Meet a Partner—UME

Extension is just what it sounds like. University of Maryland Extension (UME) is the outreach arm of the 1864 Land Grant University in College Park, Maryland. The responsibility of the Extension service is to provide citizens with research based information for the betterment of their lives. UME in conjunction with the University of Maryland Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics provides the main leadership for delivering the Maryland Beginning Farmer Success Project.

UME combines the talents and abilities of all four partnering organizations: Future Harvest CASA, Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, University of Maryland Eastern Shore and University of Maryland Extension, to increase the number of beginning farmers in Maryland and the amount of land farmed by them—the goal of the Maryland Beginning Farmer Success Project.

The Maryland Beginning Farmer Success website, newsletter, and informational videos are all created through UME. The UME team targets upcoming events that will provide new farmers with reliable information for starting an unfamiliar enterprise. UME also aims to direct new farmers towards our partnering organizations for training and mentoring opportunities.

Extension.umd.edu/newfarmer

More events can be found on our site under “events”
Vineyards, Grapes, and Wine

Maryland is more than crabs, greenhouses and horses. University of Maryland Extension educator, Ben Beale not only provides leadership for the Maryland Beginning Farmer Success project but also offers insight to viticulture for new farmers. “Viticulture is the cultivation or culture of grapes especially for wine making”, according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

To learn if viticulture is the right enterprise for you navigate to the Enterprise Selection Guide and locate the Viticulture Keys to Success, provided by Ben Beale, on the Beginning Farmer Success Website.

Featured Video

Spring Vineyard Pruning with Ben Beale, St. Mary’s County Agriculture Extension Educator

Click below to view the video.

Click here to view more videos

Click here to receive this newsletter every month

To submit information for the monthly newsletter please contact the Beginning Farmer Success Project Coordinator, Andrea Rice at amrice@umd.edu

Please submit information and photos by the first of the month.

"This project was supported by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, Grant #2012-49400-19552. To find more resources and programs for beginning farmers and ranchers please visit www.Start2Farm.gov, a component of the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program."

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