



Nitty Gritty of Farming

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Veteran Like You

Truth you probably already heard.....

- Farming is hard workconstant work.
- You should have a love for it, because it is not always loving.
- Never a dull moment.
- Always learning something new, no matter how long you have been in the game.
- Be prepared to start over and regroup.

DEFINITION

- Nitty-gritty means the most important aspects or practical details of a subject or situation
- The essential substance or details of a matter; basic: specific practical details
- Harsh realities



First things First

- Do you have a plan?
- Business Plan?
- You don't know what you don't know....so have you taken a class to find out? (Yep! You're reading it correctly.)



Where do I start?

Now that depends on are you starting

From scratch

- Do you have land?
- Where do I look?
- How much is too much?
- Diverse? Organic? Conventional?
- Animals? What kind?

Taking over an established farm

- What is already in place?
- Do I need upgrading for true growth?
- Am I changing the operation from conventional to organic?

Grants or Loans?



"Hey, Dad. I need some short-term, economic aid."

First what is a Grant and where do I find them?

- Grant-financial award give by the federal, state or local government to eligible grantee
- Are non-repayable funds or products disbursed by one party, to a recipient, often nonprofit entity, business or an individual
- www.rd.usda.gov

Is this the path I want to go?

- Grant writer? Is this me or someone else?
- What does receiving a grant mean?
- Business loan...what does that look like?
- Who is KIVA? www.kiva.org (Crowd funding)
- Equity loans?

Do you know?

- NRCS (National Resources Conservation Service) www.nrcs.usda.gov
- Your state organic organization?
- State and national conferences?
- Local farmers?
- Local farm ordinances?
- You're a part of a underserved community ...woman owned business?

DON'T WORK IN A SILO!!



What does that mean?

- Do you know your local farmers?
- What are they growing?
- Animals?
- Family owned?
- Who in your area is doing composting?

Who has ever heard of speed dating?

SPEED DATING *



6 minutes more to go.....

Ask yourself: Do I really know who my resources are?

- Take out a piece of paper or grab a notebook.
- At the top write the name of this class
- Goal 10 different
- Now.....

?



QUESTIONS





thank you!