

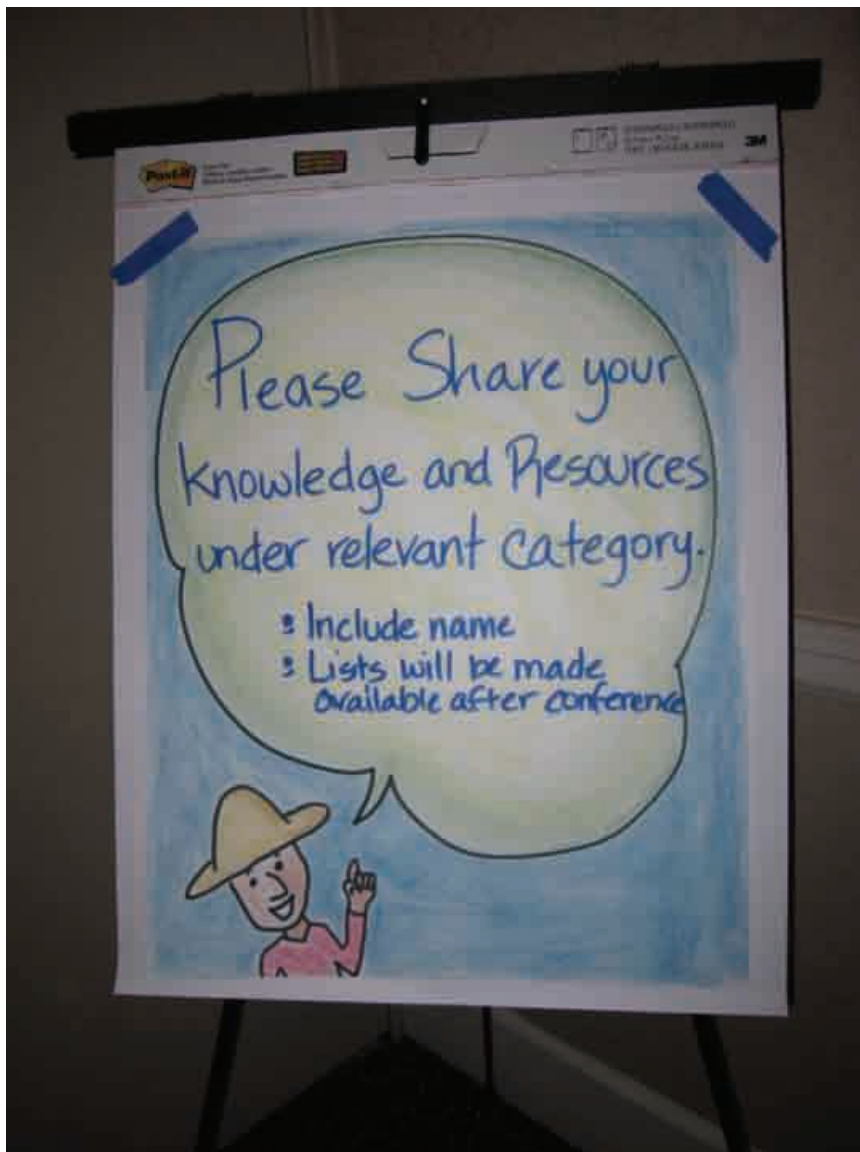
FARMER ⇌ FARMER CONFERENCE

Connecting Farmers to Farmers to
Promote Soil, Food and Community Health



Farmer Resource Guide

