



*I think having land and not ruining it is the most beautiful art  
that anybody could ever want to own.*

—Andy Warhol

## Plenary Sessions and Workshops

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### Plenary Sessions

#### **Opening Plenary Panel: The Landscape** (*Wednesday, 8:00, Aspen II*)

A brief history and overview of land access, tenure and succession issues in the U.S. What are the issues and what's at stake?

- Michael Duffy, Iowa State University
- Mark Falcone, USDA/Farm Service Agency
- Jess Gilbert, University of Wisconsin/Madison
- Kathryn Ruhf, Land For Good (MA)
- G.W. Stevenson, FarmLASTS Project

#### **Luncheon Plenary: Young Farmer Panel** (*Wednesday, noon, Aspen II*)

Young farmers from around the country share their land access and tenure stories

- Derek Christianson, Brix Bounty Farm (MA)
- Landi McFarland, Hoover Angus Farm (IA)
- Matthew Meals, Answer to Prayer Farm (PA)
- Robert Wilson, Miller Farms (FL)

#### **Dinner Plenary** (*Wednesday, 7:00, Aspen II*)

- Bill Sheets, Assistant Vice President  
Office of Gift Planning at Colorado State University

#### **Plenary Panel: What Do We Want? Where Are We Headed?** (*Thursday, 8:00, Aspen II*)

Forging a vision for farm and ranch access, tenure and succession; addressing the opportunities and challenges ahead

- Neil Hamilton, Drake Agricultural Law Center (IA)
- Janie Hipp, USDA/CSREES
- Savi Horne, Land Loss Prevention Project (NC)
- Steve Schwartz, California Farm Link

#### **Plenary: Bringing it Together** (*Thursday, 11:15, Aspen II*)

Next steps in policy, professional development, research, networking, and programming

- Bob Parsons, Kathryn Ruhf & the FarmLASTS Project
- Conference participants

#### **Closing Luncheon Plenary** (*Thursday, 12:15, Aspen II*)

- Commissioner John Stulp, Colorado Department of Agriculture

# Workshops

*CHOOSE WORKSHOPS FROM THE FOLLOWING THREE TRACKS IN FOUR CONCURRENT SESSIONS. (YOU'RE WELCOME TO "CROSS TRACKS"!)*

- **Track 1. Land Access and Tenure**
- **Track 2. Succession**
- **Track 3. Land Use, Conservation and Stewardship**

## Track 1. Land Access and Tenure

### **New Players in Farm/Ranch Financing** (*Thursday, 9:30 -11:00, Keystone 1*)

IDAs, equity investors and other innovative financing models for getting farmers onto the land.

- Robert Karp, New Spirit Ventures (WI)
- Steve Schwartz, California Farm Link
- Quint Redmond, Agriburbia (CO)

### **Federal and State Policy Issues and Innovations** (*Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00, Aspen 3-4*)

Experts will share what's new, what's working and what's next in the policy arena.

- Traci Bruckner, Center for Rural Affairs (NE)
- Michael Duffy, IA State University
- Ferd Hoefner, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (DC)
- Dave Kimmel, NJ Department of Agriculture

### **Tenancy: Opportunity or Serfdom?** (*Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00, Keystone 3*)

Nearly half U.S. farmers and ranchers rent some or all their land. We'll look at the pros and cons of non-ownership tenure.

- J. Gordon Arbuckle (IA State University)
- Derek Christianson, Brix Bounty Farm (MA)
- Ellie Kastanopolous, Equity Trust (MA)
- Karl Kupers, Shepherd's Grain (WA)

### **Preparing the Next Generation: Land Access Curricula** (*Wednesday, 1:45 - 3:30, Aspen 3-4*)

A FarmLASTS curriculum for academic courses and community-based farmer training programs

- Robin Kohanowich, Central Carolina Community College (NC)
- Chuck Steiner, University of Wisconsin/Platteville
- Jen Taylor, University of Wisconsin/Madison

**Land Access and Affordability** (*Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:00, Aspen 3-4*)

A look at affordability issues and new models to make land more affordable for farm entrants.

- Derek Christianson, Brix Bounty Farm (MA)
- Jess Gilbert and Chandra Hinton, University of Wisconsin/Madison
- Steve Schwartz, California FarmLink
- Alex Wylie, Vermont Land Trust

**Incubator and Mentoring Programs: Pathways to Land Acquisition** (*Thursday, 9:30 - 11:00, Aspen 3-4*)

Find out how these creative programs help new farmers find and get onto land.

- Altfred Krusenbaum (Krusen Grass Farm, WI)
- Gary Peterson, ALBA (CA)
- Steve Stevenson, FarmLASTS Project (WI)

**Minority and Immigrant Farmer and Land Issues** (*Thursday, 9:30 -11:00, Keystone 4*)

We'll address such issues as fractionation, heir property, cultural differences and language barriers.

