

# Resources for Beginning Farmers

January 17, 2020  
Ames, IA



PRACTICAL FARMERS  
*of Iowa*

# Who are They?

## Women & Men

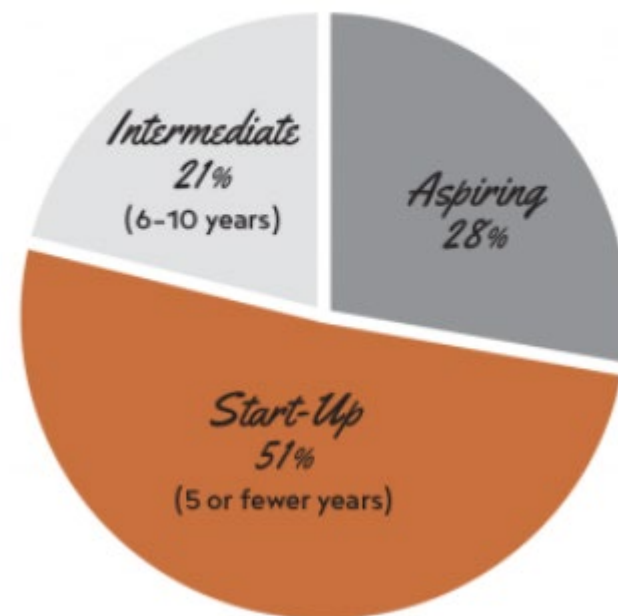
44% 56%



## Ages

	<i>Aspiring</i>	<i>Start-Up</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
<i>18-29</i>	33%	28%	12%
<i>30-39</i>	26%	43%	41%
<i>40-49</i>	28%	13%	24%
<i>50+</i>	13%	14%	24%

## Number of Years Farming



# Beginning Farmer Stages

Stage	Years	Description
Aspiring	Not Started Yet	Determining feasibility of starting a farm and/or gathering the needed resources to begin
Start-up	1 – 3	Proving we can grow and sell: basic farm and crop management and marketing
	3 -4	More deliberate, less frantic: ease the burden, invest in fine-tune infrastructure and marketing
Intermediate	4 – 6	How to make money: focus on business management
	5-10	Big-picture thinking: “We can do it Should we still?”

# Labor4 Learning

*The **Labor4Learning** program is designed for beginning farmers seeking employment and additional training in farm management and production skills.*

*The 2020 trainer list will be available in late-February. Watch **[practicalfarmers.org](https://practicalfarmers.org)** for these listings.*

**What Obstacles  
Do They Face?**

Median acres leased

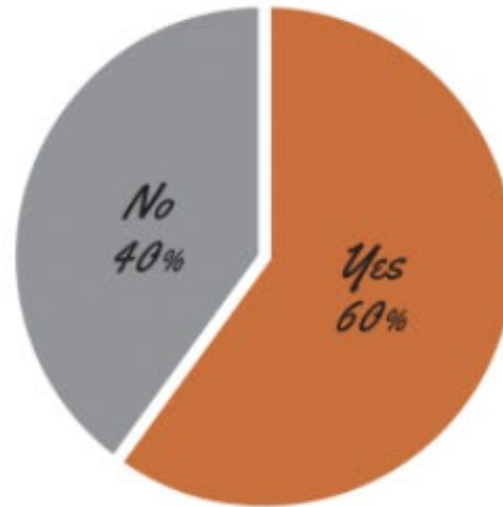
**10**

Median acres owned

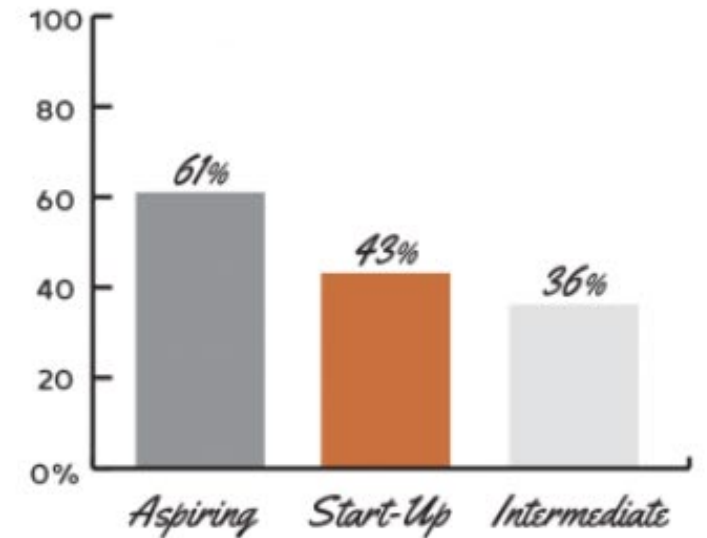
**13**

**50%** will not inherit or purchase family land

Aspiring and beginning farmers who need farmland to rent or purchase in order to start or grow their business:



Those who have identified a high degree of help needed towards land access:



# Find A Farmer

*Find A Farmer allows for a comfortable place to start anonymous conversations with land-seekers or landowners that meet your interests, criteria, and location.*



# Next Generation Summit

*The **Next Generation Summit** brings together aspiring, beginning farmers, experienced farmers and landowners working toward farm succession in a meaningful way to steward the next generation of farmers.*

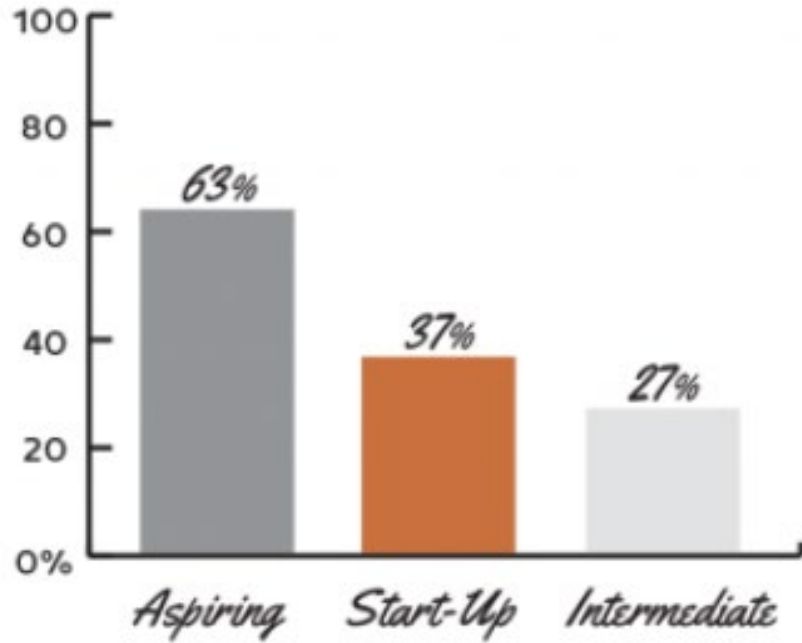


# **Farmland Access Hub**

*The **Farmland Access Hub** is a consortium of partners dedicated to assisting beginning farmers with their quest for land tenure.*

*Part of this hub includes farmland access navigators.  
**Visit [gotfarmland.org](https://gotfarmland.org)***

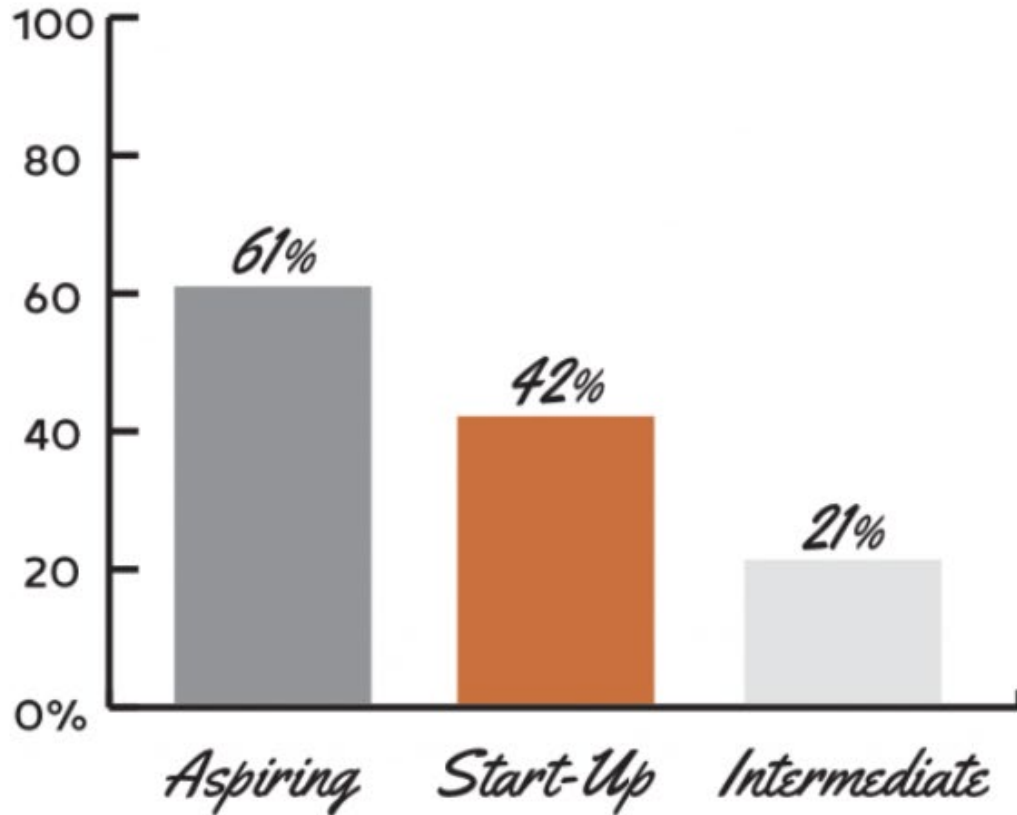
Those who have shared they need a high degree of help developing



