

Welcome
Black Farmers from NYS!

Who are the organizing partners of SARE?



SARE Advisory Group



Wil Moss,
Moss Fruits and Vegetables



Alison Espinosa, Rootworkers
Croft, Certified Veterinary
Technician



Rafael Aponte
Rocky Acres Community Farm



Julian Mangano
Della Terra

Community Networking

- What is something you are hoping to get from this space?
- What is one skillshare you'd love to attend back in NYS, either virtual or in-person?
- What type of community support are you currently looking for?

USDA SARE Northeast Grant:

Building and Strengthening Social and Economic Sustainability Among NY State Black Farmers

Purpose

- To increase financial and social sustainability, and improve mental health, well-being, and community connections for Black Farmers Statewide.
- To network Black farmers statewide to support and grow our individual and collective power.

Goals for BUGS convening:

- Share what we've done through this SARE project and what's coming up.
- Gather farmers' input on the upcoming proposed skillshare plan.
- Build and strengthen relationships between members of our team, our SARE farmer advisory committee members, and Black farmers throughout New York State.

Overview of what has been done so far



The Wisdom of Black Farmers

In this interactive session, we will reflect on what it means to be a Black land steward today, and have a chance to exchange on lessons learned along the way.

Join us for The Wisdom of Black Farmers, a community conversation with 5 Black farmers who have paved the way for current and future Black land stewards. Karen Washington, Farmer and Founder of Rise and Root Farm, will facilitate this intimate conversation with her fellow farmers and friends about their journeys navigating the agricultural landscape across the US.

 March 31st, 2022
 6:00PM

This skillshare is the first of many hosted by a coalition of organizations including Black Farmer Fund, Buffalo Go Green, Farm School NYC, Food for the Spirit, and NEFOC Land Trust and funded by USDA SARE. The goal of these skillshares are to increase financial and social sustainability and improve mental health, well-being, and community connections for Black Farmers Statewide and beyond.

Community Safety Conversation

On the one-month anniversary of the white supremacist attack that took place at a TOPS grocery store in Buffalo, we will come together in a safe space for people to connect and reflect on Buffalo's terrorist attack, and explore ways to address trauma, healing, and safety for land stewards throughout the northeast.

 **Oct 28**
 **6:30PM**

Registration is required: bit.ly/2022_CommunitySafety.

Please note that this is a BIPOC only space



NYS Black Farmer Skillshares



Join us for a 2-day Black farmer-led skillshare series (in Rochester NY) designed to help you increase profits through new crop and market development!



Led by: Wil Moss Jr of Moss Fresh Fruit & Vegetables and Pamela Reese Smith (aka "Mama P") of Harlem Brood Teas

OCT 28

All Things Collards:
Growing, Harvesting, and
Vending

🕒 2 - 8 PM

OCT 29

Farmers Markets 101 &
Grow to Sell: Profiting
from Farm Stands

🕒 8 AM - 3 PM

Two meals provided and reimbursements for travel and accommodations

Registration is required: https://bit.ly/2022_Skillshare

Questions can be directed to info@foodforthespirit.org

Open to NYS Black farmers, growers, and gardeners.



Group Conversations

- What are initial impressions?
- What is surprising?

SAME PLACE TOMORROW! (Different Time...)

- **Same Place : in Room SCI 217**
- **From 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM**

Tomorrow we will:

- **Continue getting to know each other...**
- **Hear from all of you about this SARE project!**

Welcome Black Farmers from NYS!

*Please find a seat next to
someone you **don't** know!*

Who are the organizing partners of SARE?



MIX & MINGLE 1...

If YOU were to lead a skillshare – with lots of support! – what would the topic be?

MIX & MINGLE 2...

For your skillshare, what information would you want to share with others?

MIX & MINGLE 3...

