



Agricultural Systems

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Training the next generation of farmers

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, the average age of farmers in the United States is 57.5 years old and for African American farmers it's 61. Land-grant university scientists are training the next generation of farmers.

Successful examples include:

- Approximately 100 socially disadvantaged farmers are currently enrolled in the Beginning Farmers Program at the University of **Arkansas** at Pine Bluff. Scientists at the historically Black land-grant university provide training in agricultural business, production, marketing, the use of U.S. Department of Agriculture programs and risk management for the diverse group of farmers.
- The Generation Next program, launched by **Texas** A&M to train new ranch landowners, had 90 participants who managed a collective 180,000 acres of land. By the end of the course, 64% of the participants completed their business plans. Participants estimated an economic benefit of \$10,400 per ranch (\$5/acre), or \$934,000 annually for all who completed the 2019 Generation Next program.

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