

Immigrant Farming Programs and Resources

A Guide to Projects, People, Places,
Publications, and Other Information on
Immigrant Farming Activities Across the
United States

By
Marla Rhodes and Hugh Joseph

January 2004

Immigrant Farming Programs and Resources

A Guide to Projects, People, Places, Publications and Other Information on Immigrant Farming Activities across the United States

January 2004

by

Marla Rhodes, MS and Hugh Joseph, PhD*

* New Entry Sustainable Farming Project
Agriculture, Food and Environment Program
Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy
Tufts University
150 Harrison Street, Room 121
Boston, MA 02111

For additional information or assistance regarding this guide, please contact Hugh Joseph at hughjoseph@comcast.net or by telephone: 617-636-3788. This document is available in electronic format or as a printed copy. The latter may be obtained by contacting *Heifer Project International's North America Program* at 1-800-422-1311.

This document was supported by Heifer Project International for the Immigrant Farmer Program project, with funding from the USDA Risk Management Agency (HPI-RMA Partnership Agreement No. 021E08310091).

"In accordance with Federal law and US Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten building, 1400 Independence Ave SW Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964. USDA is an equal opportunity employer."



IMMIGRANT FARMING PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

A Guide to Projects, People, Places, Publications and Other Information on Immigrant Farming Activities across the United States

Table of Contents

Introduction and Methodology.....	i-ii
Organizations that Work with Immigrant Farmers - Part I.....	1-7
U.S. Cooperative Extension and Similar Organizations Assisting Immigrant Farmers.....	8-12
Websites of Agricultural Resources: Latino.....	13-14
Websites of Agricultural Resources: Southeast Asian.....	15-16
Websites of Agricultural Resources: Seed Sources for Ethnic Crops.....	17-18
Demographic Data and Related Statistics on Immigrant Farmers.....	19-20
Websites and Organizations on Different Cultural Groups	21-22
Websites and Organizations about Immigrants, Refugees, and Migrant Workers.....	23-24
Organizations that Work with Immigrant Farmers - Part II: Surveyed Immigrant Farming Programs – Detailed Survey-based Descriptions.....	25-44
Surveyed Immigrant Farming Programs “At a Glance” Chart.	45

Program Acronyms Frequently Used in this Guide

CFP	Community Food Projects (a USDA / CSREES grants program)
CSA	Community Supported Agriculture
CSREES	Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, USDA
FSMIP	Federal State Marketing Improvement Program, USDA
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service, USDA
RMA	Risk Management Agency, USDA
SARE	Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

Immigrant Farming Programs and Resources

Introduction:

This guide was developed as a resource to assist people and organizations working with or interested in immigrant farming in the United States. The guide lists people and programs that assist immigrant farmers, as well as resources such as print materials, websites, and seed sources useful to immigrant farming programs. Much more detailed information is provided for eleven “Immigrant Farming Programs” (IFPs) on pages 26-50, and then summarized in chart form. Users are encouraged to contact persons and organizations listed in this guide for additional information or assistance of particular interest.

This document was produced as part of an emerging national network focusing on immigrant farming. The **National Immigrant Farming Initiative (NIFI)** is a recently formed nationwide partnership between Heifer International and Immigrant Farming Programs (IFPs). Its purposes are to address the service delivery gaps for immigrant farmers, raise awareness of relevant issues, learn from and share resources with each other and establish state-of-the-art practices in helping a diverse population of immigrants who want to farm to obtain the resources to do so and thrive. The overarching goal of this initiative is to deepen and expand support for community-based local and regional immigrant farming enterprises that contribute to sustainable food systems in the US. NIFI is sponsored by Heifer International’s North America Program, in partnership with individuals and organizations focusing on immigrant farming. The work of many of the IFP partners is described in this guide.

Methodology:

Information for this Resource Guide was collected and compiled between July and November 2003. Data concerning educational materials, other resources, and sources of information such as websites was obtained from a variety of contacts and by website searches and reviews of existing literature, including two earlier resource guides on Southeast Asian immigrant farming produced by the New Entry Sustainable Farming Program, Massachusetts (March 2001) and by the Community Action Coalition Garden Program of Madison, Wisconsin (March 2000).

For the more detailed Immigrant Farming Project (IFP) reports included at the end of this guide, a survey developed by the authors was sent to Directors or Program Managers of sponsor organizations. An IFP was defined as an initiative whose primary objective is to assist first (and sometimes second) generation immigrants to become farmers in the United States. The information was extracted from the content of the completed surveys, and was not significantly modified from what was provided, and depth of detail varies greatly among the reports. The authors considered many alternative arrangements for listing the many references provided. The items are classified primarily by ethnicity of the farmers served and ordered alphabetically under each heading in the left-hand column, followed by the state where it is located (as appropriate).

An initial list of organizations that work with immigrant farmers is provided, but it excludes the “core programs” (IFPs) listed at the end of the guide. Between these two compilations are lists of websites, print materials, and other resources available. These listings may not be complete, and are constantly subject to revision and updates, but they represent those programs, services, and other resources familiar to the authors at the time this guide was assembled.

The authors express their appreciation to everyone who assisted in the production of this resource guide. In particular, they are grateful to the staff of many immigrant farming projects who completed lengthy surveys that allowed this guide to offer a more comprehensive description of their programs. Many thanks also to Heifer Project staff for their input to and review of the guide, and to Heifer International and the Risk Management Agency for their sponsorship.

A note concerning hyperlinks when printing this document: MS-Word creates links for email and webpage addresses in documents by color highlighting and underlining the address onscreen. This may obscure the presence of an underscore “_” in the address when this document is printed. In other words, if there is a gap in the printed version of the underlined address, this is an underscore.

ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK WITH IMMIGRANT FARMERS – PART I

**Latino (Mexican)
CA**

Sylmar Cooperative Food and Development Project

Sylmar Kalpulli, Inc.
Center for Urban Agriculture at Fairview Gardens, Goleta, CA
Warren Furumoto
818-677-5207
warren.furumoto@csun.edu

With funding from the USDA Community Food Program, this project works with community gardens in an Hispanic neighborhood to find markets for excess product. The project is attempting to stabilize and standardize production to produce steadier supply for local farmer's markets. They currently sell any available surplus to members of a buyer's food coop they've formed to obtain wholesale produce prices at the LA produce market. They have produced a curriculum in production techniques, and in multicultural and leadership training programs with the Mexican American Legal Defense Educational Fund.

**Latino
CA**

Jason Friend Sustainable Labor Center

520 Kelly Ave, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
jasonius2001@yahoo.com

The Sustainable Labor Center has a staff of one, Jason Friend, who on his own initiative runs a worker's rights hotline as well as a small micro-loan program to workers needing loans of \$1-2K for small business start-ups. His programs are funded largely out of his own pocket, and he practices law on the side. He is interested in developing resources specifically for migrant farm workers to get started in small businesses/farms of their own. He also wants to start a Buy Local/Buy Sustainable campaign in his town.

**Latino
CA**

Small Farm Program, University of California

Desmond Jolly, Director
530-752-8136
sfcenter@ucdavis.edu
www.sfc.ucdavis.edu

Serving Latino farmers and beginning farmers since 1980 with six bilingual Farm Advisors located throughout California and an extensive set of materials in Spanish. Most programs conducted in Spanish.

**Latino
CT**

Hartford Food System

Hartford, CT
Elizabeth Wheeler
860-296-9325
lwheeler@hartfordfood.org

The Hartford Food System's CSA farm program is working with a group of about ten people on a program of preparation for starting an agricultural enterprise. Participants are mostly from Mexico, with one Jamaican.

**Latino
IA**

Ag Connect

Lenox, Iowa
Tim Ennis, Director
641-333-4656
agconnect@ll.net

Ag Connect's mission is to enable opportunities for people new to agriculture to enter and succeed at farming. They are developing four community gardens targeted to the Latino community. In 2003 sixteen families were involved, over 50% Hispanic (also one Hmong family). They will probably double the number of families for 2004 growing season. They provide garden plots, bedding plants (per request, such as tomatoes, peppers, cilantro, tomatillos) some seed, as well as water, technical assistance, marketing education for some growers who produce extra to sell at farmer's market.

**Latino
IL**

CSA Learning Center at Angelics Organics

Caledonia, IL (2 hrs from Chicago)
Tom Spaulding
815-389-8455
learn@csalearningcenter.org
csalearningcenter.org

The CSA Learning Center works with Hispanic immigrants in a number of projects, from "agricultural therapy" to farm labor and learning. They have a micro-enterprise project with women and youth from Central America, and work with immigrants in Chicago from the Center for Survivors of Torture.

**Latino
IL**

Eco-Vida Chicago

Neris Gonzalez
312-492-9137
ecovida_chicago@yahoo.com

This organization works with low-income Latino neighborhood, especially youth, in reclaiming vacant lot for agricultural enterprises in vermiculture, aquaculture and community gardens. Youth projects include growing and selling value-added chili peppers, as well as worm castings fertilizer.

Neris Gonzalez is a political refugee from El Salvador who recently won a suit, along with two other victims, against the former Salvodorean defense ministers who tortured her.

**Latino, Somali
MN**

Farm Beginnings

Land Stewardship Project
Amy Bacigalupo, Farm Beginnings Program Organizer
Western MN office: 103 West Nichols
Montevideo, MN 56265
320-269-2105
amyb@landstewardshipproject.org

www.landstewardshipproject.org

The Land Stewardship Project's Farm Beginnings program is a yearlong training program for new farmers in four states: MN, ND, SD, and WI. They have had no specific focus on immigrants but were approached by the Minnesota Food Association to tailor a curriculum for rural immigrants. As of 10/03 they are waiting to hear if they will receive an RMA grant to begin this work. They are interested in working with Latino and Somali immigrants to explore the potential of developing meat goat enterprises to market to these growing immigrant communities.

**Latino
TX**

**Border Region Frontera Agricultural Risk
Management (FARM) Project**

Texas/Mexico Border Coalition

Omar J. Garza

956-488-0534

ojg13@hotmail.com

www.empowernetonline.org/tmbc/

The FARM Project provides outreach, training and technical assistance to Hispanic farmers and ranchers in 56 counties bordering Texas and New Mexico. They hold a wide-ranging series of workshops on range and wildlife management, herd health, ecotourism, and other topics of interest to ensure the survival of small farmers and ranchers and the communities they live in.

**Mexican,
Cambodian
TX**

Twelve Hills Nature Center

North Oak Cliff

Dallas, Texas

214-942-9292 (phone number to volunteer)

www.twelvehills.com

Twelve Hills is approximately 20 acres of land in North Oak Cliff, Dallas. A majority of residents are from middle and low-income Hispanic and African-American families. The land was acquired by Dallas taxing entities through foreclosure many years ago, and neighbors worked for over 15 years to get the apartments that were on the property condemned and torn down. The website details their plan to restore the land into an Environmental Learning Center and Natural Area, with community gardens using local school classrooms, demonstration gardens for appropriate landscaping practices, and prairie restoration among other projects.

**Indian
CA**

Thimmaka's Resources for Environmental Education

Ritu Primlani

2124 Kittredge St, PMB 139

Berkeley CA 94704

510-655-5566

thimmakka@thimmakka.org

www.thimmakka.org

This innovative organization focuses on “greening” ethnic restaurants in California by asking them to participate in an array of environmentally sound practices. They recently received a grant from the U.S. Risk Management Agency to work with South Asian and Sikh farmers in Yuba and Sutter Counties of CA. The grant will provide for outreach and education about alternative marketing methods for their produce and livestock, as well as to provide risk management tools.