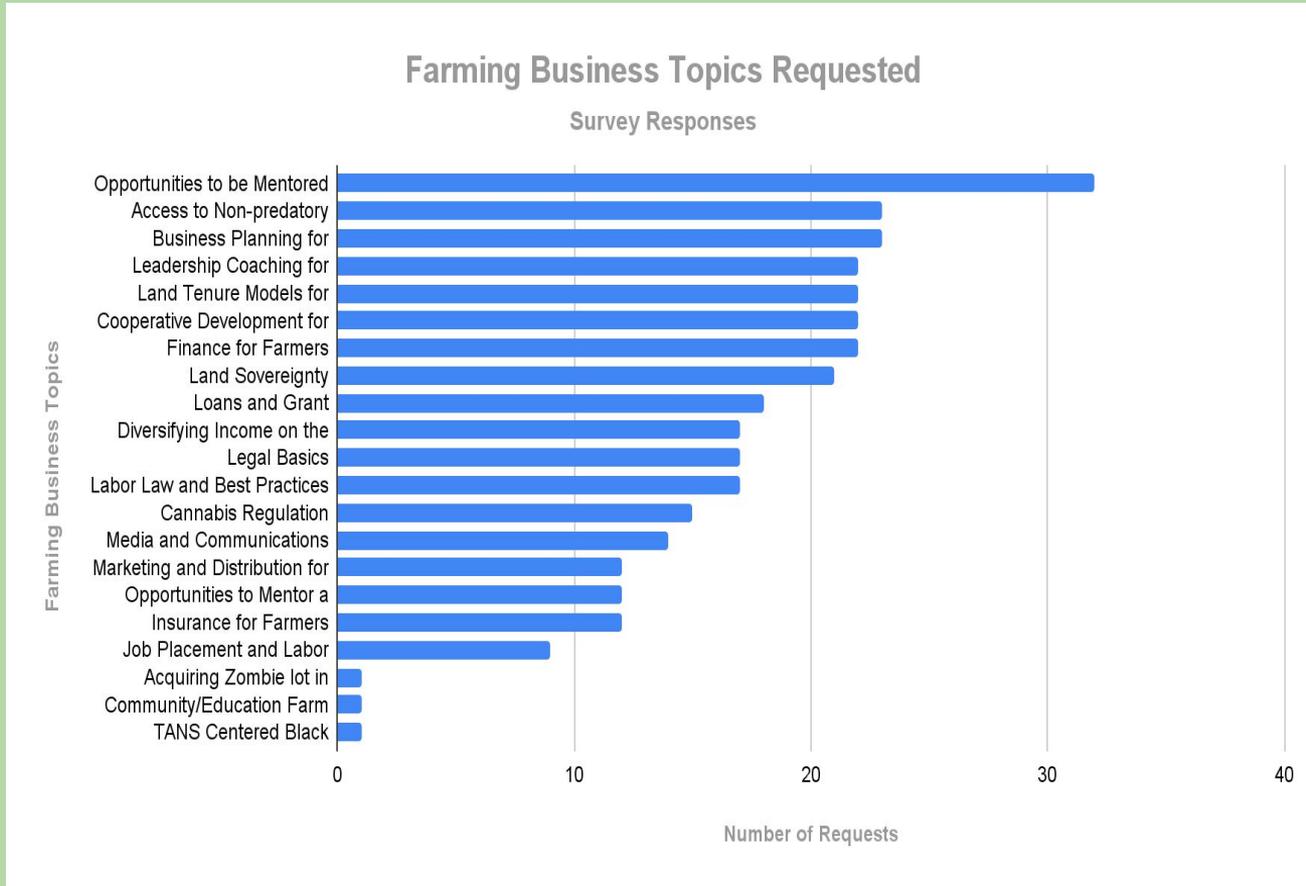
For your skillshare, what kinds of support would you need?

USDA SARE Northeast Grant:

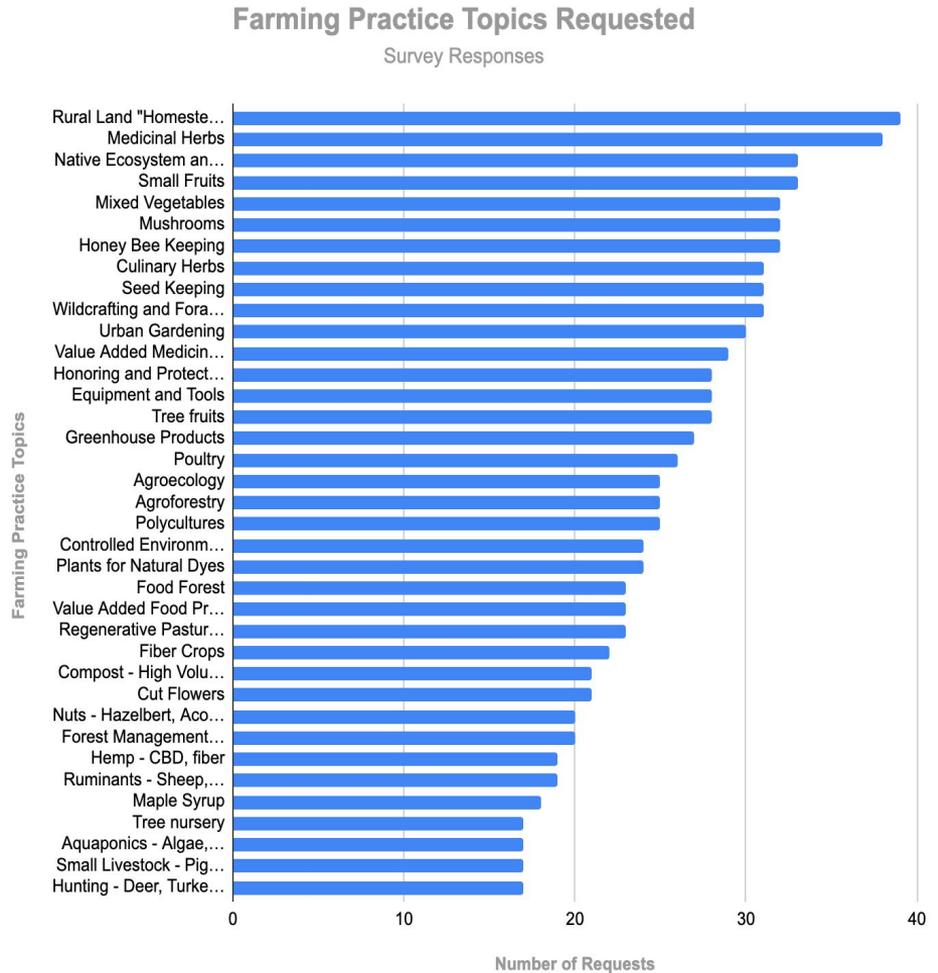
Building and Strengthening Social and Economic Sustainability Among NY State Black Farmers

- Black Farmer Co-op Development
- Skillshares
- Research (Jess Gilbert)

Skillshare Survey results - Business Topics:



Skillshare Survey results - Farming Practices Topics:



QUESTIONS?

SARE Curriculum Planning

Farmer-to-Farmer Skillshare Series Goals:

To increase the financial and social sustainability, and improve the mental health, well-being, and community connections of 50 Black Farmers in NY State through **15 in-person or virtual skillshares** by February 2024.

Past Skillshares:

- The Wisdom of Black Farmers (Virtual, April 2022)
- Community Safety (Virtual, June 2022)

Upcoming Skillshares:

- **Rural Farming:** Moss Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Farm tour with Wil Moss. (Rochester, October 28, 2022)
- **Farmers Market Service:** Rochester Farmers Market Skillshare with Wil Moss (Rochester, October 29, 2022)
- **Grow-to-Sell:** Utilizing Farm Stands and Non-Traditional Growing Spaces for Profit with Farmer Pamela Reese Smith (Rochester, October 29, 2022)

Skillshares Series Under Consideration:

- **Business Planning / Enterprise Series** (~4 skillshares proposed)
- **Rural Homesteading Series** (~3 skillshares proposed)
- **Land Access Series** (~3 skillshares proposed)

