

# Whole Farm Planning For Beginning Women Farmers

## Quick—answer these four questions:

- Do you wear muddy boots more than you wear high heels?
- Do you believe women learn more effectively from each other?
- Would you like to learn from other women farmers?
- Have you been farming less than 10 years?

If you answered “yes” to at least three of the above questions, you have a chance to join other farming women for support and camaraderie learning about whole farm planning. Through funds from a USDA grant, beginning women farmers in NY can learn more about whole farm planning in a program developed specifically for women. Best of all, it costs nothing but your time and interest.

## This program includes:

- One-on-One Mentorships
- On-Farm Field Days
- Business Planning Seminars
- Network of Women Farmers

Sound good? If you are interested in learning more or applying for this program, please contact Phil Metzger at 607-334-3231, x4 or [phil.metzger@ny.usda.gov](mailto:phil.metzger@ny.usda.gov) **by Nov. 30th.**

*ALSO: Want to be a farmer mentor? Please contact Phil for more information and to apply.*

Classes will be scheduled throughout the 2010 winter with farm visits during the growing season of 2010. Commitment to attend all sessions (except the final one) is expected. Exact locations and dates TBD by early January.

## Topics include:

1. Introduction for Whole Farm Program; Creating a Values-based Farm Mission; Whole Farm Decision Analysis Process;
2. Increasing Farm Profitability (Gross Profit Analysis; Enterprise Analysis)
3. Creating a Whole Farm Financial Plan
4. Business Planning Basics
5. Creating a Marketing Plan
6. Soil Fertility Basics; Examining Enterprise’s Environmental Impact;
7. Time Management – Pulling it All Together in a Whole Farm Plan
8. Land and Infrastructure Planning
9. Leadership/Communication Skills
10. Integrating Livestock on your Farm (optional)

**APPLICATION**

**Whole Farm Planning for Beginning Women Farmers**

Please fill out and return to by **November 30, 2009**

**Name:**

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**Address:**

**County:**

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**Phone:**

**Cell:**

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**Email:**

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1. How long have you been farming? Please distinguish between how long you've worked on farms vs. served in a farm management role.

2. What crops/production/enterprises do you have?

3. What is the farm's gross income?

4. What whole farm planning training have you participated in?

5. Why are you interested in taking this training?

**Please return application electronically by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, as an email attachment to:  
Phil Metzger, Central NY RC&D, 99 North Broad Street, Norwich NY 13815  
[phil.metzger@ny.usda.gov](mailto:phil.metzger@ny.usda.gov)**

## **MENTOR APPLICATION**

### **Whole Farm Planning for Beginning Women Farmers**

Please fill out and return to by **November 30, 2009**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long have you been farming? Please distinguish between how long you've worked on farms vs. served in a farm management role.

2. What crops/production/enterprises do you have?

3. What whole farm planning training have you participated in?

4. Why are you interested in being a mentor for this program?

5. Please provide the name and contact information (phone/email) for one reference regarding your ability to be a beginning farm mentor.

Reference:

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