**Montagnards
(Vietnam)
NC**

**Community Farm and City Market Project
Project Greenleaf**

312 Brown Building, Univ. of NC
Greensboro, NC 27402
Tom Martinek, Jr.
336-256-0439
tjmarti2@uncg.edu
greenleaf.uncg.edu

Project Greenleaf supports local small family farmers to successfully market their product, and promotes consumer education of locally grown produce. In 2003, Project Greenleaf began this gardening and marketing project, with a long-term goal of it becoming an immigrant urban farm. The plot is situated in an urban neighborhood close to many Montagnard Vietnamese immigrants. They provided all start-up materials, seeds, transplants, etc. and encouraged the growers to sell excess at a weekly farmer’s market. This was their first year and most gardeners came from other neighborhoods, so they also provided weekly transportation for the elders. They are hoping the nearby Montagnards, within walking distance, will become interested and apply for next year; they would like to have 60 people working the plot. They have a retired Vietnam vet who speaks the dialects and volunteers to translate. Funding and support comes from a handful of private funders, the University of NC, the NC Dept. of Agriculture, and the Redevelopment Commission of Greensboro.

**Latino, Hmong
video documentary**

**New Roots and Old Fields PBS Video Project
Hand To Mouth PBS series**

Big Pond Productions
Jane and Bob Fleck
661-298-2000
fleck@fleck.tv
www.fleck.tv

These independent videographers are currently fundraising for two projects. They have received RMA funds for “Hand to Mouth,” a 3-hour nonfiction PBS series that will provide information to limited resource farmers about the market demand for organic foods. They are also seeking full funding for “New Roots and Old Fields”, a half-hour PBS documentary following a Hmong and a Latino family for a year as each go through a farm training program (ALBA in Fresno and the Hmong Partnership program in Salinas). This program will be produced in Spanish and Hmong as well as English, and will also bring up larger issues of

family farming in general in CA today. Final products will be 1-2 years away; they will provide screening copies to organizations that want to view them.

**Bosnian, Asian,
Sudanese
NY**

Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees (MVRCR)

309 Genesee St, Utica NY 13501

315-738-1083

The MVRCR offers a variety of services to the multi-ethnic immigrant population in their region. They are interested in a collaborative project with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) to help immigrants start a farm business or prepare for farm ownership. Contact Steve Miller, CCE Agent who worked with them on a SARE grant. (Their proposal was not funded so the project has not happened).

sgm6@cornell.edu 315-736-3394 x106

**SE Asian
CA**

Small Farm Program, University of California

Desmond Jolly, Director

530-752-8136

sfcenter@ucdavis.edu

www.sfc.ucdavis.edu

Serving refugee and immigrant S.E. Asian farmers and beginning farmers since 1980. The earliest program oriented to serving this clientele. Many workshops and training programs conducted in various languages.

Videos and other materials in Hmong, Lao, Cambodian and other SE Asian languages. Michael Yang, a Field staff, speaks four languages.

**SE Asian (Hmong)
WI**

Brown County Connecting For Success – Hmong Food Systems Project

Karen Early

Brown County UW Extension

1150 Bellevue St

Green Bay WI 54302

920-391-4610

Karen.early@ces.uwex.edu

As a result of a multi-year survey of household food security in Brown County, The Brown County UW Extension applied for and received a 3-year USDA Community Food Systems grant to expand and enhance elements of the local Hmong food system. A number of projects are underway with some already completed; a shared commercial kitchen and produce cold storage, pastured poultry demonstration, expanded community garden plots, as well as integrated pest management, education on pesticide usage, produce marketing, food preservation, and food service sanitation, farmers' market and roadside stand start-ups, and a composting video dubbed in Hmong. Over 200 gardeners participate in the county's community garden program and of those, 80% are Hmong. UW Extension is providing assistance to several Hmong land owners with under-utilized land who want to learn to farm as well as with existing Hmong farmers who want to diversify their farm operations for improved income. In addition, a Hmong Farmers Coop has been formed with several family groups that are pursuing funding. There is also a continuing effort to connect local

landowners and Hmong families without land with opportunities to rent, lease or purchase of land for start-up farming operations. Outreach to the Hispanic population has also been attempted and will be expanded to increase involvement in the community garden program. It was discovered that Hispanic families were reluctant to participate because of confusion about how it worked – Mexican immigrants equated it with the communal farms that are prevalent in their country.

**SE Asian
(Laotian,
Cambodian)
TX**

Gardeners in Community Development

901 Greenbriar Lane, Richardson TX 75080

Don Lambert

972-231-3565

grower@flash.net

The mission of this non-profit is to support community gardening in inner city Dallas. They support three gardens, about 90 plots total, offer education classes, training and technical assistance, with a focus on organic gardening. The gardeners are now all SE Asian growers, mostly Laotian (but not Hmong) and Cambodian. One other staff, an older educated Cambodian man who can communicate in Khmer, assists Don. They receive funding from public foundations and individual contributions from a 600+ mailing list; they also hold a popular plant sale fundraiser every year. They currently have an issue growing water spinach, an extremely popular vegetable that is in danger of confiscation by the authorities. Future goals include opening an office space and training center for Cambodians on land adjacent to a current growing lot, building a market shed to clean and prepare produce, and developing a landscaping job training program with drought-tolerant and native species. They would also like to expand a school garden project they have to include several more schools.

**SE Asian, African,
Latino
WA**

P-Patch

Cultivating Communities

2301 S. Jackson St, Suite #208, Seattle WA 98144

Martha Goodlett

206-684-0540

Martha.goodlett@seattle.gov

This project has developed sixteen community gardens and three CSAs, in collaboration with the Seattle public housing authority. About 80% of the gardeners are SE Asian, although the project does not target this community per se. The majority are Cambodian, but also many Vietnamese and a few Laotian. There are also about 40 East Africans and 24 Latinos. The market garden CSA operation is run by eight to ten families at two gardens and two gardeners at a third garden; each plot is about a quarter-acre. P-Patch provides the marketing for the CSA, and handles the finances, withholding 25% to pay costs and then pay the growers. The gardeners are paid based on the number of customers they serve. At each garden they work on teams to package the produce. The CSA grows a mix of SE Asian and “bulky” conventional produce, with a shift away from the more exotic Asian vegetables such as Asian celery and rau ram. They do grow baby bok choy, Chinese mustard, and cilantro. Other community gardens are for

personal consumption, and there are three youth gardens serving about 120 youth. They translate some flyers for local meetings into Khmer but many of the Cambodians cannot read in any language.

Russian, Bosnian,
Sudanese
NE

Lincoln Action Program

210 O St
Lincoln, NE 68508
Brian Mathers
402-471-4515

bmathers@lincoln-action.org

With various USDA grants, the Lincoln Action Program (LAP) has 80 plots in a community garden – about half are immigrant families from Russia, Bosnia, and SE Asia, with some Sudanese immigrants becoming interested, as well. They are partnering with Centerville Farmer's Market, a coalition of 30 local growers in the first year of setting up a year-round farmer's market store. The immigrants have shelf space at the store to sell excess product. The project provides water, basic tools, seeds, and plants, for no fee. Sheryl Haas is program manager – shaas@lincoln-action.org For information about the Centerville Farmer's Market, contact John Ellis at libbycreek@hotmail.com 402-362-2630.

LAP is currently developing a project to help immigrants and refugees successfully compete in the agribusiness and food sectors by establishing a wide network of both urban and rural resources and providing much needed training in the areas of food production, food processing, food service and business development training for these and other microenterprises. Participants will also receive financial start-up assistance through a revolving loan fund, the Individual Development Account Program, and one-on-one technical business assistance. Community partners will help facilitate the project through sharing in the training process and contributing additional resources. For more information contact Cory Smathers at csmathers1@lincoln-action.org .

*An additional resource is the now-defunct cooperative **AMO Organics (Asociation de Mercado Organico)**, based in Salinas, CA. AMO Organics was a nonprofit agricultural cooperative founded by former Mexican migrant farm workers in 1998. The members received training from the ALBA Rural Development Center in Salinas, CA. The coop disbanded in the summer of 2003, but at one time had eleven members farming a 70-acre parcel of land in individual plots. They marketed their product cooperatively in bulk to wholesalers, retail grocery stores, restaurants, and to low- and middle-income families through a farmers' market and CSA. Iliana Matamoros of Oxfam America was a program funder who worked with the coop. She can be contacted for more information about AMO at 617-728-2505 imatamoros@oxfamamerica.org*

U.S. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTING IMMIGRANT FARMERS

**Latino (Mexican)
Blueberry, Dairy,
Statistics
MI**

Juan Marinez
Extension Agent, Michigan State University
517-353-9772
marinez@msue.edu

This Extension Agent works with Hispanic farm owner-operators, primarily from Mexico. His office has developed a training curriculum for Hispanic dairy workers and another for Hispanics interested in becoming blueberry IPM (Integrated Pest Management) scouts. He is currently organizing farmers for a Blueberry Hispanic Farmers Association. He has a particular interest in bringing attention and recognition to the Hispanic farming population and has done research on the effects of census under-representation of Hispanic producers.

**Latino
Holistic Range
NM**

The Allan Savory Center for Holistic Management
1010 Tijeras NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
Shannon Horst, Exec. Dir
505-842-5252
shannonh@holisticmanagement.org
www.holisticmanagement.org

Programs in Spanish are primarily done south of the border; however, with involvement from the Heifer International they are starting to work with Hispanic farmers in the Southwest on holistic range management.

**Latino
Training
NM**

Edmund Gomez
Director, Rural Agricultural Improvement and Public Affairs Project (RAIPAP)
New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension
505-852-2668
gr@nmsu.edu

RAIPAP works with Native American and Hispanic farmers and ranchers in northern New Mexico to provide training and technical assistance in rangeland, forest and watershed management, and to increase participation in government aid programs.

**Latino
Training
NM, TX**

Hispanic Farmers Association of El Paso, TX
Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers of America, Las Cruces, NM
Two new coalitions that provide support to Hispanic farmers. Contact Rigoberto Delgado from Heifer International for more information: 915-778-5402
rigoberto.delgado@heifer.org

**Latino
Marketing**

Southwest Marketing Network
Jim Dyer, Project Director

SW 970-588-2292
jadyer@frontier.net
www.swmarketing.ncat.org
This organization focuses on the four corner states of CO, NM, UT, and AZ “to ensure that new, existing, and prospective Southwest producers—especially small-scale, alternative, and minority producers—have the connections with others, technical and financial assistance, marketing information, business and marketing skills, and peer examples to improve their marketing success and their profitability, viability, and bottom line.”

Latino Policy, Research TX **Hispanic Leadership Program in Agriculture and Natural Resources**
Raymond Garza, Executive Director, Hispanic Research Center
University of Texas – San Antonio (UTSA)
210-458-2650
rgarza@utsa.edu
www.utsa.edu/cpi/hlpanr/
This program is a joint project with UTSA, Texas A & M University and the USDA Forest Service to improve Hispanic participation in USDA policy, programs, and development opportunities. Outcomes include improved Hispanic participation in graduate studies, research, professional improvement and policy studies in agriculture, natural resources management, and related disciplines.

Latino IPM, Orchard WA **Hispanic Orchardist Employee Education Program**
Dr. Kent Mullinix
Wenatchee Valley College, Wenatchee, WA
509-860-2283
wvc.ctc.edu/instruction/prof-tech/ag/hoeep.html
This program offers an intensive, 290-hour program in Spanish leading to IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Technician Certificate; also an Hispanic Orchard Employee Education program that integrates Spanish and English, horticulture, orchard management and economics, and basic math and communication skills.

Multi-ethnic Crops (African) MD **Small Farm Institute, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension**
Stephan Tubene, Director
410-222-6759
stubene@umd.edu
www.agnr.umd.edu/MCE/SmallFarmInstitute/index.cfm?ID=168
The Small Farm Institute is a program of Maryland Cooperative Extension serving small farm operators including minority and new immigrant farmers. The Institute offers research, educational, and outreach programs in several areas including growing and marketing ethnic and specialty produce. To learn more about the projects, visit their website and click on the “Research Projects” tab. Stephan Tubene, the principal investigator in many of these projects, is fluent in French and several African languages.

