

CSREES SMALL FARM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
January 2003

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension
Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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CSREES SMALL FARM PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS is
electronically published monthly. Special alert issues will be
available as events warrant.

This is the nineteenth issue of an electronic resource tool
for State Small Farm Program Coordinators and others
to share small farm relevant information with our
stakeholders at the Land-Grant University System.

HIGHLIGHTS INDEX February 12, 2003

KEY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Agriculture Secretary Veneman Announces
Additional Steps to Facilitate Farm Bill Sign Up.
On January 31, 2003, Agriculture Secretary Ann
M. Veneman announced that the U.S. Department
of Agriculture is taking additional actions to
assist farmers in completing sign-up for the Direct
and Counter-cyclical Programs in the
2002 Farm Bill. For more information, see
<http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/01/0037.htm>.

Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman Launches \$1.4
Billion Program To Expand Telecommunication
& Broadband Technology in Rural America.
On January 29, 2003, Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced
a new program to expand telecommunication and broadband
technology in rural American. The program will expand
efforts is to bring farmers, rural residents and businesses
greater access to improved telecommunication technology
through the financing. For more information, see
<http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/01/0028.htm>

2002 Census of Agriculture Update. The National
Agricultural Statistics Service is conducting the 2002
Census of Agriculture. All small farmers are encouraged
to return the report form which is due back to USDA by
February 3, 2003. It is imperative that all small farmers
be counted in the 2002 Census because information will

be used by USDA to strengthen outreach efforts to ensure that all USDA programs and services are accessible to all small farmers and ranchers across the country. For additional information, see <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/census/>

Second Progress and Achievements Reports on Small Farms. The Department will publish the second progress and achievements report on small farms in February. The report "Assisting America's Small Farmers and Ranchers in the 21st Century" was prepared by the USDA Small Farms Coordinators and will highlight progress and achievements on small farms and ranchers from the period January 2002 through September 2001. The report will be available on the Small Farms @USDA Web site at: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/smallfarm> or contact Alfonzo Drain at 202-720-3238 or via e-mail at: alfonzo_drain@nass.usda.gov.

COMMUNICATION NETWORK

Wisconsin State Small Farm Contact Retires. Tom Parslow, our state contact for small farms in Wisconsin, retired on January 3, 2003. Paul Dietmann will be replacing Tom in this position. His contact information is:

Paul Dietmann
Uwex Ag Agent
West Square Admin Bldg.
505 Broadway
Baraboo, WI 53913-2404
Phone: 608-355-3250
Fax: 608-355-3550
E-mail: paul.dietmann@ces.uwex.edu

MEETINGS & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

USDA Small Farm Working Group Met in January. On January 23, 2003, the USDA Small Farm Working Group held its quarterly meeting in Washington, DC. Jerry Alanko of USDA-FSA discussed programs serving small farmers and ranchers. Jerry Alanko can be reached at 202-690-1003.

Ed Brzoskek of USDA/NRCS discussed the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Ed Brzoskek can be reached at 202-720-1834.

Elizabeth Tuckermanty of USDA-CSREES discussed Community Food Projects and the 2501 Program-Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers. Elizabeth Tuckermanty can be reached at 202-205-0241 or via e-mail at: etuckermanty@reeusda.gov.

The next USDA Small Farm Working Group quarterly meeting will be held Thursday, April 24, 2003. If you would like to share your program success with the group,

please contact Denis Ebodaghe at 202-401-4385 or
via e-mail at: ebodaghe@reeusda.gov.

Monthly Sustainable Agriculture Workshops Held in KY.
Every Third Thursday at Kentucky State University in
Frankfort, KY, a series of Sustainable Agriculture Workshops
will be held. Contact: Marion Simon at 502-597-6437 or
via e-mail at: msimon@gwmail.kysu.edu.

GRANTS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Integrated Research, Education & Extension
Competitive Grants Program.

Deadline - February 28, 2003. For more information, see
http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfaintegrated_03.htm

Recruitment Announcement (CSREES-1) for Summer
Interns Deadline - March 13, 2003. For more information, see
<http://www.reeusda.gov/hrd/vacancy.htm>

2003 Resource Guide of Summer Opportunities for
Minority Undergraduates. For more information, see
<http://www.doorsofopportunity.org> or <http://www.prindial.tripod.com>

USDA/CSREES Community Food Projects Grants.

The purpose of the Community Food Projects
Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP) is
to support the development of Community Food Projects
with a one-time infusion of Federal dollars to make
such projects self-sustaining. Community Food Projects
should be designed to: (i) meet the food needs of low-income
people; (ii) increase the self-reliance of communities in providing
for their own food needs; and (iii) promote comprehensive responses
to local food, farm, and nutrition issues; and /or meet specific State,
local, or neighborhood food and agriculture needs for (iv) infrastructure
improvement and development; (v) planning for long-term solutions;
or (vi) the creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually
benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers.