- Marsha Goetting, University of Montana
- Dania Davey, Land Loss Prevention Project (NC)
- Brett Melone, ALBA and New Immigrant Farming Initiative (CA)
- Robert Wilson, farmer (FL)

**Track 2. Succession**

**Farm/Ranch Succession Education, Programs and Services** (*Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:00, Keystone 1*)

Find out what's out there and what's working well to help exiting farm and ranch families

- Bob Bernstein, Land For Good (NH)
- Dave Goeller, University of Nebraska
- Marsha Goetting, University of Montana
- Gary Hachfeld, University of Minnesota

**International Perspective: Research, Programs and Policies** (*Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:00, Keystone 4*)

What the U.S. can learn from Canada, Europe and elsewhere about farm entry and exit.

- John Baker, Iowa State University
- Peter Coughler, Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (Ontario)
- Matthew Loble, University of Exeter (UK)

**Linking Programs: What Works, What's Next** (*Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00, Keystone 2*)  
A roundtable discussion about farm link program successes and challenges.

- Dave Baker, Iowa State University
- Andrew Branan, North Carolina Farm Transition Network
- Wyatt Fraas, Center for Rural Affairs (NE)
- Reggie Knox, California Farm Link

**Farm Viability, Business Planning and Transfer** (*Wednesday, 1:45 - 3:30, Keystone 1*)  
Can the farm business survive a transfer to the next generation or owner?

- Dave Goeller, University of Nebraska
- Gary Matteson, Farm Credit Council (DC)
- Robert Parsons, University of Vermont
- Karen Stettler, Land Stewardship Project (MN)

**The “Soft Issues”: Communication and Conflict in Succession Planning**  
(*Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00, Keystone 4*)

Goals, vision, values, family dynamics, communication styles... these can make or break succession planning

- Sharon Danes, University of Minnesota
- Sharon DeVaney, Purdue University
- Debra Heleba, University of Vermont

**Transferring Management: The Overlooked Challenge** (*Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00, Keystone 1*)

We'll address passing on management, and strategies to help families succeed.

- John Baker, Iowa State University
- Rodney Jones, Kansas State University

**Women at the Table** (*Thursday, 9:30 -11:00, Keystone 3*)

As farm operator, farmer's partner, widow or entrant, women have unique challenges and offerings.

- Sharon Danes, University of Minnesota
- Debra Heleba, University of Vermont
- Denise O'Brien, Women, Food & Agriculture Network (IA)

## Track 3. Land Use, Conservation and Stewardship

### **Public Policy, Conservation and Stewardship** (*Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:00, Keystone 2*)

How can public policy encourage landowners and operators to improve farm and ranch conservation?

- Traci Bruckner, Center for Rural Affairs (NE)
- Bob Wagner, American Farmland Trust (MA)
- Chris West, Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust

### **Meeting Landlord and Tenant Conservation Interests** (*Wednesday, 1:45 - 3:30, Keystone 2*)

The best ideas for integrating conservation and stewardship into lease agreements.

- Mike Bell and Julie Keller, University of Wisconsin/Madison
- Tom Buman, AGREN (IA)
- Karl Kupers, Shepherd's Grain (WA)
- Denise O'Brien, Women, Food & Agriculture Network (IA)

### **Land Trusts, Ag. Easements, Active Use and Conservation** (*Wednesday, 1:45 - 3:30, Keystone 3*)

Successful models for working land tenure from the land trust community.

- Jen Johnson, The Nature Conservancy (CO)
- Ellie Kastanopolous, Equity Trust (MA)
- Bob Wagner, American Farmland Trust (MA)
- Alex Wylie, Vermont Land Trust

### **Non-farming Landowners, Land Use and Conservation** (*Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:00, Keystone 3*)

Farming opportunities and uses on Federal parkland, municipal open spaces, land trust land and intentional communities.

- Virginia Kasinki, Glynwood Center (NY)
- Darwin Kelsey, Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Conservancy (OH)
- Altfrid Krusenbaum (Krusen Grass Farm, WI)
- Mike Sands, Prairie Crossing (IL)

### **Land Use Rights and Legal Issues** (*Wednesday, 1:45 - 3:30, Keystone 4*)

Current hot topics such as wind energy leases.

- Scott Buchanan, Buchanan, Bibler, Gabor & Meis, (IA)
- Neil Hamilton, Drake Agricultural Law Center (IA)
- Frank Falen, Budd-Falen Law Offices (WY)

**The Cutting Edge on the Urban Edge** (*Thursday, 9:30 -11:00, Keystone 2*)  
Creative opportunities to get onto farmland in metro and suburban areas.

- Nevin Cohen, The New School (NY)
- Douglas Jackson-Smith, Utah State University
- Ron Stewart, Boulder County (CO)

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*Remember the earth whose skin you are:  
red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth  
brown earth, we are earth  
Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all have their  
tribes, their families, their histories too.*

—Joy Harjo