**Multi-ethnic
Crops
NJ**

**Rutgers Vegetable Research Working Group
Heritage Crops**

Bill Sciarappa, Extension Agent, Rutgers, NJ
732-431-7260

sciarappa@aesop.rutgers.edu

www.visitmonmouth.com/07050coopext/upload/forms/HeritageCrop.pdf

Funded by a 2003 USDA-FSMIP grant to the NJ Dept. of Agriculture to analyze marketing opportunities for “Heritage Crops,” this website link is a PowerPoint presentation on Hispanic, Asian, Caribbean, Russian, and European vegetables (and some fruits) that NJ farmers are being encouraged to grow to meet the emerging ethnic population changes in the Northeast.

**Hmong, Latino
Sikh, Cambodian
SE Asian
Pesticide safety,
IPM, Crops,
Marketing
CA**

**Richard Molinar
Small Farms and Specialty Crops Research
Univ. of California Extension, Fresno**

559-456-7555

rhmolinar@ucdavis.edu

www.sfc.ucdavis.edu cefresno.usdavis.edu

This Extension Agent works with the large and diverse immigrant farming community in Fresno County. Offerings include technical assistance, help finding land, farm planning classes, and training meetings presented in various languages. They have available alternative crop and variety trial research reports; videos about pesticide safety in Spanish, Hmong, Lao, Khmer; and a Training Resource Guide in Hmong and English. They also produce biweekly Hmong radio broadcasts.

**Hmong, Latino
Portuguese
Ag, Marketing
MA**

University of Massachusetts-Amherst Extension

Ruth Hazzard

413-545-3696

rhazzard@umext.umass.edu

Frank Mangan

413-545-1178

fmangan@umext.umass.edu

www.umassvegetable.org/grower_services/new_growers.html

Ruth Hazzard and Frank Mangan work with new entry Latino, Cambodian, Hmong and Portuguese farmers and have produced a variety of fact sheets on pest management of vegetable insect pests, in various languages, among other resources.

**Hmong
Poultry farmers
NC**

Touger Vang

336-334-3386

t_vang@office.uncg.edu

Touger Vang helped his parents become the second Hmong family in North Carolina to become chicken farmers. He works with Hmong poultry farmers in NC interested in starting operations or expanding existing ones, and helps find financing for them.

**Hmong
Market garden
WI**

Kou Xiong
WI Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR)
1300 W. Clairemont Ave, PO Box 4001
Eau Claire, WI 54702
715-839-1638

Xiong.kou@dnr.state.wi.us

Kou Xiong works on his own time with 150 Hmong families who garden up to five acres apiece, and sell at farmers markets. Future goals include supporting families who want to double their acreage, purchase some community equipment (such as a hand tiller), and to find new markets for excess produce.

**Hmong, Latino
WI, DC**

Don Hinman
Agricultural Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
AMS/FV/EAPP, Room 2545-S
1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250-0241
202-690-0265

Donald.Hinman@usda.gov
www.uwex.edu/ces/hmong

This website of the University of Wisconsin-Extension Hmong Task Force offers a multimedia approach to training Hmong farmers and small business owners with limited English-speaking ability. Voice-narrated slide shows are accessible online, and available on CD-Rom, on a range of topics including horticultural production, community gardening, farmers markets, and small business. Thirty Hmong-language slide shows (and parallel English versions) are currently available. Contact information for the Hmong Task Force can be found on their website www.uwex.edu/ces/hmong. Don Hinman worked on the original project with UW-Extension. Now employed at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, DC, he is looking for potential collaborators interesting in exploring similar methods for producing audio-visual training materials for immigrant farmers in **Spanish** and possibly other non-English languages.

**Hmong, Latino
CA**

David Visher
Visher Consulting
FACTS
2230 Lassen Place, Davis, CA 95616
530-758-2429

visher@yolo.com

Visher Consulting specializes in business development and marketing plans for small farmers, and has worked on several projects with Hmong and Latino growers in CA. His partnership business, FACTS, develops curricula, usually with USDA, in small farm business risk management. Also works with conventional-scale farms.

**Hmong
CA**

Deborah Giraud

County Director, Humboldt County Extension, CA
707-445-7351

dbgiraud@co.humboldt.ca.us

This Extension office has experience helping Hmong growers develop small-scale operations.

**Hmong,
Latino
CA**

California FarmLink

Steve Schwartz
PO Box 2224
Sebastopol, CA 95473
707-829-1691

info@californiafarmlink.org

Sacramento Valley office in Davis, CA 530-867-2318

www.californiafarmlink.org

FarmLink is a non-profit organization working to promote family farming and conserve farmland in CA. Aspiring farmers can receive many services. To start the process, download the Aspiring Farmer questionnaire available in English or Spanish at www.californiafarmlink.org/#aspiring_farmers In addition, they have partnered with several Hmong community organizations to offer to immigrant farmers the IDA - Individual Development Account. "The program encourages farmers to build assets by matching the farmer's monthly savings by a 3 to 1 ratio with outside funds contributed through California FarmLink."

**Immigrants,
Refugees**

Gus Schumacher

Gussch@aol.com

A former Undersecretary of Agriculture at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, he has broad interest and knowledge in distribution of immigrant and refugee populations in the US, and their involvement in agricultural enterprise.

Asian, Latino

Rural Coalition/Coalicion Rural

Washington, DC
Lorette Picciano
202-628-7160

lpicciano@ruralco.org

The Coalition received a RMA (Risk Management Agency) grant to work with project partners from Hmong and Latino community, among others, to "explore the business dimensions of crop insurance and risk management with respect to small and limited resource producers."

WEBSITES OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

LATINO

ATTRA

attra.ncat.org/espanol/

Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas en espanol

1-800-411-3222 for Spanish language 1-800-346-9140 (English)

This is the national sustainable agriculture information site, offered in Spanish.

Ag Safety

www.cdc.gov/nasd/menu/spanish/english_titles.html

A list of videos on agricultural safety topics is available in Spanish.

Marketing

www.umassvegetable.org/grower_services/new_growers.html

Crop production and point-of-sale materials in several languages are available for downloading: Spanish, Portuguese, SE Asian languages. Produced by the University of Massachusetts Extension New Growers website. Frank Mangan

fmangan@umext.umass.edu can answer questions in Spanish, Portuguese (and English).

Dairy

www.co.outagamie.wi.us/uwex/ag/hispanicresources.htm

This site offers an extensive listing of resources available in Spanish, both videos and written materials, on the dairy industry and herd health management. Other resources include Vacas-L, a Spanish dairy email list-serve, and

www.babcock.cals.wisc.edu/glossary.htm, a Dairy Term Translator website. Also lists other resources helpful for Hispanic agricultural workers in Wisconsin.

Extension

Agent Listing

extensionenespanol.net

You can view this Extension resources website in English or Spanish. Choose the "Contacts" tab at top of site to get a listing of Extension agents' areas of expertise and detailed ways in which they are willing to be a resource to you. Note that this site takes time to download. There is also a modest list of bilingual agricultural articles available for downloading. If you have an article you'd like to submit to the site, they will translate it for free if accepted. They also offer article-reviewing services.

Extension

Projects

www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu/spanishconf/inventory.html

This site is the result of a 2001 survey of Extension offices in 12 mid-western states about projects specifically geared to Spanish speakers. Click on each state to view a summary of projects, resource contacts, and community collaborators. States with agricultural projects (as opposed to other Extension topics) include Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio.

**Extension
Topics**

www.agnr.umd.edu/Español/index.cfm?ID=302

www.agnr.umd.edu/MCE/ and hit left-tab “Recursos en Espanol.”

Both these website addresses bring you to the University of Maryland Extension site that offers a substantial listing of links to Extension topics around the country available in Spanish (nutrition, occupational health, agriculture, family matters).

Horticulture

www.aces.edu/urban/spanishag.html

Over 50 titles in Spanish are available on line to download on horticulture, pest management (listed by insect), turf management, common vegetables, and diseases of common flowers.

Marketing

attra.ncat.org/espanol/mercadeo.html for Spanish language

Marketing Channel Tip Sheets: In both Spanish and English. Brand new (9/03) documents produced by ATTRA and NCAT (National Center for Appropriate Technology) discuss the pros and cons of different kinds of markets and provide tips about accessing each market. Individual documents cover the following: Terminal Market, Food Service Jobber, Independent and Small Grocery Stores, Restaurants, Direct to Consumer (includes Farmers Market, Roadside Stand, and Community Supported Agriculture), Golden Rules of Marketing, and Ten Questions To Ask Before Signing a Contract. Also available in Spanish is a Cash Flow Budget Excel spreadsheet and tip sheets about organic certification for domestic and export markets.

**Marketing,
Production,
(also Portuguese)**

www.umassvegetable.org/grower_services/new_growers.html

At this site, crop production and point of sale materials in several languages available for downloading: Spanish, Portuguese, SE Asian languages. Produced by the University of Massachusetts Extension New Growers website. Frank Mangan

fmangan@umext.umass.edu can answer questions in Spanish, Portuguese (and English).

Mushrooms

Mexican Enclaves in the U.S. Northeast: Immigrant and Migrant Mushroom Workers in Southern Chester County, Pennsylvania. Victor Q. Garcia. JSRI Research Report No. 27. The Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. August 1997.

www.jsri.msu.edu/RandS/research/irr/rr27.pdf

WEBSITES OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

SOUTHEAST ASIAN

Hmong Ag Training

www.uwex.edu/ces/hmong/training.html

Training site with voice-narrated Power Point slide shows in Hmong and English on marketing, pesticide use, growing peas and beans, extending the growing season, and small business topics. Produced by The Hmong Task Force, University of Wisconsin Extension.

Also,

Working with Hmong Audiences.

www.uwex.edu/ces/wnep/hmong/index.html

Has good selection of resources, websites, books, articles, educational materials about the Hmong culture and food, nutrition education. Gathered by Extension educators in WI and MN.

Hmong Magazine

Future Hmong Magazine

www.futurehmong.com

This monthly magazine and online “magazine website,” produced in Appleton, WI, is geared to the Wisconsin Hmong population (estimated at 30-50,000) and free to anyone living in the state. The website often features articles about Hmong families in farming, and the magazine plans to distribute “How To Begin Farming” manuals in the near future, in collaboration with state agencies.

Hmong, Japanese

Immigrant Farmer's Gold Mine: The Strawberry (California) (Study of Hmong and Japanese farmers) by Tanaka, Shawn Toshiro; MA. California State University-Stanislaus, 2001, 56 pages. Order www.digitaldissertations.com Dissertation number: AAT 1404368.

Laotian Direct Marketing

www.cirsinc.org/CAgriculturalDirectMarketingStudy.pdf

www.cirsinc.org/rcr/RCRspring02.pdf

This report, produced by the California Institute for Rural Studies, asks two questions: to what extent does Direct Marketing improve the viability of existing farm operations, and to what extent does it assist farm entry by immigrants and ethnic minorities? Section two (page 51 in PDF paging format) is a case study of three Laotian (Mien) strawberry farmers in Sacramento.

SE Asian

www.umassvegetable.org/grower_services/new_growers.html

Crop production and point of sale materials in several languages available for downloading: Spanish, Portuguese, SE Asian languages. Produced by the University of Massachusetts Extension New Growers website. Frank Mangan fmangan@umext.umass.edu can answer questions in Spanish, Portuguese (and English).

**SE Asian
Ag resources**

Working with Southeast Asian Gardeners: A Resource Guide.

Anna Rabin, author. Community Action Coalition Garden Program, Madison WI. 3/00.

The following resources are taken from this guide, with permission.