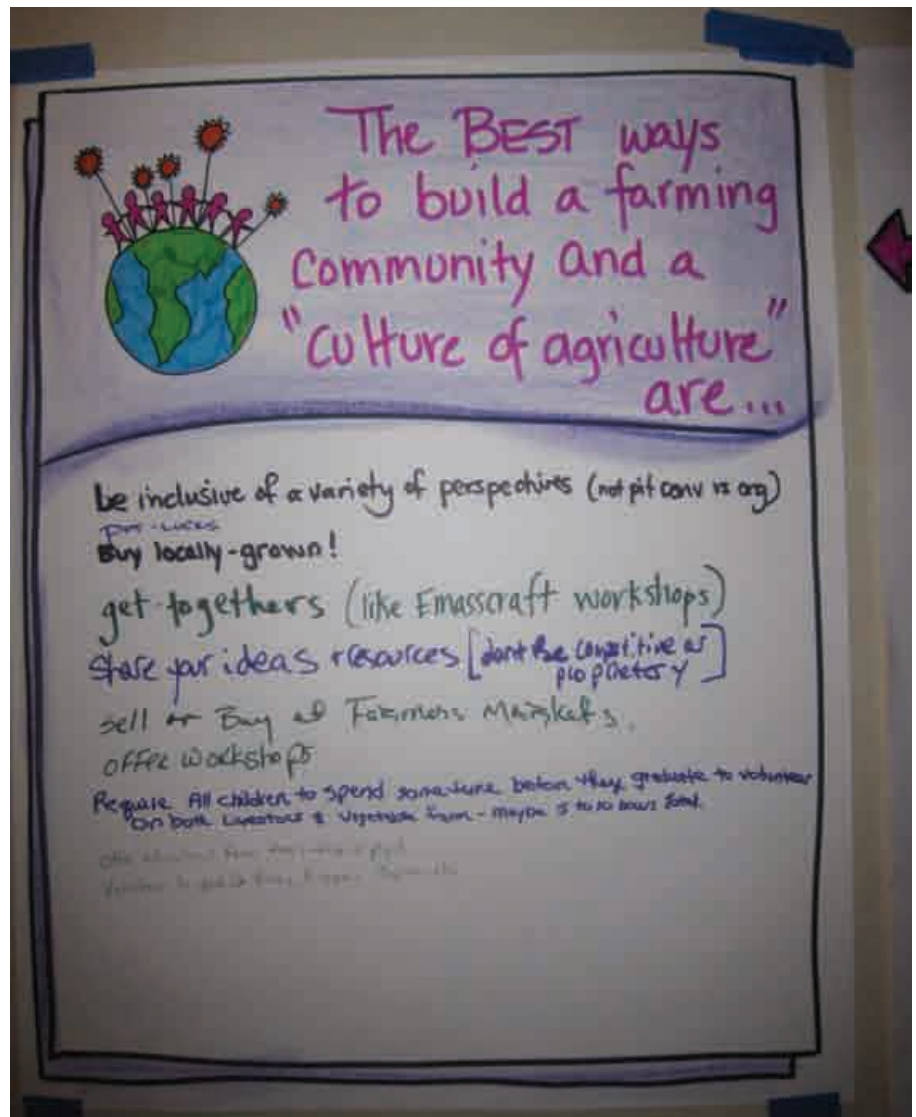
Attendees were asked to share information about their most valuable resources. The content for this Resource Guide was compiled from the ideas provided by guests:



New Entry
Sustainable Farming
Project

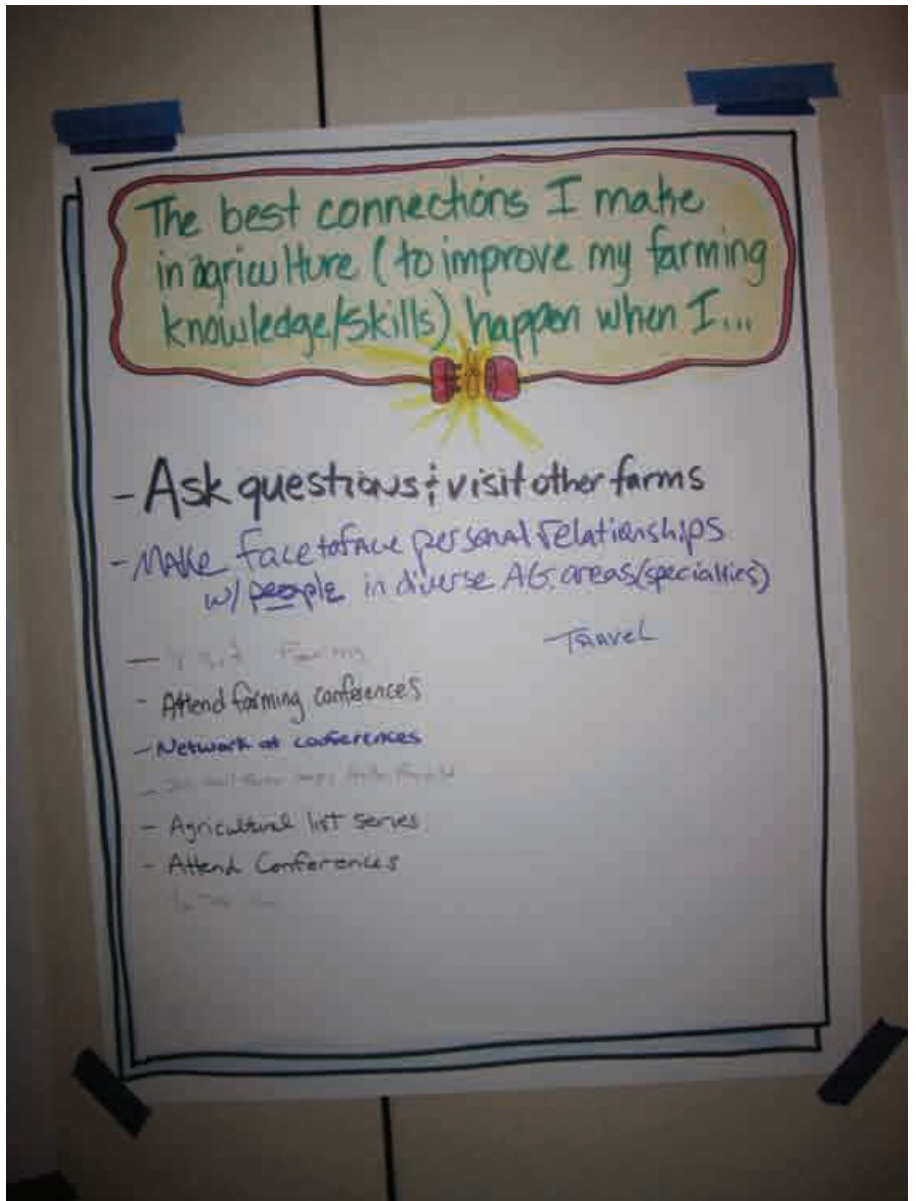
The best way to build a farming community and a "culture of agriculture" are...

- Be inclusive of a variety of perspectives
- Get together (emasscraft workshops)
- Share ideas and resources (don't be competitive or proprietary)
- Require all children to spend some time before they graduate to volunteer on both live-stock and vegetable farm-maybe 5 to 10 hours total
- Offer free educational farm tours –free or paid
- Volunteer to speak at rotary, Kiwanis, Jaycees, ECT.
- Sell or buy at farmers markets
- Pot – lucks
- Buy locally-grown!
- Offer workshops



The best connections I make in agriculture (to improve my farming knowledge/skills) happen when I ...

