

# Growing Growers Training Program Maximizing Impact Through Collaboration

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# Growing Growers

*Kansas City*

- Established in 2003 to address gap between supply and demand
- Formal programmatic partnership between grower-educators serving KC Metro
- Grant funded for 5 yrs.



# Program Components

- Apprenticeship Program
  - 19 Host Farms
- Online Community
  - >500 on Discussion List
  - Website/Facebook
- Workshop Series
  - 12-15 Workshops/yr.
- Advisory Board
  - 12 Members



# Apprenticeship Program

- 10-15 apprentices/year
- On-farm training
  - Mentoring by host farmer
  - Most paid, some volunteer
- Free registration to workshops
  - Must attend 6 core and 2 elective
- Farm Apprenticeship Coordinator



# Host Farms for Apprentices

- Minimum requirements for host farms are
  - use of organic or sustainable practices
  - in business for at least 2 years
  - interested in sharing their farming knowledge
  - approved by organizing committee



# Online Community

- Discussion Listserv
  - Apprentices
  - Growers
  - University/extension
  - Others
- Over 500 registered
- Industry networking
- Mentoring
- Facilitating peer-to-peer networking and communication

# Online Community

- Website and Facebook
  - Workshop Info and Announcements
  - Apprenticeship Info and Applications
  - Host Farm Listing
  - Related Information and Resources

GrowingGrowers  
Kansas City

HOME

ABOUT

APPRENTICESHIP

WORKSHOPS

MORE...



THE 2016 WORKSHOP SERIES IS UNDERWAY!  
VIEW OUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE ON THE [WORKSHOP PAGE](#)

#### UPCOMING WORKSHOP

Brassicas and Other Fall Crops  
Douglas County Extension Office  
2110 Harper Street, Lawrence, KS 66046  
Monday June 27th, 2016 4pm-7pm

Fall crops offer great production potential and can significantly impact farm profitability. Cool season vegetables often struggle in the cool spring soils, but later crops can gain an edge due to warmer soils and better establishment conditions. This workshop will introduce a number of crops to consider for fall production with a discussion on ensuring that the crop has access to the nutrients it needs to reach its harvest potential.

This workshop is being brought to you by K-State Research and Extension, a partner of the Growing Growers program. Cost to attend this workshop is \$15. To register, [click here](#) or fill out the form below and mail with payment by June 24. Walk-ins are welcome. If you have questions, or for further information, contact Marlin Bates at (785) 843-7058 or [batesm@ksu.edu](mailto:batesm@ksu.edu).

# Workshop Series

- 6 Core Workshops
  - Req'd for apprentices
  - Basic Prod./Bus. Mgmt.
  - Core Competencies
- Additional Workshops
  - Advanced or Basic
  - Evolving Topics
  - Special Events

**GrowingGrowers**  
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## 2016 Core Workshop Series

- March 21 Plant Prop and Production Planning, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Olathe, KS
- April 9 Building Healthy Soils, 9:00am-2:00pm, Kansas City, MO
- April 25 Postharvest Handling and Food Safety, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Olathe, KS
- May 14 Insects, Diseases, and Weed Management, 9:00am-2:00pm, Lawrence, KS
- May 23 Small Farm Equipment and Irrigation, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Kansas City, KS
- June 18 First Steps in Farm Business Planning, 9:00am-2:00pm, Kansas City, MO

## 2016 Advanced Workshop Series

- March 11 NE KS Farmers' Market Vendor Workshop, 9:00am-2:00pm, Olathe, KS
- June 27 Brassicas and Other Fall Crops, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Lawrence, KS
- July 11 Advanced Financing - Farm Startup, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Olathe, KS
- July 23 Small Fruit Workshop, 9:00am-2:00pm, Kansas City, MO
- Aug. 15 OHREC Field Day, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Olathe, KS
- Aug. 29 Innovations in Marketing, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Lawrence, KS
- Sept. 10 Livestock Options, 9:00am-2:00pm, Kansas City, MO
- Sept. 24 Greenhouse Crop Options, 9:00am-2:00pm, Olathe, KS
- Oct. 17 Equipment Maintenance, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Kansas City, KS



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# Workshop Structure

- Half-Day Workshops
  - Mondays 4 – 7 PM
- Full-Day Workshops
  - Saturdays 9 AM – 2 PM
- Emphasis placed on grower-educators and in-field experience and/or farm visits



## Brassicas and Other Fall Crops

K-State Research and Extension – Douglas County

2110 Harper St. Lawrence, KS 66046

Monday, June 27

4:00 – 7:00 PM

Fall crops offer great production potential and can significantly impact farm profitability. Cool season vegetables often struggle in the cool spring soils, but later crops can gain an edge due to warmer soils and better establishment conditions. This workshop will introduce a number of crops to consider for fall production with a discussion on ensuring that the crop has access to the nutrients it needs to reach its harvest potential.

4:00-5:00	Overview of Brassica Vegetables and Their Culture Marlin A. Bates – Horticulture Agent, K-State Research and Extension Douglas County
4:00-5:45	Planning and Preparing for Fall Production Scott Thellman – Owner/Operator Juniper Hill Farms, Lawrence, KS
5:45-6:00	Break
6:00-7:00	Nutrient Management for Maximum Productivity Marlin A. Bates – Horticulture Agent, K-State Research and Extension Douglas County

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Name: _____	Company/Organization: _____
Address: _____	Phone: _____ Email: _____
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____
<p><b>Mail Registration Form and Payment (made out to Douglas County Extension) to:</b>                      K-State Research and Extension 2110 Harper St. Lawrence, KS 66046                      Please submit registration by June 24</p>	

# Collaboration

- Organizing Committee
  - Directs the program
  - Consults with Apprenticeship Coord.
  - Conducts the annual workshop series
- Cary Rivard, KSU
- Lala Kumar, MU Ext.
- Cory Creed, MU Ext.
- Josh Smith, Cultivate KC
- Londa Nwadike KSU/MU
- Laura Christensen, KSU

# Growing Growers *Kansas City*