Available from University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

Communication Services. Call 800-994-8849 to order, or order online at:

anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu

- *Pesticide Safety for Small Farms: A Grower's Guide to Pesticide Safety.* 1995. 32 pp. \$5 (booklet)

Ordering numbers: In Lao: 21556 In Hmong: 21557 In Cambodian: 21558

- *Pesticide Safety for Small farms.* 1996. 28 minutes. \$20
V96-B (In Hmong) (video)

- *Bee Alert: Africanized Honey Bee Facts.*

50 brochures for \$3.00

In Cambodian: 21524m In Hmong: 21527m

In Laotian: 21525 In Vietnamese: 21523

- **Magazine articles: SE Asian Gardening and Farming:**

Airriess, Christopher A. "Vietnamese market gardens in New Orleans."

Geographical Review 84.1 (1994): 16-31.

Hoan, Pham Quang. "The Role of Traditional Social Institutions in Community Management of Resources among the Hmong of Vietnam." *East-West Center Working Papers, Indochina Series* 5, September 1995.

An overview of Hmong land management practices in Vietnam.

Hmong Life in Wisconsin. Boston and London: Allyn and Bacon, 1998. 105-118.

A chapter in an excellent book that describes the important role of gardening in the lives of Hmong immigrants.

Miyares, Ines M. "Changing Perceptions of Space and Place as Measures of Hmong Acculturation." *Professional Geographer* 49.2 (1997): 214-224.

www.global.lao.net/laostudy/garden.htm Describes the intersection of culture and gardening/land practice in the Carolinas.

WEBSITES OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

SEED SOURCES FOR ETHNIC CROPS

Seed Company Ratings www.gardenwatchdog.com
This consumer-rating website lists nearly 3,000 seed/plant mail order companies and invites customers to rate and comment on their experience. Type in a seed company name to get contact information and consumer comments, or submit your own.

All Countries www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com
B & T World Seeds
France: phone ++ 33 04 68 91 29 63
matt@b-and-t-world-seeds.com
This French company offers a staggering variety of seed. The site is in English (or choose Spanish, French, or German on the home page), the product is priced in Euros and there is a coded pricing system and international ordering information explained on the site. The company suggests that you contact them first before ordering anything to confirm it's in stock: contact email matt@b-and-t-world-seeds.com Listed below are pages that particularly useful for immigrant farmers. Check out the sublistings page to get a sense of the categories and variety of seed offered:

www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com/sublists.htm

Sublistings include dozens of countries, including most of interest to immigrant growers. In the Sublistings page the plants are listed by botanical name, but there is a search page where you can type in a common name and it will pull up possible botanical equivalents.

Common name search page:

www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com/com.htm

Listing just of all *food* plants available (by botanical name) is:

www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com/food.html

Different kinds of groupings, such as pollen or honey plants for bees, or a lengthy listing just of Oriental vegetables and herbs, can be found at:

www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com/Useful.htm

Easy-to-understand glossary of botanical words:

www.b-and-t-world-seeds.com/botgloss.htm

Asian www.evergreenseeds.com
Evergreen YH Enterprises, Anaheim, CA
714-637-5769
eeseedsyh@aol.com
Offers over 250 varieties of Oriental vegetables, with photos.

Asian, Latino www.johnnyseeds.com
Johnny's Selected Seeds, Winslow, Maine
207-861-3900

info@johnnyseeds.com

While this company was mentioned by several Immigrant Farming Program seed purchasers, and the company offers Asian vegetable seeds, their website was down and the site couldn't be assessed as of this writing. The company is well respected.

Asian, Latino

www.superseeds.com

Pine Tree Garden Seeds, Maine

207-926-3400

superseeds@superseeds.com

This company offers a modest selection of Oriental vegetables at

www.superseeds.com/Oriental.htm and Latin American vegetables on page

www.superseeds.com/LatinAmer.htm Not many photos on website, though.

**Japanese, Korean
Chinese**

Kitazawa Seed Company

510-593-1188

PO Box 13220

Oakland, CA 94661

Free catalog; website not yet developed. Offering primarily Japanese vegetable seeds since 1917, now branching out into other SE Asian selections.

Hot pepper

www.batnet.com/rwc-seed/

Redwood City Seed Co., Redwood City, CA

650-325-7333

Open-pollinated hot peppers are clearly their specialty, with nearly a hundred varieties, some offered by ounce or pound. Site also offers hotness scale information, has very clear and large photos of a portion of their offerings. Other vegetables offered as well.

**Latino
Native American**

www.nativeseeds.org

Native Seed/SEARCH, Tucson, AZ

520-622-5561

info@nativeseeds.org

Many traditional southwestern Native American varieties of vegetables and beans are offered from this nonprofit organization. Orders are limited to 6 packets of any one variety. Website has decent photos of most products.

Latino

www.seedswestgardenseeds.com

Seeds West Garden Seed, Albuquerque, NM

505-843-9713

seeds@nmia.com

Organic, open-pollinated, and heirloom varieties geared to the west and southwest, over two dozen chile pepper varieties. No photos on website, though.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA AND RELATED STATISTICS ON IMMIGRANT FARMERS

General Statistics (Latino, Asian)

www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/raceandethnic/geography.htm

www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/raceandethnic/laborforce.htm

These ERS-USDA “Briefing Room” snapshot web pages use recent Census data to report on the demography and labor force activity of rural minorities, including Latinos and Asians. They are a good resource for quick, brief information documenting increases in these populations in non-metro areas.

Latino

waterhome.brc.tamus.edu/clients/Hispanic/

NRCS Support for Hispanics in Agriculture

From this site you can download presentations, posters and the demographic census data. The data has been updated with farm-level data from the 1997 Farm Census, and also includes farm acreage, and 1990, 1997, and estimated 2002 population per minority/gender group.

Site also contains a great listing of references to research and articles about Hispanics in agriculture.

Latino

www.usda.gov/nass/

The **National Agricultural Statistics Service**, or NASS, has a wealth of agricultural statistics. They produce bite-sized facts and charts in easy-to-understand brochures. Ask for Characteristics of Hispanic Farm Operators by calling 1-800-727-9540 or email:

nass@nass.usda.gov

Latino

Demographics and the Hispanics in Agriculture.

www.utsa.edu/cpi/hlpanr/docspresnt/DemographicsHispanicsAgriculture.pdf

Presentation given by Ruben Martinez of Hispanic Leadership program, at the South Texas Regional Hispanic Producers Conference in 4/03.

Latino, Asian

Who Owns the Land? Agricultural Land Ownership by Race/Ethnicity. *Gilbert, Jesse; Spencer D. Wood; and Gwen Sharp. Rural America. Winter 2002, volume 17, issue 4. Pgs. 55-62.*

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ruralamerica/ra174/ra174h.pdf

While Whites own over 95% of all private US agricultural land, over 25 million acres are owned by Blacks, American Indians, Asians, and Hispanics. This article documents recent ownership trends based on 1999 statistics and points out social, economic and political implications of how minority-owned land is documented.

Latino

Juan Martinez

Extension Agent, Michigan State University

517-353-9772

marinez@msue.edu

Juan Marinez is interested in the way Latino farmers are represented in statistical and demographic data and he has done research on this topic. He recently completed a research paper detailing a survey of Latino producers and the potential effects of their statistical under-representation.

Mid-Atlantic

Agricultural And Demographic Changes in the Mid-Atlantic Region – Implications for Ethnic and Specialty Produce.

Maryland Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet #793. 6 pages.

www.agnr.umd.edu/MCE/Publications/PDFs/FS793.pdf

The title says it all in this report that's big on graphics and easy-to-read tables documenting demographic changes in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.

National

www.ssi.nrcs.usda.gov/CustomData/index.html

Social and economic data from the National Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS).

WEBSITES AND ORGANIZATIONS ON DIFFERENT CULTURAL GROUPS

Ethnic Diets

www.eatright.org/Public/index_10928.cfm

The American Dietary Association's Diversity Resource listing of videos, posters, educational materials, research on food preferences and nutrition of a variety of cultures, offered in a variety of languages. The site also offers the Food Pyramid tailored to many ethnic eating styles and languages.

SE Asian

www.searac.org/resource.html

Listing of over 75 website links to a variety of SE Asian organizations.

Southeast Asia Research Action Center

(202) 667-4690

searac@searac.org

This site offers demographic information on Southeast Asian populations by state.

They also have brief descriptions of each group, and good suggestions for other websites.

Cambodian

www.mekong.net/cambodia/

A good general website about Cambodia, including current events and refugee statistics.

Hmong

www.hmongnet.org

Hmong basics.

Hmong

www.hmongstudies.org

Comprehensive Hmong information, links to state and regional Hmong organizations, loads of research articles, bibliographies, census data. Click on Demographic Census Data tab for the exact numbers of Hmong per state in 2000.

Latino

www.joe.org/joe/1998december/a4.html

This website links to an article written for day-care providers, but it's information is useful for all educators interested in understanding Latino culture.

Latino

www.espanol.gov

FirstGov en Espanol

This site is a centralized collection of many government agency's web pages translated into Spanish. It links to websites for 55 federal agencies (including the USDA) and 37 states.

Somali

www.ethnomed.org/ethnomed/cultures/somali/somali_cp.html

Good overview of culture of Somalis.

Somali

www.uwec.edu/grossmzc/somali.html

Zoltan Grossman, University of WI-Eau Claire, Geography Dept.

grossmzc@uwec.edu

715-836-4471

This site details a survey of Somali refugees in rural MN and WI that will compare their experiences and demographic information to urban Somali refugees in the Twin Cities. The site has a lengthy bibliography of news reports and research articles about Somali immigrants.

Somali

www.somalifamily.org

The Somali Family Care Network

703-379-5900

erobinson@somalifamily.org

Lists links to Somali organizations by state. The site also provides information about Project Himilo, a national project to network community-based organizations working with Somali immigrants.

Sudanese

www.thelbf.org/pages/lost_boys_sudan_history.html

Website of The Lost Boys Foundation. Not very comprehensive, but the site is in process of being reorganized, and could be promising source of info about the thousands of boys and young men who have been resettled in this country since their thousand-miles wanderings for safety in their war-torn native country.

Vietnamese

site.yahoo.com/vstudies/index.html

Vietnamese Internet Studies Resource Center

Large collection of census data by state, research, bibliographies, related links.

WEBSITES AND ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND MIGRANT WORKERS

REFUGEES

- Refugees Culture** www.culturalorientation.net
This website is produced by the U.S. Refugee Program and lists briefs on the Somali Bantu, Somali, Montagnards, Bosnians, Haitians, Iraqis, and Afghans, with website links, a series of “best practices” for orienting refugees into their new culture, and how the refugee resettlement program works.
- ORR Coordinators** www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/coordina.htm
Contact information for the Office of Refugee Resettlement Refugee Coordinators, listed by state.
- ORR Funding** www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/orr/funding/index.htm
Office of Refugee Resettlement funding opportunities.
- Sudanese** **Lost and Found: Refugees from War in Sudan Start a New Life at UNH.**
Winter 2003 online University of NH article.
www.unhmagazine.unh.edu/w03/lost_and_found.html
This article details the life of some of the “Lost Boys of Sudan” who have been resettled in Massachusetts and are now attending UNH, thanks to professors in the agricultural department who noticed their interest in dairy cow operations (cattle are an important part of Sudanese life).

IMMIGRANTS

- Local** www.nnirr.org/about/about_mission.html
The National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR)
A national organization composed of local coalitions and immigrant, refugee, community, religious, civil rights and labor organizations and activists.
- National** www.immigrationforum.org/
National Immigration Forum.
This website addresses current immigration issues, as well as a new project, the Center for the New American Community, which will “focus on issues, policies, and practices related to the integration of immigrants into American communities.” Has an excellent listing of links to helpful websites.
- Immigrant** www.wn.com/s/worldimmigration/tsindex.html

News **World Immigration** issues, from the **World News Network**, highlights top current issues and large index of links to other issues and organizations of importance to immigrants.

Immigrant Economy **Immigrants and the Economy**. Greater Twin Cities United Way Research and Planning Department. June, 2002. 24 pages. For copies of report call Nancy Bolin at 612-340-7560.

