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.

**UPCOMING DATES**

Register through the calendar page of the UF/IFAS Extension Small Farms Website  
smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu

For questions, contact  
Tatiana Sanchez: tatiana.sanchez@ufl.edu or 352-955-2402 or  
Kevin Athearn: athearn@ufl.edu or 386 362-1725

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

An Equal Opportunity Institution.
**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