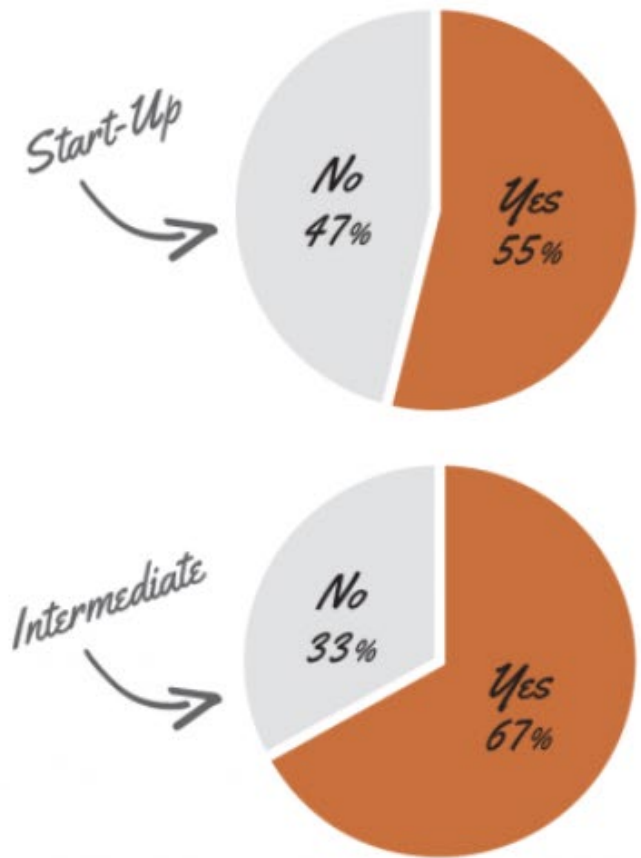
Do you have a business plan?

	<i>Aspiring</i>	<i>Start-Up</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
<i>Yes</i>	11%	42%	33%
<i>Yes, but incomplete</i>	33%	30%	46%
<i>No</i>	56%	28%	21%

Those who have identified a high degree of help needed towards capital infrastructure:



Beginning farmers who currently have farm debt:



# **Beginning Farmer Retreat**

*This annual event brings beginning farmers together to network, plan and discuss ways to improve their farms while helping to build a sense of community.*

# **Savings Incentive Program**

*Savings Incentive Program is a two-year program that pairs beginning and aspiring farmers with experienced farmer mentors.*

*It provides targeted learning and peer networking opportunities, offers business planning support and guidance, and in the end Practical Farmers of Iowa matches their savings dollar for dollar, up to \$2,400, to use toward the purchase of a farm asset.*

# Other Resources

*At [practicalfarmers.org](https://practicalfarmers.org) you will find external resources to help you on your journey to farm.*

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*What resources have you found helpful?*



**Greg  
Padget**

***Next Generation  
Director***

## ***Let's Stay in Touch***

***Subscribe to our email updates  
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