

Production Resource Guide



BIG RIVER FARMS

A program of the Minnesota Food Association



MINNESOTA FOOD ASSOCIATION

14220 B Ostlund Trail North
Marine on St. Croix, MN
55047
Phone: 651.433.3676
www.MnFoodAssociation.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Business Planning	3
Government	4
Legal, Financial, & Insurance Resources	4
Local Sustainable Farming Organizations	6
University, Research, & Farming Information	9
Organic Certifiers	12
Seed Sources	12
Supply Companies	14

Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

P.O. Box 460
Mineral, VA 23117
Phone: (540) 894-9480
<http://www.southernexposure.com>

SUPPLY COMPANIES

AgResource Inc.

35268 State Highway 34
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Phone: (218) 847-9351
Sells farm supplies, small tools, trellising, etc.

Bedford Industries

1659 Rowe Avenue
PO Box 39
Worthington, MN 56187
Phone: (877) 233-3673
www.bedfordind.com
Online, mail order company offering packing supplies.

BFG Supply

14500 Kinsman Rd
P.O. Box 479
Burton, OH 44021
Phone: (612) 781-6068 ext.3132
Email: mxiong@bfgsupply.com
Contact: Mai Khou Xiong
www.bfgsupply.com/

Offers potting soil, peat, perlite, organic and non organic, fertilizer.

Farm Tek

1440 Field of Dreams Way
Dyersville, IA 52040
1 (800) 245-9881
www.farmtek.com
Equipment, farm supplies, order from catalog or on-line store, Spanish speaking employees.

BUSINESS PLANNING

African Economic Development Solutions

1821 University Avenue West Suite S-291
St. Paul, MN 55104
Office: (651) 646-9411
Cell: (651) 815-9367
<http://aeds-mn.org/>
Small business consulting for African immigrants.

Asian Economic Development Association

Suite D, 377 University Avenue West
Saint Paul, MN 55103
Phone: (651) 222-7798
Contacts: Joo Hee Pomplun or Kia M. Kehrer
<http://www.aeda-mn.org/>
Technical assistance and workshops on business planning, financial literacy and credit building. Languages spoken: Hmong, Lao, Vietnamese.

Latino Economic Development Center

1516 East Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Phone: (612) 724-5332
Contact: Jackie Polio
www.ledc-mn.org/
Business planning and classes, targeted towards the Latino community.

MDA: Minnesota Department of Agriculture—see Government section

Neighborhood Development Center

663 University Avenue Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104
Phone: (651) 291-2480
<http://www.ndc-mn.org/>
Business development and capacity building programs, including financial resources and credit building.

GOVERNMENT

MDA: Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 201-6000

www.mda.state.mn.us

Government resource for agriculture—offers microloans and business planning assistance.

USDA NASS

National Agricultural Statistics Service

1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250
Phone: (800) 727-9540

nass@nass.usda.gov

www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Minnesota/index.asp

USDA NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service

375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101
Phone: (651) 602-7900

www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

NRCS works to help people conserve, improve, and sustain our natural resources

LEGAL, FINANCIAL & INSURANCE RESOURCES

AgStar

Phone: 1 (866) 577-1831
Contact: Sai Thao

www.agstar.com

Provides financial services for agriculture, specifically loans and microloans.

Fedco Seeds

PO Box 520
Waterville, ME 04903
Phone: 207.873.7333
www.fedcoseeds.com
Organic garden supplies

High Mowing Organic Seeds

Certified Organic
76 Quarry Road
Wolcott, VT 05680
Phone: 802.472.6174
www.highmowingseeds.com

Johnny's Selected Seeds

Phone: 1.877.564.6697
www.johnnyseed.com

Jung Seeds and Plants

335 S. High St
Randolph, WI 53956
Phone: 1.800.297.3123
www.jungseed.com

Seeds of Change

Certified Organic
PO Box 4908
Rancho Dominguez, CA 90020
Phone: 1.888.762.7333
www.seedsofchange.com

Seed Savers Exchange

3094 North Winn Road
Decorah, Iowa 52101
Phone: 563.382.5990
www.seedsavers.org

ORGANIC CERTIFIERS

MCIA: Minnesota Crop Improvement Association

1900 Hendon Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55108
Phone: (612) 625-7766
Contact: Susan Stewart
<http://www.mncia.org/>

Information on organic certification and standards; MFA's official organic certifier.