Preference will be given to projects designed to: (a) develop linkages
between two or more sectors of the food system; (b) support the
development of entrepreneurial projects;) develop innovative linkages
between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors; or (d) encourage long-term
planning activities and multi-system, interagency approaches with
multistakeholder collaborations that build the long-term capacity of
communities to address the food and agricultural problems of the
communities, such as food policy councils and food planning associations.
Community Food Projects are intended to take a comprehensive approach
to developing long-term solutions that help to ensure food security in
communities by linking the food production and processing sectors to
community development, economic opportunity, and environmental
enhancement. Comprehensive solutions may include elements such as:

(I) improved access to high quality, affordable food among low-income
households; (ii) expanded economic opportunities for community residents
through local businesses or other economic development, improved
employment opportunities, job training, youth apprenticeship,
school-to-work transition, and the like, and (iii) support for local food
systems, from urban gardening to local farms that provide high quality

fresh foods, ideally with minimal adverse environmental impact. Any solution proposed must tie into community food needs. The Solicitation for the Community Food Projects will be out shortly. Contact Elizabeth Tuckermanty at 202-205-0241 or via e-mail at: etuckermanty@reeusda.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14, 2003 - University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff, AR
47th Annual Rural Life Conference. Contact: Henry English
at 870-575-7526.

February 15-17, 2003 - St. Croix, USVI
Agricultural & Food Fair. For more information,
please call 340-772-0997.

February 18, 2003 - Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
Organic Farming Workshop. Contact: Roy Bullock at 615-963-5449
or via e-mail at: fbullock@tnstate.edu.

February 19-22, 2003 - Davidsonville, MD
Mid-Atlantic Direct Marketing Conference (MADMAC)
For more information, please call The Small Farm Institute
Coordinator at 410-222-6759 or via e-mail at:
st112@umail.umd.edu.

February 18, 25, and March 4, 11, and 19, 2003 -
St. Mary's County Beginning Farmer Workshop Series
offered in Southern MD. For more information, please
call The Small Farm Institute Coordinator at 410-222-6759
or via e-mail at: st112@umail.umd.edu.

February 20-21, 2003 - Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL
Annual Farmer's Conference. Contact: Ntam Baharanyi at
334-727-8454.

February 22, 2003 - Holiday Inn Downtown, Lincoln, NE
Briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill & USDA Programs and Services.
A briefing designed to connect USDA customers to agency
programs and services while highlighting changes and new
provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill. Special emphasis will be
placed on how USDA can better serve non-traditional and
traditionally underserved customers. There is no cost to attend.
For more information:, see <http://www.usda.gov/da/briefing.htm>
or call 1-800-880-4183.

February 24, 2003 - Trade, Recreation, Agricultural Center
(TRAC) Facilities, Pasco, WA. A briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill
& USDA Programs and Services. A briefing designed to connect
USDA customers to agency programs and services while highlighting
changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill. Special emphasis
will be placed on how USDA can better serve non-traditional and
traditionally underserved customers. There is no cost to attend.
For more information, see <http://www.usda.gov/da/briefings/briefing.htm>
or call 1-800-880-4183.

February 26, 2003 - Fresno State University, Fresno, CA.
Briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill & USDA Programs and Services.
A briefing designed to connect USDA customers to agency programs and services while highlighting changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill. Special emphasis will be placed on how USDA can better serve non-traditional and traditionally underserved customers. There is no cost to attend. For more information, see <http://www.usda.gov/da/briefings/briefing.htm> or call 1-800-880-4183.

February 27, 2003 - Kearney Ag Station, Reedley, CA
Strawberry Outreach Workshop. Contact: R. Molinar at 559-456-7555.

February 27-28, 2003 - Lexington, KY
Kentucky Women in Agriculture Conference
Contact: Gac Broadwater at 502-597-6325
or via e-mail at: gbroadwater@gwmail.kysu.edu.

March 1-2, 2003 - Santa Clara, CA
Irrigation and Fertility Management Workshop.
Contact: A. Baameur at 408-299-2635, ext 1010.

March 11, 2003 - Rapid City-Rushmore Plaza -
Rapid City, SD.
Briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill & USDA Programs and Services. A briefing designed to connect USDA customers to agency programs and services while highlighting changes and new provisions in the 2002 Farm Bill. Special emphasis will be placed on how USDA can better serve non-traditional and traditionally underserved customers. There is no cost to attend. For more information, see <http://www.usda.gov/da/briefings/briefing.htm> or call 1-800-880-4183.

