



# Tools & Training *for Farm Educators*

University of Vermont Extension CENTER for SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

## Ground Work:

Effective strategies for teaching tractor skills  
and farm mechanization decision making

University of Vermont Extension's New Farmer Project is coordinating a two-year professional development training project beginning in 2014. The **Ground Work** project will support participants from throughout the Northeast to deliver mechanization and tractor education to beginning farmers, farm workers and apprentices.

Through a combination of online and in-person, hands-on learning, the project will equip agricultural service providers and farmer educators to teach adult learners about:

- Basic tractor use and operation,
- Basic tractor maintenance, and
- Farm mechanization strategies.

Thanks to a grant from the Northeast SARE Professional Development Program, there is

no tuition cost to participate. However, participants are expected to cover transportation expenses to attend the in-person training.

### Timeline

Registration, via an application process, is open through Dec. 20, 2013. **Register at <http://tinyurl.com/tractor-ed>**

Online sessions will start in early 2014. Participants will gain experience delivering hands-on tractor education at a day-long, in-person workshop in May 2014.

In 2015, the project will provide participants with support to organize and deliver farmer workshops and to work one-on-one with farmers on mechanization strategies.

**If you want to help farmers gain practical tractor skills and make sound mechanization decisions, the *Ground Work* project is for you.**

### For more information:

Contact Kristen Mullins at [kristen.mullins@uvm.edu](mailto:kristen.mullins@uvm.edu) or 802-656-2034

**Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/tractor-ed>**

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