MOSA: Midwest Organic Services Association

PO Box 821
122 W Jefferson St
Viroqua, WI 54665
www.mosaorganic.org

Provides organic certification and a promoter of sustainable farming.

SEED SOURCES

Albert Lea Seed House

1414 West Main Street
PO Box 127
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Phone: (800) 352-5247
www.alseed.com

Covercrop and field seeds.

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

2278 Baker Creek Road
Mansfield, MO 65704
Phone: 417.924.8917
seeds@rareseeds.com

FAIM: Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties
Phone: 651-603-5881
Contact: Alicia Leveston
<http://minnesotafaim.com/index.cfm>

A matched savings project to help Minnesota low-wage earners build assets by placing up to \$40 monthly savings from their earned income into Family Asset Accounts (savings accounts) which will be matched 3-1 upon completion of asset contracts. Funds are for beginning or expanding a small business. Call or visit websites for eligibility information.

FLAG: Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc

360 North Robert Street, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: (651) 223-5400
www.flaginc.org

A law center dedicated to providing legal services and support to family farmers and their communities in order to help keep family farmers on the land.

FSA: Minnesota Farm Service Agency Office

375 Jackson Street, Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: (651) 602-7700
Contact: Nigatu Tadesse- Outreach Coordinator
www.fsa.usda.gov/mn

Government resources for farmers, including beginning farmer loans, operating loans, and microloans. Also information on Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Free basic coverage plans and premium discounts available for new, underserved and limited income farmers.

Minnesota Farmers' Market Association

9800 155th Street East
Nerstrand, MN 55053
Phone: (320) 250-5087
Contact: Kathy Zeman
www.mfma.org

Offers services and programs that promote Minnesota farmers' markets including liability insurance for some farmer's markets.

Minnesota Farmers Union

600 County Road D West, Suite 14
St. Paul, MN 55112
Phone: (651) 639.1223

<http://mfu.org/insurance#fragment-5>

Provides insurance.

Princeton Insurance

Phone: (763) 389-3650
Contact: Jim Burroughs
Insurance for farmers.

Insurance Market

Phone: (763) 574-7447
Insurance for farmers.

USDA Risk Management Agency

1400 Independence Ave., SW, Stop 0801
Washington, D.C. 20250-0801
Phone: (202) 690-2803
E-mail: RMA.CCO@rma.usda.gov

www.rma.usda.gov

Information on AGR-Lite, a whole-farm revenue protection plan of insurance which protects against low revenue due to unavoidable natural disasters and market fluctuations.

LOCAL SUSTAINABLE FARMING ORGANIZATIONS

Gardening Matters

310 E. 38th St. 204B
Minneapolis, MN 55409
Phone: (612) 821-2358

www.gardeningmatters.org

Promotes and preserves community gardening across the Twin Cities by connecting gardeners to each other and to the communities, and offering resources and training to support gardening.

New Farm: Rodale Institute

611 Siegfriedale Road
Kutztown, PA 19530
Phone: (610) 683-1400

www.rodaleinstitute.org/new_farm

Rodale Institute is a nonprofit dedicated to pioneering organic farming through research and outreach.

NIFI: National Immigrant Farming Initiative

www.immigrantfarming.org

Provides training, networking opportunities, and funding for projects and other resources to support immigrant farmers.

SARE: Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

University of Minnesota
120 BioAgEng Bldg.
1390 Eckles Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108

www.sare.org/coreinfo/farmers.htm

Offers research and education grants.

SUSTAG Listserv

To join: <http://lists.umn.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=SUSTAG&A=1>

To post: sustag@lists.umn.edu

Sustainable Ag Events and Jobs Listserv—post or learn current events in sustainable agriculture across the nation.

University of Minnesota—Agriculture Extension

240 Coffey Hall
1420 Eckles Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108
Phone: (612) 624-1222

mnext@umn.edu

www.extension.umn.edu

Offers resources and educational opportunities regarding agriculture.

University of Minnesota Extension—Master Gardeners

www.extension.umn.edu/gardeninfo

Provides information, answers questions, and offers resources for gardening.