This report is the second of a series that focus on immigration. It answers questions about how immigrants affect the local labor market and public services in the U.S., and uses examples and statistics from the Twin Cities metro area. It also has a nice synopsis of the history of U.S. immigrant legislation, and documents the rising number of immigrant owned farms in Minnesota.

Immigrant Gardening **Community Gardening Benefits as Perceived Among American-born Immigrant Gardeners in San Jose, California**. Sinang Lee. 2002.
ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~es196/projects/2002final/Lee.S.pdf

This thesis details the researchers survey and results, and includes a large resource listing pertaining to community gardens. The researcher surveyed **Latino, SE Asian, and European** immigrants as well as US-born gardeners.

Immigrants Background immigrantinfo.org/kin
Concise briefs on each immigrant groups historical background and culture. This site is produced by Santa Clara County, CA, and includes results of surveying immigrant populations in that county, but the information has general applicability.

MIGRANTS

Migrants Immigrants migration.ucdavis.edu/
The Migration Dialogue site encompasses five projects that summarize the most important current issues in immigration, in quarterly online newsletters. Choose the “Changing Faces” project for a collection of research and essays that assess the effects of immigrant farm workers on agriculture and agricultural communities.

Workers Rights **Coalition of Immokalee Workers**
www.ciw-online.org
The Coalition of Immokalee Workers, founded in 1994, works to empower low-wage workers in Southwest Florida. The Coalition's members include Hispanic, Haitian, and indigenous immigrants from Mexico and Guatemala working primarily as farmworkers. This organization has been at the forefront exposing the abusive, indentured conditions of some migrant field laborers today.

ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK WITH IMMIGRANT FARMERS – PART II

IMMIGRANT FARMING PROGRAMS - Survey Details

Project	Center for Latino Farmers
Ethnic Groups	Latino
Organization	Rural Community Development Resources
Contact	Malaquias Flores
Email	latinofarmers@charter.net
Telephone	509-453-3157 <i>Fax</i> 509-453-5165
Address	24 S. 3rd St Yakima WA 98902
Start Date	12/01 <i>Website</i> www.supermarketcoop.com/rcdr.htm
Mission & Goals	To help beginning Latino farmers who have limited English skills to establish family farms with the assistance of USDA programs.
Populations Served	Latino beginning farmers in transition from farm worker to farm owner, specifically ~200 farmers in four Central Washington counties: Yakima, Adams, Chelan, and Benton.
Languages	Spanish
Outreach, Needs Assessment	A survey of four central Washington counties identified Latino farmers and four groups according to location were identified.
Farm Production	Fruits: apples, peaches, nectarines, pears, cherries, and grapes Vegetables: peppers, asparagus, onions, tomatoes, garlic, potatoes, sweet corn Field Crops: wheat, oats, alfalfa, corn silage, beans Animals: milking cows, beef cattle, meat goats, sheep
Land Leased/Owned	Latino farmers in these counties own from 10 to 150 acres, with an average of 40 acres per farmer. They are primarily landowners, and lease very little land.
Project Staff	Director, Admin. Asst, and two Outreach Specialists
Program Services	- Training and technical assistance, marketing and farmers market assistance - Assistance with access to USDA programs; filling out forms, applications, grants - Computer assistance, education - Financial management - Provide group crop insurance - Provided guidance on exporting apples to Mexico to newly established cooperative
Resources/Materials	- Basic training curricula in Spanish in computer skills, financial management - Survey in Spanish of farmers, crops, needs in 4-county area, titled "Encuesta a Agricultores Latinos del Valle de Yakima"
Partners	USDA FSA/RM/NRCS/RD/Outreach Washington State Univ. Coop. Ext., Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Small Farms Program Washington State Migrant Council OIC Employment and Training Program
Future Plans	Continue to assist Latino farmers in accessing USDA programs and services.
Key Needs	\$\$\$

Project

Farm Business Incubator Program

Ethnic Groups

Hmong, Cambodian, African, Mexican

Organization

Southside Community Land Trust

Contact

Devan Chase, Incubator Coordinator

Email

incubator@southsideclt.org

Telephone

401-273-9419

Fax 401-273-5712

Address

109 Somerset St

Providence RI 02907

Start Date

8/2002

Website <http://www.southsideclt.org>

Mission & Goals

The goal of the Farm Business Incubator Program is to primarily assist individuals in low-income and immigrant communities start a for-profit agricultural business. After receiving marketing and business training, agricultural skills training and support and also land to farm, the goal is for Incubator farmers to move there agricultural business onto their own land and continue their for-profit businesses independently. SCLT hopes to increase the number of farmers in the state of RI, the number of minority farmers and the number of minority-operated small businesses in the state of RI.

Populations Served

Currently there are 7 Incubator farmers in the program. 1 Hmong man, 1 Hmong woman, 1 Cambodian man and 1 Nigerian man. We are currently in the middle of our selection process for the next group of farmers to start the Incubator program and interest is primarily from Mexicans, also Bolivian and Vietnamese. The Incubator program will eventually accommodate up to 12 Incubator farmers on 1 acre of land each at SCLT's Urban Edge Farm.

Languages

Some Spanish. All incubator farmers speak English fairly well, and are English literate in addition to their own languages.

Outreach, Needs Assessment

Selection takes place each August to recruit new Incubator farmers. SCLT partners with local organizations which represent various ethnic groups (Cambodian Society, Hmong United Assoc., Oasis International, Laos Assoc.) to hold information sessions about the program. We also keep a waiting list throughout the year and contact the people on this list personally to apply. We have a written application as well as in-person interviews with the candidates. Incubator farmers serve on the Selection Committee along with representatives from SCLT, local farmers, and the Division of Agriculture. Initial needs assessment of farmers is integrated into questions on the application.

Farm Production

Organic fruit and ethnic vegetables, honey, herbs, vermiculture; The SE Asian farmers are growing crops such as bitter melon, lemongrass, water squash, Thai basil, eggplants. The Nigerian farmer grows garden egg, jute leaf, and bitter leaf, traditional West African foods.

Land Leased/Owned

Currently each grower has 1 acre apiece. 12 acres are available for Incubator farmers at Urban Edge Farm. SCLT leases the 50 acre Urban Edge farm from the state of RI; Incubator farmers paid \$300 each this year, which covers the cost of one acre land, water electricity, etc.

Project Staff

1 FTE Incubator Coordinator

.3 FTE Urban Edge's Farm Manager

Program Services

- Land access / finding farmland-SCLT provides up to one acre of farmland for each Incubator farmer and also constantly updates and researches a list of available farmland for Incubator farmer “graduates.”
- Farmsite management and improvements: SCLT’s farm manager plows/tills/harrows Incubator fields, excavates stones, mows around fields, etc.
- Facilities / equipment: (greenhouse, barns, tractors, etc.) We have an Equipment/Resource Bank for Incubator farmers. Tools (rototillers, flame weeders, backpack sprayers, hand tools, wheel hoes, etc.) are available for rental at 20% below market rental rates. We also provide storage space for Incubator farmers in one of our barns. Currently tractor service is done by the farm manager and service is also for a fee. We have a small cultivating tractor that is available for use by farmers with permission from the farm manager.
- Whole farm / farmer planning: Farm management plans, seedling production, planting schedules are all covered in mandatory workshops.
- Training/education programs: (production, harvesting, marketing, recordkeeping, credit, etc.) Topics covered this year (identified by Incubator farmers and SCLT) were: Business and Marketing training, Organic growing methods, How to select seeds from seed companies, seed saving, growing in a greenhouse, farm equipment training and maintenance, healthy soil=healthy plants, pest and disease identification and control, compost and fertilizer use, harvesting techniques, preparing produce for market, how to set up a farmers market display, FSA loan programs, NRCS conservation programs, basic accounting
- Technical assistance (similar areas): ongoing, on-site technical assistance as needed provided by both the Incubator coordinator and Farm Manager
- Regulations, safety, environmental management. Equipment training mandatory. equipment users, includes safe practices; Incubator farmers are required to keep field records similar to the NOP record sheets and hand them in to SCLT annually; Incubator farmers also sign contracts and have land management responsibilities outlined in the contract to adhere to.
- Credit / loans; financial / business planning: FSA and Accion, Inc. provided loan program workshops to the farmers; Incubator farmers are required to keep track of business financials and provide them to SCLT annually and complete a business plan.
- Marketing: part of Business and Marketing training, all farmers complete a marketing plan
- Translation: Most materials and information are translated into appropriate languages

Resources/Materials

Reports, research, media, photos, AV materials, training/educational curriculum, outreach/recruitment, data collection/record keeping documents

Partners

USDA/FSA/NRCS , RI Dept of Environmental Mgt/Div. of Agriculture, UMass Cooperative Extension, Local organic & conventional farmers

Future Plans

Creating agriculture and business/marketing curriculums for Incubator farmers at different years in the Incubator program (farmers can be members for up to 4 years, so a curriculum for each year of the program); continue to recruit and accept new farmers to Incubator program; develop an Incubator logo for marketing purposes; improve mentoring among current and new Incubator farmers; increase amount of translated materials.

Key Needs

- ongoing funding and program sustainability
- finding larger plots of land for farmers to move to

<i>Project</i>	Growing Power
<i>Ethnic Groups</i>	Hmong and Mexican
<i>Organization</i>	Growing Power, Inc, and Rainbow Farmers Cooperative
<i>Contact</i>	Will Allen
<i>Email</i>	will@growingpower.org
<i>Telephone</i>	414-527-1546 <i>Fax</i> 414-527-1908
<i>Address</i>	5500 W. Silver Spring Drive Milwaukee WI 53218
<i>Start Date</i>	First started working with <i>Website</i> www.growingpower.org Hmong farmers about 15 years ago
<i>Mission & Goals</i>	To provide training and resource support for African, Hispanic and Asian immigrant farmers throughout the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Michigan.
<i>Populations Served</i>	African, Hmong and other SE Asian, Latino, also Native American, African-American, inner city youth, Amish
<i>Languages</i>	Hmong, Spanish
<i>Outreach, Needs Assessment</i>	Outreach and enrollment is through word of mouth among immigrant community marketing of programs by non-farming agencies. Also through translators providing services to immigrants. Needs Assessment results: propagation via greenhouse space, land, pesticide use with training toward sustainable practice, training in developing inputs, equipment training, marketing and distribution, post-harvest training.
<i>Farm Production</i>	Animals: chickens, beef, pork Vegetables: all kinds, plus Hispanic, Asian and African specialty crops Flowers, herbs
<i>Land Leased/Owned</i>	1,000 acres under production, another 1,000 could be utilized. More land can be purchased/leased as needed. Farmers both own and lease land.
<i>Project Staff</i>	6 FTE: Program Director, Community Food Center Manager, Project Manager, Facility Manager, Outreach Educator, Driver, Community Food Systems Intern
<i>Program Services</i>	-Training in sustainable farming practices, including: IPM, composting, vermi-composting, aqua-culture - Land-use and tenure advocacy - assist in fair leases, land purchases, land tilling, irrigation - Farmer mentorship - Greenhouse bench space provision. Offered 2 greenhouse in spring 2003 free of charge. Plan to install 2 greenhouses next winter. - Nutrition education - Marketing support, produce deliveries - Education in legal issues and food handling practices. - Translation, have Hmong and bi-lingual Spanish staff members

<i>Resources/Materials</i>	Hmong Pesticide Video Training/education curriculum
<i>Partners</i>	USDA, FSA, NRCS, University of Wisconsin-Madison and Milwaukee, Hmong American Association, Spanish Center of Milwaukee, Open Lands
<i>Future Plans</i>	Funding to help immigrant farmers, capital improvements, and equipment
<i>Key Needs</i>	Having adequate funding to cover staff time and resources used by farmers, especially additional greenhouse installation and land.

