

Small Farms Research Center

The Small Farms Research Center at Alabama A&M University (AAMU) was first conceived in 2000 with funding from USDA's Office of Outreach authorized under Section 2501 of the 1990 Farm Bill. The mission of the center and the Small Farmers Outreach and Technical Assistance Program is to assist all small and limited resources farmers effectively dealing with agricultural risk, food safety, and overall farm management issues and provide them with information.

Learn more about us by visiting our website and Facebook page through the links below.

Website

<http://www.aamu.edu/sfrc>

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/smallfarmsresearchcenter>

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United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture



Farmer to Farmer Mentorship Program



Overview of Mentor/Mentee Relationship

Farmer to Farmer Mentorship Program provides an opportunity to build a relationship between the experienced farmers and new & beginning farmers/ranchers who are trying new farming operations and marketing outlets.

This program is usually approached by one-on-one or group training either through field days and farm demonstrations. The mentorship program is suitable for beginning farmers with their own farm, community garden plot, or access to land where they can practice and learn one-on-one from a mentor.

The Farmer to Farmer Mentorship Program ranked at a high percentage on the Small Farms Research Center Questionnaire. We encourage all new and beginning farmers to take advantage of this program.

Who can apply?

A **Mentee** applicant is a new farmer or rancher (within ten years of production), eager to learn from experienced farmer in the same or adjacent region.

Mentor is an experienced farmer with time, skill and insight to share with the next generation farmer/rancher.

Mentors are expected to provide:

- Interest in supporting next generation farmers and ranchers;
- Willingness to host mentee to your farm or ranch and to visit his or her farm;
- Providing and sharing knowledge about your farming operations, business planning and marketing techniques;
- The ability to listen and communicate effectively, openly and honestly;

Mentees (beginning farmer/rancher) are to be expected to provide:

- Willing to learn and show interest in new operations.
 - Willing to establish and maintain contact and face to face meet with assigned mentor.
 - Commitment to honest and open communication.
 - Applications are due **February 27th, 2015**. The mentor/mentee relationship begins April-September, 2015.
- * **Note: This is not an employment program.**

How to apply?

Please use one of the following application methods:

- Please visit www.aamu.edu/sfrc main page and click on Mentee application form for new/beginning farmers & ranchers. All the established farmers click on Mentor Application Form.
- Please fill the form and send it to *smallfarmresearchcenter@gmail.com*
- *Or you can mail it to the below address*

Small Farms Research Center
Alabama A&M University
P.O. Box 700
Normal, Alabama 35762
- *Or fax this application form to (256)-372-5517*

If there are any further questions, please feel free to contact the center at (256)-372-4424.