



limited resource audiences were provided to new farmers. These tools were presented to farmers at eight different workshops, six mentee farmer trainings, and an annual VBFRCPC meeting. Four webinars, six case studies, and 16 YouTube videos were also offered.

Several participants expressed their appreciation of the programs financial management trainings because these opportunities had not been offered in their communities. This allowed young farmers to overcome the fear of financial decision making while planning and budgeting. These trainings resulted in 100% of applicants being able to connect to their local Extension office and other agricultural stakeholders that assist with networking and technical information needs.

As a result of this program, beginning farmers saw an increase in the ability to better budget their time, money, and resources. Over 300 farmers gained the ability to assess risks, to support the making of good financial management, farm labor, and land access decisions. Many participants found the templates and worksheets from toolkit, accompanied by networking and group discussions to be the most beneficial learning practices. Because of these practices, young farmers in Virginia are now equipped with risk management knowledge to make decisions that rival their seasoned peers.

The Southern Extension Risk Manage Education Center ([SRMEC](#)) seeks to empower the strengths and skills of farmers and ranchers across the Southern region to more effectively manage risks of operating in the diverse agricultural sector. To learn more about this SRMEC funded project visit this link: [Virginia Beginner Farmer & Rancher Initiative](#)

## A Risk Management Initiative of the Virginia Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coalition Program

In 2014, beginning farmers and ranchers native to Virginia longed for methods to best manage their properties and the commodities grown on them. A goal was initiated to enhance “whole farm planning (WFP)” for Virginian farmers by incorporating risk management education through the Virginia Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coalition Program (VBFRCPC). This program provides WFP training, resources, and mentoring to young farmers.

The goal of this program was to provide applicable instruction and examples for farm and ranch management, while highlighting financial and human risk. New risk management toolkit material and trainings with an emphasis on young women and



*“This is the kind of training we (beginning farmers) need”*

*-Virginia Farmer*



**Empowering Producers to Manage Risks**



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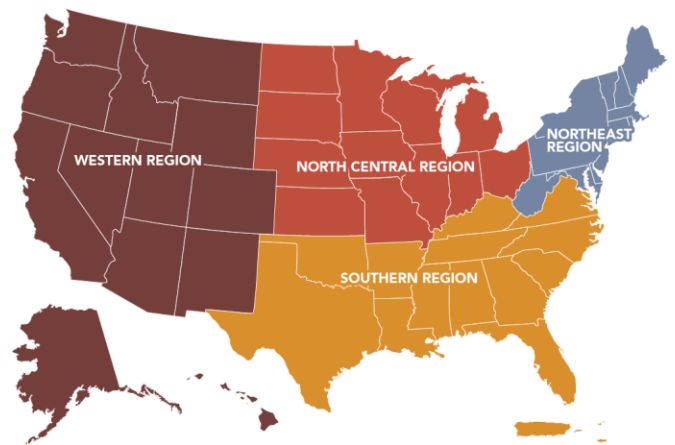
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## “Educating America’s farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world’s table.”

**Extension Risk Management Education (ERME)** is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions.

Projects are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Funded projects must identify targeted results that will help producers manage risk and then describe how the project will measure those results.

Extension Risk Management Education has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible results for producers in every state. ERME is committed to funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration. View the accomplishments of all funded projects on our website.  
<http://ExtensionRME.org>



### ERME REGIONAL CENTERS



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University of Nebraska  
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