March 10, 17, and 24, 2003 - Beginning Farmer Workshop Series offered in Southern Maryland, Anne Arundel County. For more information, please call The Small Farm Institute Coordinator at 410-222-6759 or via e-mail at: st112@umail.umd.edu.

March 18, 2003 - Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
Agro-Forestry Workshop. Contact: Roy Bullock at 615-963-5449 or via e-mail at: fbullock@tnstate.edu.

March 18-20, 2002, Virginia State University
Petersburg, VA
Financial Management & Crop Insurance Training
For Ag Professionals Who Work With Under-Served Producers.
The workshop will equip you to provide business management and crop insurance assistance to under-served producers along with high quality tools and materials. Contact Dr. Albert E. Essel at 804-524-5871 or via e-mail at: aessel@vsu.edu

March 23-25, 2003 - Ramada Inn SW, Jackson, MS
Alcorn State University Small Farmer's Conference. The conference will provide focused technical assistance to small farmers, explore concrete opportunities for value-added vegetable marketing, outline business development steps for rural women

seeking to start a rural business and allow opportunities to network with federal and state resource contacts and share experiences and ideas. Contact: Iris Crosby at 662-773-4506.

March 24-27, 2003 - C.A. Vines 4-H Center
Ferndale, AK
2003 National Extension Conference on Volunteerism.
The conference will address current critical issues and concerns relating to Extension volunteers, leaders, and community collaborations. Contact: Mike Klumpp via e-mail at mklumpp@uaex.edu or see <http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/whatnew/03/03natext.doc>.

March 24-28, 2003
North Carolina A&T State University Small Farm Week.
Contact: Dan Lyons at 336-334-7734.

March 31-April 1, 2003 - Durango, CO
Small Farm & Ranch Marketing Conference.
Contact: Pamela Roy at 505-473-1004 or via e-mail at: pamelaroy@aol.com.

April 5, 2003 - Stockton, CA
Strawberry Fumigation. Outreach Workshop for Mien Growers
Contact: B. Fouche at 209-468-2085.

April 15, 2003 - Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
Turfgrass and Landscape Management Workshop. Contact: Roy Bullock at 615-963-5449 or via e-mail at: fbullock@tnstate.edu.

April 7-11, 2003 - Marriott University Park Hotel
Tucson, AZ. The Third National Aquaculture Extension Conference. The conference will focus on innovative techniques, current issues and emerging technologies. Contact: Kevin Fitzsimmons at 520-626-3324, via e-mail at kevfitz@ag.arizona.edu, or see <http://aquacultureextension.org>.

April 23-25, 2003, Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA
Financial Management & Crop Insurance Training For Ag Professionals Who Work With Under-Served Producers. The training will equip you to provide business management and crop insurance assistance to under-served producers and give you high quality tools and materials. Contact Dr. Albert E. Essel at 804-524-5871 or via e-mail at: aessel@vsu.edu.

April 30, 2003 - Hilton Minneapolis & Towers
Immigration & the Food Processing Industry. The conference will discuss the relatively recent phenomenon of immigrant concentrations in communities surrounding food-processing plants. Topics include immigrants in the labor force, community responses, best practices for social service programs, and community responses to anti-immigrant backlash. Contact: Dr. Cornelia Flora at 515-294-1329 or via e-mail at: cflora@iastate.edu.

May 7-9, 2003 - Wyndham Albuquerque Hotel
Albuquerque, NM

Financial Management & Crop Insurance Training For Ag Professionals Who Work With Under-Served Producers. The training will equip you to provide business management and crop insurance assistance to under-served producers and provide you with high quality tools and materials. Contact Dr. Albert E. Essel at 804-524-5871 or via e-mail at: aessel@vsu.edu.

May 15, 2003 - Kearney Ag Station, Reedley, CA
Blueberry Field Day. Contact: M. Jimenez at 559-685-3309, ext 216.

May 20, 2003 - Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
Goat Management and Marketing Workshop. Contact: Roy Bullock at 615-963-5449 or via e-mail at: fbullock@tnstate.edu.

May 28, 2003 - Kearney Ag Station, Reedley, CA
Blackberry/Blueberry Field Day and Demonstration.
Contact: M. Jimenez at 559-685-3309, ext 216

FEEDBACK: CSREES Small Farm Program Highlights is a dialogue resource tool primarily for State Small Farm Program Coordinators and others who work with the small farmers and ranchers. If you have questions, information to share, comments, or interest in subscribing or unsubscribing, send to asimon@reeusda.gov.

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