Project
Ethnic Groups
Organization
Contact
Email
Telephone
Address

New American Sustainable Agriculture Project

Somali, Latino

Coastal Enterprises, Inc.

Jim Hanna

jimhanna@maine.rr.com

home office: 207-774-9217; office 207-777-5131

31 George St.

Portland ME 04103 *Start Date* 10/2002

Mission & Goals

Deliver outreach, technical assistance and educational programs to enhance the potential of recently resettled immigrants to successfully acquire, own, operate, and retain farms in Maine.

Populations Served

Recently resettled Somalis and other Eastern African immigrants, and Latino farm workers in greater Lewiston, Maine. Currently serving a dozen families from Somali, and Latino's with mixed Central American backgrounds. Also serving one man from Sudan, and one woman from Kenya.

Languages

Somali, Arabic---staff doesn't speak but can usually find translator

Outreach, Needs Assessment

Has found that the Somalis resettling in Lewiston don't have as much expertise in growing crops commercially as was led to believe. Would like to get more into animal husbandry, since many of the immigrants have experience and interest in this - goat, cattle, sheep, chickens.

Farm Production

In 2002 had a 3-4 acre garden of individual plots plus one shared plot. Participants grew a variety of vegetables, especially okra, tomatoes, peppers, hot peppers, melons, squash. In 2003 they are hoping to expand to 5 acres, plus grow on some additional sites.

Land Leased/Owned

Currently only growing in community garden plots

Project Staff

Jim is only staff. He will be hiring a part-time farm manager for 2004 season.

Program Services

- Offer technical and training assistance, farm planning, help finding land, marketing. Is investigating institutional growers contracts with the Farm Fresh Connection, Maine Community Foundation.
- Offer small business development services with Coastal Enterprise (CEI) program already in place - Smart Start.
- Micro-credit program
- Develop Halaal meat processing facilities

Resources/Materials

Don't have many materials yet. Is developing outreach/recruitment materials and training/education curriculum. Will use and adapt resources developed by New England Small Farm Institute for new entry farmers.

Partners

Coop Extension for training
CEI for business development
Maine Rural Workers Coalition - an organization that supports Latino workers
Somali Community Services of Maine

Future Plans

Develop a training program, develop an ethnic labeling marketing project. Create value-added jobs. Possibly do CSA.

Key Needs

- land access for animal cultivation
- staff to coordinate

Project
Ethnic Groups
Organization

New Entry Sustainable Farming Project

SE Asian (Cambodian, Hmong), soon African, Latin American
Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy; Community Teamwork

Contact
Email

Hugh Joseph
hughjoseph@comcast.net

Telephone
Address

617-636-3788 *Fax* 617-738-7777
150 Harrison Ave, Rm 121
Boston MA 02111

Start Date

1998

Website

Mission & Goals

The overall goal of the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (NESFP) is to develop comprehensive strategies to assist recent immigrants with agricultural backgrounds to successfully re-enter farming in Massachusetts, and thereby help to (a) support the vitality and sustainability of the region's agriculture; (b) build long-term economic self-reliance and food security among participants and in their communities; and, (c) expand access to high quality, culturally-appropriate foods in underserved communities through production of locally-grown foods by members of these communities.

Populations Served

We currently assist approximately 50 immigrant farmers - historically Cambodian and Hmong, but this year the program has diversified to include immigrants and refugees African and Latin American countries.

Languages

We use English and translate to Khmer and Hmong as needed.

Outreach, Needs Assessment

Outreach: We receive inquiries by farmers and immigrant groups who hear about the project from existing farmers, word of mouth, media, and other avenues. We also are doing active outreach to CBOs that serve immigrants and refugees.
Enrollment: This year we have formalized our training and technical assistance, including a 6-month off-farm winter training program, followed by on-farm T&TA. Interested applicants must apply and if they qualify, they are interviewed and we select most (at least this year) into the winter training component. Some portion of those who complete this program will be offered land (based on availability) and on-farm T&TA.
Needs assessment: In the past we have done in-depth needs assessments with our Khmer farmers. This year, we interviewed all program applicants to assess their needs and interests, and as part of this process, farmers completed a self-assessment of their knowledge and skills in various aspects of production, marketing, and farm enterprise (to be repeated again at the end of the program). During the training, participants do additional self-assessment exercises.

Farm Production

Our farmers grow vegetables and herbs on 25-30 acres total. A large share is Asian-type crops - like bitter melons, Thai basil, water spinach, pea tendrils, and Asian cucumber; but many also produce more conventional crops (e.g., tomatoes). However, often different parts of a traditional crop are harvested such as the tips of pea plants and the leaves of squash plants. No animals are raised at this time.

Land Leased/Owned

Land is leased about 25-30 acres. We are looking for additional land for our training site and for independent farmers.

Project Staff

3.7 FTE:
Director - Hugh Joseph - funding, PR, programmatic work, management, outreach, policy

Project Coordinator - Jennifer Hashley - management, financial administration, training, outreach

Farmsite Coordinator - Amy Carrington - farm operations and management; T&TA, outreach

Video Specialist - Ellen Grosman - video and fundraising

Marketing Specialist (UMass) - Maria Moreira - outreach, marketing, community relations

Program Services

- Land access / finding farmland: We help identify farmland for farmers who want to move to independent farmsites (i.e., not an NESFP training site); we are also looking for a main training site for our project.
- Farmsite management and improvements: tilling, irrigation: We organize pre- and post-season tilling and cover cropping on our training sites. We set up irrigation on our training sites and assist farmers on their own land to do same. We promote drip irrigation, and also as a result of a large donation, we have been making irrigation pipes available to farmers.
- Facilities / equipment: (greenhouse, barns, tractors, etc.). We have set up one greenhouse on our main training site; out up storage sheds on three sites. We provide a rototiller and a few other tools for farmers to use.
- Whole farm / farmer planning: Whole farm planning now is the basis of how we approach our program; modified to incorporate the role of the project and relationships with farmers. Our training program emanates from the overall whole farm framework.
- Training/education programs: (production, harvesting, marketing, recordkeeping, credit, etc.). We now consider ourselves as primarily a training and technical assistance program. We have an 18-week off-farm off-season training program, followed by in-farm T&TA throughout the season. It covers all essential topics such as listed here; based on a whole farm framework.
- Technical assistance: Mostly on-farm or in-season assistance (production, harvesting, marketing, recordkeeping, credit, accessing farming resources, etc.). Finding land, preparing land, irrigation, pest management, seed/seedling sourcing, greenhouse use; harvesting, marketing, record keeping, etc.
- Regulations, safety, environmental management. We cover these areas as part of our training. Of particular focus is pest management.
- Credit / loans; financial / business planning: Enterprise and business planning is part of our training program. This includes information on credit sources; help to farmers who want loans to connect with USDA and other potential loan sources.
- Post harvest (storage, value added, cooling, transportation): We will be expanding these areas going forward, as we develop a farmer-marketing cooperative that requires and includes proper storage, cooling, handling, and transportation.
- Marketing: We assist farmers in particular to sell at farmers' markets; we are moving forward to develop a farmer cooperative for wholesale marketing.
- Labor: very little - few farmers have employees at this time.
- Transportation: very little. We have a reefer truck, which is not used now, but we expect to use it as part of our emerging marketing coop.
- Translation: most of our farmers do not speak, read or write English well. We provide oral translation in Hmong and Khmer as needed, especially at trainings and other meetings. We have had a Khmer Liaison but that position is currently not filled. We translate some of our materials. Some farmers bring their own translators to our training meetings.

Resources/Materials

- AV materials: 11 training videos, (some in Khmer), plus PR video
- Training, education materials, some in Khmer and Hmong
- Outreach and recruitment forms
- Data collection and record keeping documents on production, marketing, etc.
- Strategic plan
- Funding proposals for USDA grants
- Research reports, Evaluation report due in early 2004

- 25+ pieces in the media about our project

Partners

Farm Services Agency (FSA) - Massachusetts: Local FSA offices in Westford and Holden, MA help staff identify farmable land, provide outreach services to assist farmers with applications for credit, crop insurance, and provide other technical assistance covering production and financial matters. Other FSA offices coordinate loan outreach and administration, and provide outreach to immigrant farmers and other disadvantaged growers through their Special Emphasis Program.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA: Plant and Soil Sciences Department, Entomology Department, and Extension. UMass Extension focuses on education/training in the areas of modern agricultural crop production to address the needs of new entry farmers. They develop production materials and resources for use by immigrant and mainstream growers and all information is posted to their website (www.umassvegetable.org). They also conduct research on pest control on crops that are used by Asian farmers, and support NESFP production and marketing of ethnic (Asian and Latino) vegetables. Other UMass faculty assists our training program, as presenters on production and other topics.

The Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, Inc. (CMAA) is a large multi-service nonprofit targeting the Cambodian American community and other disadvantaged residents of Greater Lowell. CMAA conducts outreach to Southeast Asian and other community residents for this project, and provides links to other health and social service programs they sponsor. CMAA helped sponsor a farmers' market in 2001 and is collaborating with NESFP on a youth farming project expected to begin in 2004.

Cambodian-American League of Lowell: They provide contacts with the Cambodian community for outreach and provide training workshops covering bookkeeping, credit, financial management and related topics.

Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture: As the state's primary agency for food and agriculture matters, MDFA assists identification of farmland, marketing opportunities, education, training on regulatory topics; help develop a resource guide; issue and track Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons; and register and provide training to growers participating in that program.

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Massachusetts: Local offices assist in assessing the suitability of land for use in this project, providing advice on soil, environmental and other production issues, and assist with design and funding (cost-share programs) of irrigation systems at mentor farm sites.

New England Small Farm Institute (NESFI), Belchertown, MA: NESFI is a sponsor of projects that support beginning or new-entry farmers and has established a regional service network that conducts research and provides training and information for start-up farmers. NESFI sponsors the New American Farmer Initiative - a marketing program that delivers local produce from Massachusetts's farmers, including immigrant farmers, to high-end chefs. Our project is seeking to broaden its affiliation with this initiative beginning in 2003-2004. NESFI staff also assists out training program.

Farmers: Experienced local farmers host "mentor farms," provide farm resources, provide training and technical assistance, grow food for the hungry, and provide liaison with community organizations.

Lowell Community Foundation (LCF): LCF coordinates programs and fund raising efforts to support a new endowment fund and to generate site operating funds for the NESFP. The initiative has broad community and institutional participation.

Dracut Land Trust, Inc. (DLTI): DLTI secures open space in Dracut. It provides land for our mentor farm sites there, and collaborates with fund raising and site development efforts.

Regional and National Immigrant Farming Network

National Partners of the New Entry Sustainable Farming Project and their roles

include:

USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA): RMA provides funding, provides training and training materials, and conducts site visits to provide NESFP with oversight and to share information and educational materials that are developed by other projects sponsored by RMA. RMA is closely involved in expanding grower and project partner awareness of risk management education tools and working with local partners such as the Farm Service Agencies in determining eligibility for government programs, facilitating data collection, and enrolling growers in risk management programs such as Federal Crop Insurance.

Future Plans

- We introduced a formal year round T&TA program this fall; as described above;
- We are completing a 5-year strategic plan that sets our priorities and workplans over this period;
- We are setting up a farmer marketing coop to strengthen marketing opportunities for our participants
- We are seeking a new central training site that will house our facilities and equipment and hopefully staff and meeting space

Key Needs

- finding farmland that is affordable for farmers and suitable to immigrant farmer needs;
- Maintaining sufficient funding
- Determining whether to become a formal non-profit

Project
Ethnic Groups
Organization

New Farmer Development Project (NFDP)

Latino

Greenmarket/Council on the Environment, Inc, and Cornell Coop Extension/ NYC

Contact
Email

Kate Granger

Telephone
Address

212-477-3220

Fax 212-533-0242

130 E. 16th St

New York NY 10003

Start Date

2000

Website www.cenyc.org/HTMLGM/nfdpfaq.htm

Mission & Goals

The New Farmer Development Project identifies, educates and supports agriculturally experienced immigrants in the NYC region to establish economically and environmentally sound small-scale farm operations, to preserve regional farmland, strengthen farmers' markets, and expand access to high-quality, locally-grown farm products.