NYS Black Farmer Skillshares



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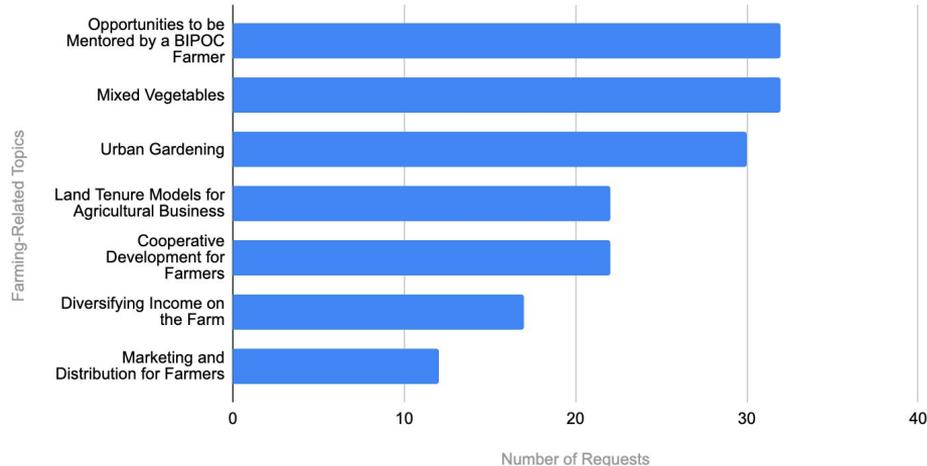
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Proposed Topics for the Rochester Skillshare Series

Based Upon Survey Responses



SARE Curriculum Planning

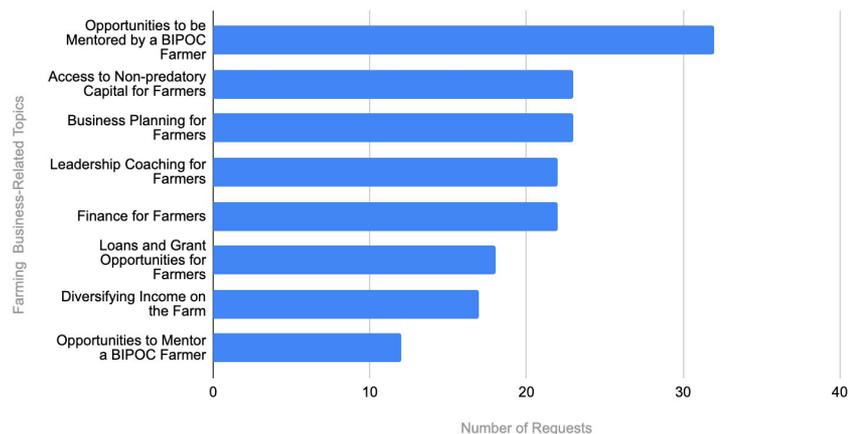
Farmer to Farmer Business Planning / Enterprise Skillshare Series

90-minute skillshares with breakouts and report backs

- Skillshare 1: Connecting and Gathering Knowledge / Business Planning - Vision, Values and Goals
- Skillshare 2: Business Planning - Marketing
- Skillshare 3: Business Planning - Operations
- Skillshare 2: Business Planning - People
- Skillshare 2: Business Planning - Finances
- Skillshare 5: Offering- 1-1 office hours