Michael Fields Agricultural Institute

W2493 County Road ES
PO Box 990
East Troy, WI 53120
Phone: (262) 642-3303 ex. 117
sschmitt@michaelfields.org
www.michaelfieldsagainst.org

Cultivating the ecological, social, economic, and spiritual vitality of food and farming systems through education, research, policy and market development.

Minnesota Organic Network Listserv

Members may sign up to receive emails concerning organic topics.

To subscribe:

Email: meg.moynihan@state.mn.us

Posting address: organic-network@lists.state.mn.us

Website: <http://www.sfa-mn.org/organicnet/index.html>

Promotes information sharing around emerging organic opportunities through a listserv.

MISA: Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture

411 Borlaug Hall
1991 Buford Circle
St. Paul, MN 55108
www.misa.umn.edu

A good resource for information, events, and activities regarding agriculture.

MOSES: Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service

PO Box 339
Spring Valley, WI 54767
Phone: (715) 778-5775
www.mosesorganic.org
info@mosesorganic.org

Serves farmers who use organic and sustainable practices by providing information, mentorship, and certification. Publishes bi-monthly Organic Broadcaster (farmer-focused news) and hosts annual conference the last weekend in February.

Growing Power

Milwaukee Headquarters and Urban Farm
5500 W. Silver Spring Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53218
Phone: (414) 527-1546
www.growingpower.org

Urban farm program in Milwaukee, WI inspiring communities to build sustainable food systems that are equitable and ecologically sound. Also hosts annual conference in fall/early winter.

LSP: Land Stewardship Project

821 East 35th Street Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Phone: (612) 722-6377
www.landstewardshipproject.org

Focus on ethical stewardship for farmland and promote sustainable agriculture. LSP operates the Farm Beginning Program and through that offers workshops and field days on local farms.

Minnesota Farmers Union

600 County Road D West, Suite 14
St. Paul, MN 55112
Phone: (651) 639-1223
Tollfree: (800) 969-3380
www.mfu.org

MFU works to protect and enhance the economic interests and quality of life of family farmers and ranchers and rural communities.

Minnesota Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association

15125 W. Vermillion Cir. NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Phone: (763) 434-0400
info@mfvga.org
www.mfvga.org

Seeks to encourage and improve fruit and vegetable production and marketing through sponsorship of a variety of opportunities.

Minnesota Grown

Phone: 1 (800) 657-3878

www.minnesotagrown.com

Become a member and advertise with Minnesota Grown that you grow locally. They also offer free marketing supplies such as signs and twist ties.

Minnesota Project

1885 University Avenue West Suite 315

St. Paul, MN 55104

Phone: (651) 645-6159

mnproject@mnproject.org

www.mnproject.org

Promotes sustainable production and distribution of food in communities across Minnesota.

Permaculture Research Institute Cold Climate

3957 42nd Ave S

Minneapolis, MN 55406

Phone: (612) 227-8407

<http://www.pricoldclimate.org/>

Permaculture forums, courses, information and news.

Renewing the Countryside

2637 27th Ave S. Suite 229

Minneapolis, MN 55406

Phone: 1 (866) 378-0587

info@rtcinfo.org

www.renewingthecountryside.org

Strengthens rural areas by working with rural communities and farmers who are working sustainably.

SFA: Sustainable Farming Association

Box 192

Princeton, MN 55371

Phone: (763) 260-0209

www.sfa-mn.org

A farmer-run organization that provides a network for farmers and offers workshops and field days.

WEI: Women's Environmental Institute

15715 River Road

North Branch, MN 55056

Phone: (651) 583-0705

<http://w-e-i.org/>

Education and farming resources on urban farming, farm and food justice, programs for women, and environmental justice.

UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH, & FARMING INFORMATION**Attra**

National Sustainable Agricultural Information Services

P.O. Box 3657

Fayetteville, AR 72702

www.attra.org

A good resource for information, events, and activities regarding agriculture.

Growing for Market

PO Box 3747

Lawrence, KS 66046

Phone: (785) 748-0605

www.growingformarket.com

Monthly newsletter for small growers who sell produce and flowers locally, organic information, advice, and resources for market farmers.

IATP: Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

2105 First Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Phone: (612) 870-0453

www.IATP.org

Information available from local to global sustainability.