VISION STATEMENT

In 2006, the NFDP is an innovative, comprehensive, participatory model for establishing immigrant farmers. The NFDP works with agriculturally experienced immigrants, established farmers and landowners, and partner organizations. With their guidance and collaboration, the NFDP creates employment, marketing and ownership opportunities in the small farm sector in NYC and its region. The NFDP fosters a new farmer community engaged in sustainable agriculture, preserves farmland, strengthens and expands local marketing outlets, and works with similar projects nationwide and internationally. The NFDP provides on-farm education, business and marketing training, mentoring opportunities, technical assistance, credit opportunities, and access to project land and other farms.

Populations Served

We work primarily with Latino immigrants. There are approximately 60 active project participants. Of those active participants, four have started independent farms with the help of the NFDP and over twenty are involved in agriculture through NFDP training sites or farm employment. Another 20 individuals receive information about the project but are not currently active.

Languages

Spanish

Outreach, Needs Assessment

We have conducted outreach through community organizations and media, mostly Spanish-language newspapers. We do not have a strict enrollment procedure. We do have basic intake forms, and we have a detailed application to take our winter training course. Typically, an individual finds out about the NFDP through outreach publicizing the winter training, applies to take the winter training, and becomes more involved in the NFDP from there.

We have not undertaken a formal needs assessment. On applications and in dialogue with participants we ask them to describe their previous experience, their main obstacles to starting a farm, what areas they would like to receive training in, and so on.

Immigrant farmers defined land acquisition as a priority strategic need at our strategic planning workshop in November 2002.

Farm Production

Vegetables, small fruits, herbs, flowers, poultry, eggs. Some ethnic crops and heirloom varieties in addition to standard crops.

Land Leased/Owned Independent farmers rent their land, about 20 acres. At the training farms of two-three acres, NFDG has use of land through agreements with community organization landowners.

Project Staff FTE at Greenmarket: Project Director, Project Coordinator, and Project Associate Plus Cornell Ext. staff 1 FTE Extension Educator, and a part-time Resource Educator. There is also oversight from the Greenmarket Director and from a Senior Extension Associate

Program Services

- Land access / finding farmland

Land Identification/Assessment: Identify farmland for lease and/or sale with a focus on New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. We assess with soil testing and amendment, and access to small farm machinery and greenhouses when possible. FarmLink and extension agents work with us to assess suitability of various land opportunities and assist participants through the lease or purchase processes.

a) Land Identification: The NFDG identifies farmland through a range of resources, including farmers looking to rent or sell farmland, or who will be retiring soon and are searching for a successor; the Department of Environmental Protection, which has a database of all land in the NYC watershed; Farm Service Agency, which publishes announcements of the NFDG land search in county and state-wide newsletters; CCE county offices; land preservation institutions, including American Farmland Trust; state FarmLink programs; and realtors. Also, Greenmarket surveys its 170 regional food producers annually to learn of available properties.

b) Site visits and assessment: NFDG staff work one-on-one with participants who are actively looking for land, and updates them as appropriate land opportunities are identified. Staff members visit sites with participants to assess land, acquire and review soil maps, and support individuals through the decision-making process. We consult with state FarmLink programs to evaluate land opportunities, appraise property value, and determine suitability.

c) Lease agreements: Through pro bono legal services, we create lease agreement for all new farmers renting farmland.

d) Project Training Farm Sites: In addition, the NFDG identifies sites for training farms in or close to NYC where we can conduct hands-on training and participants can farm part-time through cooperative growing and marketing.

- Farmsite management and improvements: tilling, irrigation,

The NFDG improves that land at training sites. Independent farmers are responsible for caring for their own land, although the NFDG often provides assistance in locating nearby farmers to do custom work, etc.

- Facilities / equipment: (greenhouse, barns, tractors, etc.)

Limited facilities are available at training sites, such as use of rototillers, storage space, etc. John Ameroso, Extension Educator for CCE, uses a greenhouse at a nearby farm for hands-on workshops and to raise transplants, many of which are donated to all participants and training farms.

- Whole farm / farmer planning: see below a)La Nueva Siembra

- Training/education programs: (production, harvesting, marketing, recordkeeping, credit, etc.)

The NFDG has a culturally appropriate approach to training and education that provides farmers with the skills and resources to farm successfully in this region. Training includes production, marketing and financial management, and leadership development. The NFDG's training program includes the following elements:

a) La Nueva Siembra ("The New Planting"), a training program consisting of 14 weekly 2.5 hour sessions during the winter and spring, familiarizes participants with agriculture in the Northeast through presentations by NFDG staff and more than ten guest speakers. Topics include livestock and vegetable production, pest management, sustainable agricultural practices, crop planning, record keeping, whole farm planning, financial management, marketing opportunities, land acquisition and tenure, risk management strategies, crop insurance, and farm regulations. Family members are encouraged to attend classes to involve the

entire family in farm planning. Classes incorporate innovative strategies, using participatory education methods to foster mutual support between participants, as well as individual and community development.

b) Hands-on workshops: Hands-on production workshops take place at training farms, such as the Decker Farm on Staten Island, with technical instruction provided by CCE.

c) Conferences: Participants are encouraged to attend local and regional agricultural conferences, and may apply to the NFDL for scholarships for conference fees. Staff often coordinate transportation and accompany participants to conferences. In addition to complementing NFDL training, this promotes integration of immigrant farmers into mainstream agricultural activities and networks.

d) Mentorship Program: This fall the NFDL will work to formalize a mentoring program that connects established farmers with NFDL participants in correspondence with participant interest. This program will promote sharing agricultural knowledge, experiences and resources among farmers and provide new farmers with a support person and advisor.

e) Spanish-Language Materials: The NFDL produces and acquires Spanish-language agricultural resources, including newsletters, pamphlets, books and videos, which are available to participants. To encourage Project replication and network efficiency, the NFDL will share Spanish-language resources with projects directed at similar populations.

- Technical assistance (similar areas):

Technical assistance is provided at training farms and individual participant farms. Also, when individual farmers have relocated to rural areas, we put them in touch with their local Extension educators in the relevant Counties to provide technical assistance at the local/County level.

- Regulations, safety, environmental mgt.:

As needed, the NFDL investigates relevant regulations (e.g. NYS regulations for storing eggs). The NFDL encourages organic/sustainable production and all training and technical assistance focuses on organic methods. However, we do not require that individual farmers grow organically.

- Credit / loans; financial / business planning

Peer-Monitored Credit Programs: Through funding from Heifer International, the NFDL has two credit programs for NFDL farmers, who are often unable to get loans from traditional lenders. In addition to providing credit to NFDL farmers, the loan funds serve as a way for socially disadvantaged farmers to establish a credit history and farm records. The NFDL Committee, comprised of NFDL staff and farmers (see more under "OTHER") approves loans and monitors the following two funds:

- Living Loan Fund: Participants receive livestock, seeds, and transplants at no cost. They repay the "loan" in-kind to a subsequent farmer. This loan fund encourages collaboration and builds community among new farmers who support each other. This program was launched in Spring of 2003, and the first "loan" was approved in June 2003.

- The Micro-credit Loan Fund: The NFDL will establish a micro-credit fund to offer loans of up to \$5,000 to participants for small farm machinery, market supplies, and other items. We expect to make our first loans in 2004.

- Marketing: Greenmarket offers a prime retail marketing outlet through its 31 NYC farmers markets. To date, over ten participants have sold produce at eight markets. We provide introduction to and enrollment in the FMNP, and assistance with market applications and insurance. Our La Nueva Siembra classes review strategies for direct marketing, and staff offer individualized assistance with market regulations, pricing, signage, and display. Through an extension of our Heifer credit programs, we lend tents, tables and scales to participants for their first two years of markets, representing a significant expense when farmers are strapped for cash. They then pay back the loan by "passing on the gift" to another participant. Additionally, the NFDL connects participants with CSA's and restaurants. Direct sales are the primary source of farm income for farmers in

this program.

- Labor: For those participants interested in working on a farm or in markets, and for those NFDP farmers needing assistance at their farms/markets, the NFDP helps to coordinate placements. Working on a farm can provide participants with valuable hands-on experience that is transferable to their future farm start-ups. This activity involves coordination and translation of interviews between farmers and participants, coordination of a preliminary farm visit by the potential employee, creation of a letter of agreement between both parties, and substantial follow-up to monitor the placement.
- Transportation – We often provide transportation to conferences or farm tours. Through a grant, we cover transportation for the Decker Farm to bring their products to the market every week. (The cost is approximately \$30/week.)
- Translation: We provide a very significant amount of translation. Beyond translating our materials and trainings, we often provide one-on-one translation for individual participants.
- Training Sites: Training farm sites are one to ten acre parcels in NYC and neighboring counties where participants engage in small-scale commercial production. Groups of 4 to 8 participants work together at these sites, which provide a transitional phase from which participants can move towards farming independently. At all sites, NFDP staff offer on-site technical assistance, a cooperative farming experience that facilitates participant interaction and an opportunity to test the waters of production and marketing through farmers markets and restaurants. The NFDP currently operates sites in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and Dutchess County, and is responsible for site location and preparation, including soil testing and amendment, and access to small farm machinery and greenhouses when possible.

<i>Resources/Materials</i>	Can provide reports, research, training/educational curriculum
<i>Partners</i>	Coop Ext in NY, NJ, PA, NYS Dept of Ag and Markets, USDA/RMA/FSA
<i>Future Plans</i>	We hope to start a micro-credit program, to formalize the mentorship program.
<i>Key Needs</i>	Nearby productive farmland, \$\$\$, immigration status

Project

Ethnic Groups

Organization

Contact

Email

Telephone

Address

New Immigrant Agricultural Project (NIAP)

Hmong, Latino, African

Minnesota Food Association (MFA)

Chris Morton, Director

cbmcbm@aol.com

612-788-4342

Fax 951-766-8773

3504 32nd Ave, NE

St. Anthony MN 55418

Start Date

1998

Website

www.mnfoodassociation.org/projects/niap.html

Mission & Goals

The New Immigrant Agriculture Project provides over 100 acres of land for Hmong, Latino, and Somali producers, while also providing training on farm financial management skills. The New Immigrant Agriculture Project has developed a comprehensive, year-long farm financial management curriculum specifically for new immigrant producers. To enroll in the program, new immigrants will contract for the use of land while also agreeing to participate in the course work. Primary focus of the Project is on the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area (seven-county area).

Populations Served

Over the course of its first 4 years, NIAP has trained over 200 Latino, Southeast Asian (Hmong) and African (Somali) immigrants. The Immigrant population in MN is close to 300,000. We work with government, state, and private agencies to reach as many as possible. Right now we are helping a Diversity Community Group composed of 20 Hmong, African and Hispanic families.

Languages

Spanish

Farm Production

They are growing vegetables on 12 acres in Carver County: tomatoes, onions, beans, chiles, green beans, okra, amaranth, basil, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, dill, eggplant, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, peppers, pumpkins, radishes, spinach, watermelon, other Hmong and African ethnic veggies.

Land Leased/Owned

Land is leased; land at Univ. of MN Rosemount, as well as Carver and Hennepin counties, is accessible to this project

Program Services

- 3 year enrollment program to ready a new farmer to become eligible for loans to purchase or lease land. Enrolled farmers have access to land through the NIAP project for the 3-4 years they are in the programs. Goals are for 75 immigrants to obtain 3 years of crop production records.

- Organic Conversion Project. MFA and the Cooperative Development Services developed a comprehensive training/mentoring program to support conventional and new immigrant farmers in converting from conventional or traditional farming methods to organic production. Include workshops, training gardens, on-farm mentoring, farmer network, field days.

