



ABOUT NEW FARMER ACADEMY

The West Tennessee New Farmer Academy is a 7-month certificate program designed for those with an interest in becoming agricultural entrepreneurs. Ideal candidates for this program include those who are new to agriculture, those who wish to transition into agriculture from another field, such as military service or private sector work, or those who are looking for a post-retirement opportunity.

The program focuses on teaching concepts, providing information, and facilitating the hands-on experience and connections needed to build a solid, viable and successful agricultural business. Our goal is to provide research-based information paired with time-honored practices and real-world examples to introduce you to Agriculture in West Tennessee. The Tennessee New Farmer Academy is a TEAP approved program. Credit is given for certificates issued after 2018.



DIRECTIONS

The first session of the Academy and others will be held at the **Tennessee Agricenter - 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Suite "B" Memphis, TN, United States, Tennessee 38120**. Classes will meet in both indoor and outdoor locations around Shelby County, TN. Participants should expect to experience a variety of west Tennessee weather conditions throughout the course and transportation will be on your own.

CONNECT WITH US

Learn more about the New Farmer Academy at the TSU College of Agriculture

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WEST TENNESSEE NEW FARMER ACADEMY

**"DEVELOPING SUCCESSFUL SMALL
FARM ENTERPRISES"**



 **TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY**
College of Agriculture

EDUCATIONAL TOPICS:

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Registration will take place through the TSU College of Agriculture Campus. The \$200.00 fee will cover materials, lunches and snacks for all 7 workshop dates.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 20, 2026.

TOPICS COVERED

- 1 Business Plans & Farming Economics
- 2 Livestock Production
- 3 Pasture Management & Weed Control
- 4 Hemp Production
- 5 Vegetable & Fruit Crop Production
- 6 Farm Equipment & Drone Use in Agriculture
- 7 Marketing your Products
- 8 Agri-tourism
- 9 Bees, Cattle, Goats and MORE!

TOPIC 1:

FARM BUSINESS & MARKETING BASICS:

Over multiple sessions, you will learn to identify the appropriate enterprise for you and your farm, how to start your business, and how to navigate the regulatory issues of the agricultural world. Additionally, you'll learn about some of the most effective marketing strategies, business management skills, and how to apply for grants and other types of assistance programs available to new farmers.

TOPIC 2:

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION PRACTICES:

A portion of each session will be dedicated to helping you establish and/or maintain productive and efficient operations. We will cover topics like soil health, livestock production, fruit and vegetable production, beekeeping, irrigation strategies, organic production, and greenhouse management.

TOPIC 3:

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE:

In addition to classroom instruction, the New Farmer Academy provides hands-on experiential sessions on topics including drip irrigation, plasticulture, fencing installation and repair, sprayer calibration, and equipment operation/safety.



WORKSHOP DATES:

Workshop times are: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Central Time)

APRIL 23, 2026

MAY 28, 2026

JUNE 25, 2026

JULY 23, 2026

AUGUST 27, 2026

SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

OCTOBER 22, 2026

All workshops will begin on their date at various farms or agriculture operations throughout Shelby County and surrounding counties in Tennessee where we will complete the classroom training component of the program. We will venture from there to multiple locations around our area to experience more West TN agriculture.

