

## UPCOMING DATES

*Small farm and food business operators in North Central Florida can exchange ideas and learn about diversified farming and food entrepreneurship through the Florida Agriculture Network. Re-established in 2016, the group is facilitated by UF/IFAS Extension agents in Bradford, Alachua and Suwannee Counties.*



**Register through the calendar page of the UF/IFAS Extension Small Farms Website**

**[smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu](http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu)**

For questions, contact

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**386 362-1725**

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# Florida Agriculture Network

**Connect with fellow farmers and food entrepreneurs through the Florida Agriculture Network!**

**UF** | IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

## WHY JOIN?

The Florida Agriculture Network provides networking, mentoring and practical educational opportunities for small and beginning farmers and the broader local foods community.

### Network meetings offer opportunity to:

- Visit small farms and food-related businesses in the region and learn directly from the host operators.
- Learn from invited speakers and hands-on demonstrations on practical topics.
- Exchange new ideas, share challenges in production, marketing and regulations, and explore solutions together.
- Learn about regional collaborative projects and opportunities to enhance your farming or business profitability.



## TYPICAL MEETING AGENDA

Meetings typically include:

- Meet and greet
- Farm tour
- Educational presentations
- Farmer-led discussion
- Extension training announcements

Meetings are held throughout North Central Florida. The network currently covers the region between Ocala, Jacksonville and Lake City.

Previous locations have included:

- Frog Song Organic Farm in Hawthorne, FL
- Alachua County Farm to School Hub, Gainesville, FL
- Farmer Ben Strong's farm and Chef James Jackson from the Call Street Café in Lawtey, FL
- Holiday Ranch in Vernon, FL
- Deep Spring Farm in Alachua, FL

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Network meetings are usually held on farms or at other locations not primarily designed to host large groups. Cooperating Extension Agents will make arrangements for rest rooms and a shady spot for the educational exchange, but we are usually unable to provide enough folding chairs for the entire group. With this in mind participants are asked to:

- Bring a folding chair and one for a friend if possible
- Wear shoes suited to a farm tour
- Bring water, sunscreen and possibly insect repellent

### Cooperating UF/IFAS Extension Agents

- Tatiana Sanchez, Alachua County
- Kevin Athearn, NFREC-Suwannee Valley
- Patrick Troy, NFREC-Suwannee Valley
- David Nistler - Union County
- Dan Fenneman, Madison County
- Bonnie Wells - St. Johns County