Proposed Topics for Business Planning / Enterprise Skillshare Series

Based Upon Survey Responses



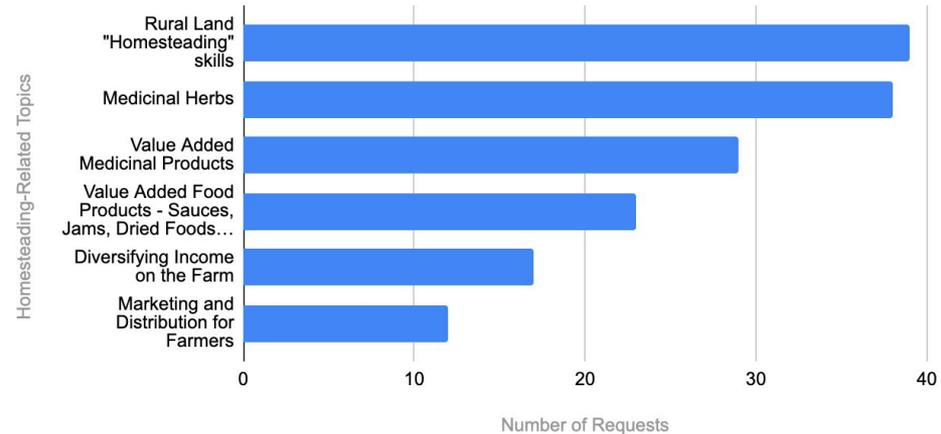
SARE Curriculum Planning

Farmer to Farmer Rural Land Homesteading + Medicinal Herbs

- Self sufficiency skills
- Value added products
- Preventative medicine

Proposed Topics for Rural Land Homesteading + Medicinal Herbs Skillshare Series

Based Upon Survey Responses



SARE Curriculum Planning

Farmer to Farmer Land Access Series

Skillshare #1

What are land models that bring land and people sovereignty?

Skillshare #2

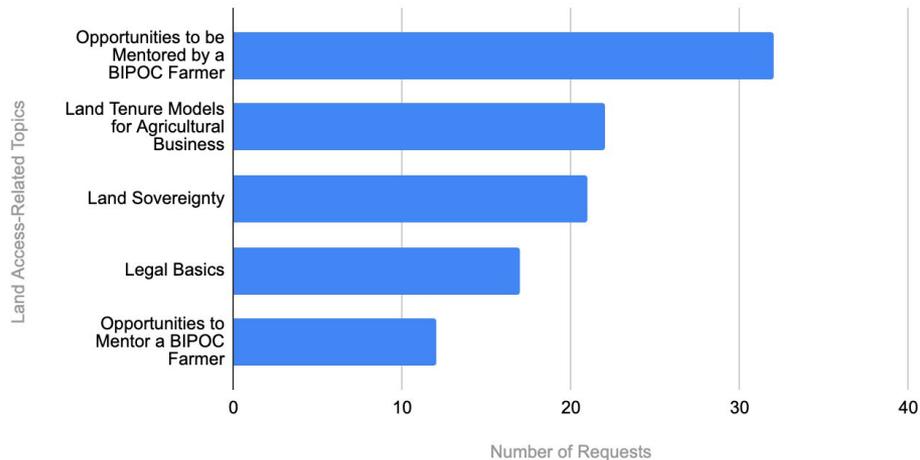
What is farmland? How to identify farm land? Zoning? Legal elements? Where to start!

Skillshare #3

Black Stewardship Cultivation

Proposed Topics for Land Access Skillshare Series

Based Upon Survey Responses



Skillshare Discussion

Please join 1 of 3 skillshare series discussion groups:

- Business Planning / Enterprise Development
- Rural Homesteading
- Land Access

Guiding Questions for Discussion:

- Are these the right subtopics?
- How many skillshares are needed to cover this topic?
- What would work virtually? In person?
- Do you know any Black farmers who can share knowledge on these topics?

NEXT STEPS

- We will compile info from today, follow-up with you all as potential skillshare presenters, and start rolling out skillshares in early 2023...
- Look out for contact from our research partner (Jessica Gilbert)
- Join us for the October in-person skillshare in Rochester (sign-up on today)

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

OUR CONTACT INFO...

- Allison D - adehonn@gmail.com
- Jessica G - jl吉尔伯@buffalo.edu
- Melanie A -
melanie@blackfarmerfund.com
- Onika A - onika@farmschoolnyc.org
- Rebekah W -
Rebekah@foodforthespirit.org

#1 Farmer to SARE Curriculum Planning

Farmer Business Development Support

- Getting to know each other
- Why do you want a business plan, and what are elements of business plan that are most intimidating to you and why?
- Content area (Access to capital; financing; land?)
- Offering- 1-1 office hours

#2 Rural Land Homesteading + Medicinal Herbs

- Self sufficiency skills
- Value added products
- Preventative medicine

In progress: Upcoming Skillshare in Rochester

- Value added products (Rochester)
- Business Planning and Markets; Water systems (Rochester)

#3 Land access

- Land as kin
- What is farmland?
- How to search/access and acquire the deeds to farmland?
- Legal aspects: from town to federal regulations
- Land models we had, we have and are currently developing
- *plz note concerns around not being able to provide "solutions" to land access

