, basic gate building, utilizing safety gear, calculating board feet, calculating materials for the project, and some practical application if time allows. *Ray Cotrufo, Stone Barns Center* **TECH / Garages**

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

“Farmscape”

Wednesday, 7:00 PM

“Farmscape: Documenting the Changing Rural Environment” is a verbatim play based on interviews with real people, including organic farmers, livestock processors, vintners, family farmers, and others involved in the dramatic changes that are underway in the heartland. The characters’ stories are woven together to create a conversation about the shifting agricultural landscape.

Mary Swander—Iowa Poet Laureate, distinguished professor at Iowa State University, and an award-winning writer who has published 13 books of poetry and nonfiction—wrote the play with a class of graduate students in fall 2007. Swander’s students proposed the idea for the drama and fanned out across Iowa, interviewing people who were attempting to make a living in rural America. The resulting play has been performed in venues large and small across the country. **Hay Loft**

Thursday Midday Address

Thursday, 12:30 PM

How will national agricultural policies affect beginning farmers in the seasons ahead? Krysta Harden, Deputy Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, will address conference attendees. **Hay Loft**

Conference Keynote

Wendell Berry in Conversation with Mary Berry

Thursday, 6:30 PM

Wendell Berry, the author of more than 40 books of poetry, fiction, and essays, including his seminal work, *The Unsettling of America*, has farmed a hillside of his native Henry County, KY, for more than 40 years. The recipient of multiple literary awards, he is one of America’s most influential writers. Throughout his life, he has been an active and passionate advocate for the land, for farming, and for agrarian communities. Berry has taught at, among others, Stanford University, Georgetown College, New York University, and at his alma mater, the University of Kentucky. He lives and works with his wife, Tanya Berry, on their farm in Port Royal, KY.

Mary Berry is the Executive Director of The Berry Center, and the eighth generation of her family to farm in Henry County, KY. She founded The Berry Center in 2011 to archive and preserve her father’s and family’s works and to ensure a healthy countryside populated by prosperous farmers on well-tended farms. Its work focuses on land use, farm policy, farmer education, urban education about farming, and local food infrastructure. The goal is to establish within Kentucky a national model of urban-rural connectedness. **Hay Loft**

Contra Dance

Thursday, 9:00 PM

Conference attendees are invited to attend our annual Young Farmers Conference Contra Dance. Enjoy live music by Edith &

Bennett and Friends and calling by Kristin Andreassen. **Hay Loft**

Friday Morning Address

Friday, 8:30 AM

What should every beginning farmer know about agricultural policy? Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, 1st District of Maine, will address conference attendees. She will be joined by Kathleen Merrigan, former Deputy Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and Lindsey Lusher Shute, Executive Director of the National Young Farmers Coalition, for a Q&A. **Hay Loft**

Friday Midday Address

Friday, 1:00 PM

What do beginning farmers need to know about establishing a successful farm business enterprise? Cheryl Rogowski, a fourth-generation farmer and the first farmer to receive a MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship, will offer her advice to beginning farmers. **Hay Loft**

Friday Closing Address & Remarks

Friday, 3:45 PM

Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens of Lakeview Organic Grain and Dan Barber, Executive Chef and Co-owner of Blue Hill at Stone Barns will discuss how chefs are working with farmers to create a new ecological cuisine that reflects the complexity of the farmer’s field.

The 2013 National Young Farmers Conference will conclude with remarks from

Fred Kirschenmann, President of Stone Barns Center's Board of Directors. **Hay Loft**

Seed Swap

Thursday and Friday (all day)

Don't forget to bring your seeds!

Throughout the conference, farmers are encouraged to visit our seed swap table, located in the Silo Lobby. Be sure to label your seeds with the proper botanical name, where they were grown, and the year. Thanks to Johnny's Selected Seeds, High Mowing Organic Seeds, Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co., Fruition Seeds, The Edible Schoolyard Project, Indian Valley Organic Farm and Garden, and The Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems for their support of the seed swap!
Silo Lobby

CONFERENCE DETAILS

Location

Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture
630 Bedford Road
Pocantico Hills, NY 10591

Conference Costs

- Full Conference: \$180 (not including pre-conferences)
- Pre-conferences: \$50
- Thursday Only: \$90
- Friday Only: \$90

Registration

This year, registration for the conference was by lottery. Beginning farmers (10 years farming or less) were given registration preference. The 2013 lottery has closed.

Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms has been set aside for the reduced rate of \$129/night at the Sheraton Tarrytown, located at 600 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591. To book your room, please call the hotel directly at [914 460 2003](tel:9144602003) and mention the National Young Farmers Conference or book [online](#).

Meals

Lunch is included on Wednesday for pre-conference attendees. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are included on Thursday; breakfast and lunch are included on Friday. All meals on Thursday and Friday are provided and prepared by Blue Hill at Stone Barns.

Scholarships

Stone Barns Center offers a limited number of scholarships to the National Young Farmers Conference every year. The scholarship application period for 2013 is closed.

General Questions

For general questions about the National Young Farmers Conference, contact Estelle Silberman at 914 366 6200 x160 or via [email](#).

Sponsorship Inquiries

To learn about sponsorship opportunities, contact Erica Helms at 914 366 6200 x121 or via [email](#).

Press Inquiries

For Conference press inquiries, contact Mara Flanagan at 914 366 6200 x118 or via [email](#).

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