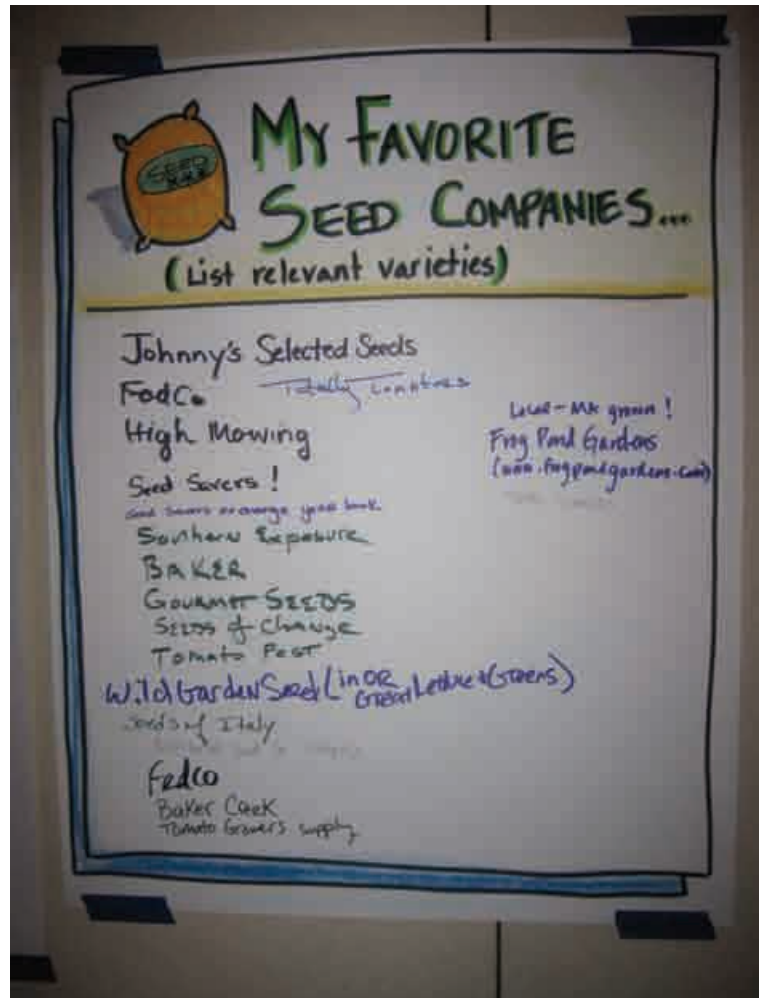
- Ask questions and visit other farms
- Make face to face personal relationships with people in diverse agriculture areas (specialties)
- Join small farmer groups; Heifer project, Int.
- Visit farms
- Attend farming conferences
- Network at conferences
- Agriculture list serves
- You tube video
- Travel



My favorite seed companies... (List relevant varieties)

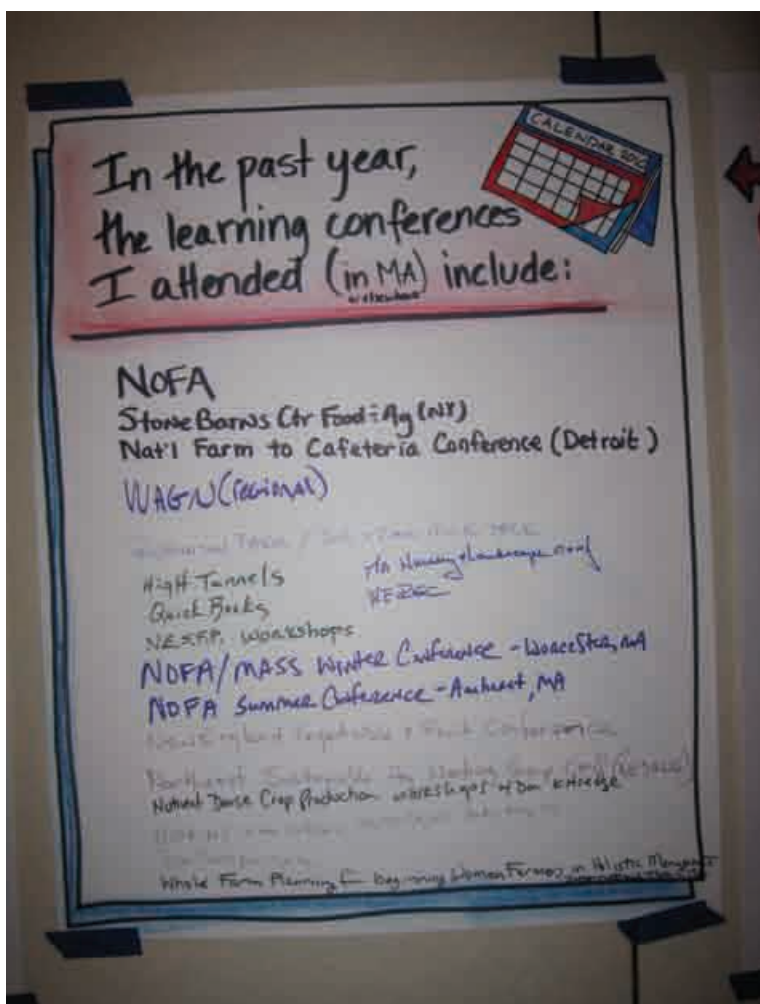
Click on the resources below to visit their websites:

- Johnny's selected seeds
- Fedco
- High mowing
- Wild Garden Seeds (Great Greens)
- Seed savers exchange!
- Southern Exposure Seed Exchange
- Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds
- Gourmet Seeds
- Seeds of Change
- Tomato fest
- Seeds of Italy
- Territorial Seed Co. (Oregon)
- Tomato Grower Supply
- Totally Tomatoes
- Local Mass grown!
- Frog ponds gardens



In the past year, the learning conferences I attended (in MA) or elsewhere include:

- Northeast sustainable agriculture working group conference (NE)
- Nutrient dense crop production workshops w/ Don Kitredge
- NOFA winter conference Jan 22-24, 2011 Saratoga Springs NY
- PASA- Penssy assoc sustainable agriculture
- Whole farm planning for beginning woman farmers in holistic management international
- MA nursery and landscape conference
- Stone barns center food: Ag (NY)
- NOFA/MASS winter conference (Worcester, MA)
- Nat'l farm to cafeteria conference (Detroit)
- Wag n (regional)
- Robinson farm/ soil and raw milk
- NOFA summer conference (Amherst, MA)
- New England vegetable & fruit conference
- High tunnels
- Quick books
- N.E.S.F.P workshops



“GO TO” sources for farm equipment & supplies...

Click on the resources below to visit their websites:

- Market Farm Implements, PA
- Buckeye Tractor Co., OH
- M & B Tractor, NH
- I call big farms to try and buy their out dated/old equipment
- Nolt's produce supply, PA
- OESCO (Orchard Equipment and Supply Co.)
- Orchard Hill Farm Equipment –Belchertown
- Greenfield Farmers Cooperation
- Barn store of New England
- Gemplers
- Conway MA
- Premier One Supplies
- Farmtek
- Kohler FARM Supply



Websites, Blogs I refer to or follow...

Click on the resources below to visit their websites:

- My competitor websites (to scout for ideas, pricing)
- SARE.org website-research and publications
- Mass Dept of Agriculture
- Kitchen Garden blog Sunderland, MA
- The Organic Food Guide
- Rodale institute
- www.farmtoschool.org
- Home grown .org
- Dave's Garden Forums
- Tiny farm blog
- Farms.org/ideas(resources by state)
- www.nybeginningfarmers.org
- UMass Extension.org
- Umassvegetable.org
- Farm fresh
- Buy local food .org
- Local harvest .org



Agricultural support organization or programs/ services I couldn't live without (and how they helped me...)

Click on the resources below to visit their websites:

- ATTRA - National Sustainable Agriculture Information Services
- CISA - Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture
- New Entry Sustainable Farming Project – CSA support
- Mass. Farm To School Project –schools as steady customers
- Northeast Organic Farming Association
- Umass Extension Landscape & Ag Program
- Umass extension vegetable notes
- Promotingmassag.org-funding site
- UMass Extension Berry Notes
- Umass Center for Agriculture
- Extension.org
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- High Tunnels
- Farm Service Agency
- Mass Dept. of Agricultural Resources

