

Introduction to Farm Succession

Courtyard by Marriott
901 Raintree Road, Mankato, Minnesota 56001 USA
Wednesday, November 10th, 9am to 3pm



Agenda

8:30 - Informal networking - Coffee and refreshments available

9:00 - Welcome - Jim Molenaar, SCTCC, and Megan Roberts, University of Minnesota

9:15 - Strategies for Farm Business Succession and Assembling Your Transition Team - Jim

10:30 - Break

10:45 - Goals Setting and Resources for Family Communication - Megan

11:30 - Fair vs Equal and Some Day Sue - Megan and Jim

12:00 - Lunch

12:30 - Lunch Speaker, Understanding Personal and Family Stressors During Farm Transition -
Monica Kramer McConkey, LPC, Rural Mental Health Specialist

1:00 - Basics of Business Structures - Megan

1:30 - Retirement, Healthcare, and Estate Planning - Megan and Jim

2:30 - Strategies for Farm Business Succession Wrap Up and the Farm Succession To-Do List - Jim

3:00 - Wrap up, Evaluation, and Adjourn - Megan and Jim

Meet your speakers

Monica McConkey, LPC, has 25 years of experience in the behavioral health field as a counselor, program supervisor and administrator. She currently works as one of two Rural Mental Health Counselors in Minnesota providing support to farmers, ranchers and their families through a contract with the MN Ag Centers of Excellence. She is the owner of Eyes on the Horizon Consulting, a business through which she focuses on helping individuals and organizations increase resilience and mental wellness. Monica grew up on a farm in Northwestern Minnesota and has intimate understanding of the dynamics leading to farm stress and its impact on farm families.

Jim Molenaar is a Farm Business Management (FBM) Instructor at St. Cloud Technical and Community College and serves as the coordinator for farm succession/transition efforts for Minnesota State College and Universities FBM programs. Jim provides a perspective of farm succession that only a lifetime of real life-on farm problem solving can bring to a conversation. Some of his experiences include serving as a farmer/lender mediator in the 1980's, a board member for the MN Department of Agriculture Rural Finance Authority and graduate of the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership (MARL) program.

Megan Roberts is a University of Minnesota Extension Educator in agricultural business management. At Extension, she leads farm transition and farm policy educational programming. Megan holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Minnesota and a doctoral degree from Texas A&M. She is currently completing her certified financial planning coursework. She is proud to have grown up on a dairy farm in central MN and now lives on a hog and crop farm with her family in southern MN.

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