Resources/Materials

- Generally speaking our participants have low literacy, but we are providing some basic information in their own language. Our materials using for the workshops, Brochures, flyers, fact sheets, crop reports, loan application, sustainability agriculture issues, and so on are right now offering in English and Spanish and some in Hmong and Somali languages.

- Still in draft form: The ABC's of Farming: Agricultural Business Curriculum for New Immigrants - a series of workbooks contracted by USDA-SARE, and using materials developed by MISA (Minn. Inst. For Sustainable Agric.) and the MN Farm Business Mgt Assoc.

- The Organic Conversion Project produced a manual on organic conversion. Also marketing surveys on ethnic crops and production guides on alternative crops.

Partners

USDA, Univ of MN Ext, mutual assistance agencies (Hmong American Partnership, Confederation of Somali Communities in MN), state ethnic councils (Council for Hispanic and Council for Asian-Pacific Minnesotans), sustainable agriculture groups

Future Plans

We need our own place, our own land in which we can deliver in an appropriate way our education and training programs.

Key Needs

land
funding for outreach workers

Project	New Immigrant Farm Program
Ethnic Groups	Hmong, E. African
Organization	University of Minnesota Extension
Contact	Vang N. Yang
Email	Yangx182@umn.edu
Telephone	651-423-2413 <i>Fax</i> 651-423-1491
Address	UMore Park, 1605 160th St. W. Rosemount MN 55068
Start Date	1999
Mission & Goals	To help new immigrant farmers in the Twin City Metropolitan area who have agrarian background and chose farming as their occupation to increase their farm-level productivity, profitability, and sustainability.
Populations Served	40 families currently farming in the University property - 95% Hmong, 5% E. African. And 50 families that come from outside for services.
Languages	Hmong, Spanish
Farm Production	over 40 different vegetable crops and flowers
Land Leased/Owned	80 acres on University property; each family farms 1-3 acres. Cost is \$175/acre/year which includes some basic services and water. After the 3 year training program is over, the farmers on University land must go elsewhere. Others who farm outside the University property either own or lease.
Project Staff	One
Program Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants who farm on University land are enrolled in a 3 year training and educational program that provide audiences with knowledge and skills of vegetable production systems, fertility management, alternative crops, cultivar selection, soil management, pest control, post harvest handling, processing, marketing, farm management and record keeping. - Provide one-to-one problem solving support to improve productivity, enhance the environment, and foster food and farm safety. - Develop and deliver educational programs on organic gardening that are economically sound and environmentally ethical. - Identify, and promote innovative marketing systems to generate profitable income for producers. - Enhance quality of life for immigrant farm families by integrating them into other Extension programs and community opportunities. - Provide cooperative leadership with other federal and state government agencies for effort to access capital for appropriate new immigrant farmers to purchase land and other resources. - Disseminate new production techniques and input using demonstration plots.
Resources/Materials	Reports, research, photos, AV materials, training/educational curriculum, data/record keeping documents, research article about organic compost and mulch amendments on tomatoes
Partners	USDA
Future Plans	unsure, since U of M is developing a new plan
Key Needs	grant \$\$ tractors greenhouse irrigation

Project	PEPA - Small Farmer Education Program
Ethnic Groups	Latino
Organization	ALBA - Agriculture and Land Based Training Association
Contact	Brett Melone, Exec. Dir.
Email	brett@albafarmers.org
Telephone	831-758-1469 <i>Fax</i> 831-758-3665
Address	1700 Old Stage Rd Salinas CA 93908
Start Date	1985 <i>Website</i> www.albafarmers.org
Mission & Goals	Advancement of economic viability, social equity and ecological land management among limited resource farmers on California's Central Coast.
Populations Served	Latino former or current farmworkers. Have served over 400 families since inception. Currently serving 35 family farms through incubator program at 2 sites, in addition to approx. 200 area farmers through extension programs.
Languages	Spanish
Outreach, Needs Assessment	Recently completed needs assessment survey and program evaluation
Farm Production	Vegetables, row crops, strawberries, cane berries, herbs, flowers. Interest in livestock but no activity yet.
Land Leased/Owned	About 165 acres are available for lease from ALBA's two sites; currently 120 acres are being leased.
Project Staff	7 FTE: Exec. Director, Agronomist, Natural Resources Manager, 2 Farm Managers, Marketing Coordinator, Assistant 4 half-time FTE: Dev.&Comm. Director, Outreach Coord., Sales & Marketing Asst, Demo Plot Coord.
Program Services	- Six-month agricultural training program for Spanish speaking new farmers, called PEPA (PEPA = Programa Educativo para Pequeños Agricultores) - technical assistance and business planning as needed for tenant farmers - land leasing, equipment, water, and connections to available farm land - workshops, short courses, field days, other continuing education for farmers, new and established (usually bilingual) - post harvest, storage, cooling, transport, value added - marketing services: ALBA Organics, a produce distribution operation under the umbrella of ALBA the non-profit. The mission of ALBA Organics is to serve ALBA participants and local farmers who want help in accessing markets. ALBA Organics has a cooling facility on site and a delivery truck.
Resources/Materials	- curriculum materials - videos (in Spanish and English) - research reports on "every agriculture topic under the sun" many in Spanish
Partners	many
Future Plans	- Expand use of greenhouses - May offer PEPA program in English
Key Needs	Consistent funding to maintain infrastructure and community presence; maintaining viable partnerships

Project	Small Farm Resource and Training Center
Ethnic Groups	Hmong
Organization	Hmong American Community, Inc.
Contact	Chukou Thao
Email	ct_hac@yahoo.com
Telephone	559-285-4930 <i>Fax</i> 559-456-4291
Address	mail: PO Box 8692 (site: 538 W. North Ave) Fresno CA 93747
Start Date	2000 (Hmong American <i>Website</i> hmongamer.com Community in 1997) www.geocities.com/ct_hac
Mission & Goals	The goal of the Center is to be a one-stop resource center for the many ethnic small farmers in the Central Valley, CA. It delivers effective, sensitive programs by enrolling them in a two year program to teach them about farming operations and the business of farming.
Populations Served	Hmong, Lao, Minh, Latino, Armenian, Japanese, Afircna American - total immigrant farming population about 3,000.
Languages	Hmong, Lao, Minh, Spanish
Outreach, Needs Assessment	Farmer's needs include translation, interpretation, connecting to resources in farming community, land search, business courses, connecting to markets to sell Asian specialty crops.
Farm Production	Asian specialty crops, bitter melons, moque, thai chili peppers, thai eggplant, cherry tomatoes.
Land Leased/Owned	There are 20 acres on location at our Training Center. Off site there are over 2000 acres in production. Farmers lease year to year. Fewer than 5% own the land they farm.
Project Staff	FTE Director Chukou Thao FTE Operations Manager Kevin Lee
Program Services	The SFRTC is a multi-agency partnering collaboration. The site is used for incubator farming. The project can house 3-5 farmers on site and 4-5 farmers off site. Participants are enrolled for a two year period. During that time, the farmer receives risk management education, technical assistance and training on topics such as soil preparation, pesticide health and safety, reading pesticide labels, record keeping, tractor driving course and marketing.
Partners	American Farmland Trust, California State University at Fresno, Central CA Small Business Development Center, Univ. of CA Small Farm Center, USDA RMA/NRCS/RD/FSA
Future Plans	Would like to open a satellite office in Minnesota, Wisconsin
Key Needs	Locating and securing funding to operate center. Land ownership for farmers, locating solid marketplaces for Asian specialty crops

Project	Southeast Immigrant Family Farm Partners	
Ethnic Groups	SE Asians - Hmong, Korean, Laotian	
Organization	Glover Family Organic Farm & Center for Pan Asia Community Center	
Contact	Skip and Carolyn Glover	
Email	glo-farm@mindspring.com	
Telephone	770-920-5358	
Address	3260 HWY 166 Douglasville GA 30135	
Start Date	2002-2003	Website 2-part article at www.newfarm.org/features/0703/glover3/shtml
Mission & Goals	To provide opportunities for Asian immigrants and refugees in Atlanta who wish to grow and market traditional produce for their communities.	
Populations Served	Hmong, Korean, Laotian, Cambodian. From Atlanta area	
Languages		
Outreach, Needs Assessment	transportation and language barriers	
Farm Production	organic SE Asian vegetables, possibly eggs, worm castings for sale to high end organic market	
Land Leased/Owned	15-20 acres of land on Glover farm to be provided until participants are able to acquire their own land	
Project Staff	Skip Glover, intern, driver	
Program Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide training, technical assistance and marketing support to up to 60 families - Provide training in the areas of organic production methods, integrated animal agriculture, marketing, farm business skills - Provide land for production - Provide chickens and the space to raise them for those interested - Provide transportation to farmer's markets 	
Partners	RC&D, Cooperative Extension	
Future Plans	develop marketing network, also develop value-added products by obtaining certified kitchen	
Key Needs	finding land for farmers to lease or purchase	

IMMIGRANT FARMING PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

	Center for Latino Farmers	Farm Business Incubator Program	Growing Power	New American Sustainable Agriculture Project	New Entry Sustainable Farming Program	New Farmer Development Project	New Immigrant Agricultural Project	New Immigrant Farm Program	PEPA Small Farmer Education Program	Small Farm Resource Training Center	Southeast Immigrant Family Farm Partners
Organization	Rural Community Dev. Res.	Southside Community Land Trust	Growing Power, Rainbow Cooperative	Coastal Enterprises	Tufts University	Greenmarket, CEL, Cornell Ext.	Minnesota Food Association	Univ. of MN Extension	ALBA	Hmong American Community	Glover Family Organic Farm
Location	Yakima WA	Providence RI	Milwaukee WI	Portland ME	Boston MA	New York NY	St. Anthony MN	Rosemount MN	Salinas CA	Fresno CA	Douglasville GA
Contact	Malaquias Flores	Devan Chase	Will Allen	Jim Hanna	Hugh Joseph	Kate Granger	Chris Morton	Vang Yang	Brett Melone	Chukou Thao	Skip Glover
Phone	509-453-3157	401-273-9419	414-527-1546	207-777-5131	617-636-3788	212-477-3220	612-788-4342	651-423-2413	831-758-1469	559-285-4930	770-920-5358
Email	latinofarmers@charter.net	incubator@southsideclt.org	will@growingpower.org	jimhanna@maine.rr.com	hughjoseph@comcast.com		cbmcbm@aol.com	Yangx182@umn.edu	brett@albafarmers.org	ct_hac@yahoo.com	Glofarm@mindspring.com
Participants	Latino	SE Asian, Nigerian, Mexican	Hmong, Mexican, African	Somali, Central America	Cambodian, Hmong, Latino African	Latino	Hmong, Somali, Latino	Hmong, E. African	Latino	SE Asian, Latino, Armenian	SE Asian
SERVICES:											
Tech. Assist.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ag Educ. Program		Developing 2-year program	X	In development	18-weeks, then monthly in season	14-week program	Not structured	3-year program	6-months in Spanish	2-year program	Not structured
Offer Land Training Site	All are landowners	12 acres	All own or lease	3-5 acres	11 acres	Several 2-3 acre sites	12 acres	80 acres	165 acres	20 acres	15-20 acres
Business/ Farm Plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Finance Asst	X				X	Credit loan funds	X	X			
Horticulture		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Land Assist		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Transport.			X		X	Some			X		X
Marketing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Organic Ed.		X					X	X	X		X
MATERIALS:											
Curriculum		X	X	In development	In development	X	Ag Business forthcoming	X	X		
Video/AV		X	X		X			X	X		
Research Reports	X	X			X	X		X	Many in Spanish		
Other	Crop insurance, Computer training	Equipment and tool rental	Greenhouse space; Hmong pestic. video		Land Assessmt Surveys; Ag videos in Khmer				Postharvest storage, organic wholesale connection		