



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

VIRTUAL | JANUARY 10—13, 2022

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE | JANUARY 16—18, 2022

DRAFT Agenda as of 10.28.21

Monday, JANUARY 10 (VIRTUAL CONFERENCE)

[Welcome message from National Farmers Union](#)

Learn more about the National Farmers Union organization, how to navigate the conference, and how to enter the raffle drawing!

[A Taste of Indigenous Foods with Mariah Gladstone, Indigikitchen](#)

What are indigenous foods, where do we get them, and how do we prepare them? Many native North American foods, both cultivated and harvested, have been forgotten as our society has expanded and changed. Mariah Gladstone is leading the way in a food movement that is revitalizing and incorporating these important foods into the contemporary diet. She will discuss the history of Native food systems and the importance of rediscovering our traditional foodways.

Tuesday, JANUARY 11

[Crop Economics: Understanding Today's Markets with Tori Marshall, Extension Area Specialist-Farm Management, Western Region Extension](#)

This session provides a brief 2022 crop outlook as well as discussion of marketing options and decision aids created to assist producers in making informed decisions for their operations.

Wednesday, JANUARY 12

[Grants 101 with Donna Pearson McClish, Common Ground Producers and Growers Inc., and Tricia Wanko, NFU Food Safety Grant Coordinator](#)

Grant funding is another way to access capital that can be used on your farm. In this session, we will discuss how to identify grant opportunities, how to write a grant, and how to manage grant reporting.

Thursday, JANUARY 13

[How Cooperatives Make an Impact with Teia Evans, Associate Director at Carolina Common Enterprise](#)

Cooperation is adaptable and impactful. The common principles that unite all cooperatives – small-farm and commodity, rural and urban, producer and consumer – promote sustainable development, equitable exchange, and resilient economies. This session will look at cooperation in action, exploring real-world examples demonstrating how cooperatives meet a diverse range of individual and community needs.

[Social Hour](#)

Join your fellow attendees for a chance to say hello and chat about what you learned at the virtual conference.

Sunday, JANUARY 16 (IN-PERSON CONFERENCE)

Hotel: The Holiday Inn & Suites Nashville Downtown Convention Center

[Social hour and BINGO!](#)

Monday, JANUARY 17

[Welcome](#)

Come meet your fellow attendees, play games, win prizes, and kick off the conference with National Farmers Union staff!

[Farmers Union Insurance with Deborah Fester, Senior Director of Underwriting](#)

This session will focus on creating a better understanding of insurance with a focus on application for farmers.

[Lead your USDA with Esther Lin, Outreach Program Manager, and Lindsay Mutegi, National Outreach Specialist](#)

This workshop will cover (and demystify!) the US Department of Agriculture's programs and resources that are designed to help farmers start or grow their farm business and manage their risk. The workshop will also present leadership opportunities for farmers and ranchers where you can help shape policy and programs, from your local county to the national level. Come hear firsthand experiences from farmers who participate in USDA programs and who serve in leadership roles and meet USDA officials who can help you navigate USDA!

[Farming and Family panel with moderator Patty Edelburg, NFU Vice President](#)

Alicia Razvi, Shannon Stafslein and Roberta Eaglehorse-Ortiz will share their experience of juggling family, work, and farm life.

Leadership is Simple, But it's Not Easy workshop with Irmadene Hanson

Women have natural leadership strengths that are outrageously generous, yet we often don't see ourselves that way. How do we recognize these skills in ourselves (and others) and grow to our potential? The first step is to understand yourself and grasp what it means to lead. It's not rocket science, but it's also not easy. Irmadene will help you learn what leadership truly is, how you fit in and how to influence others and add value every day!

Trivia

Test your farm and Farmers Union knowledge for a chance to win fabulous prizes!

Tuesday, JANUARY 18

We will explore Nashville!

Opportunities may include tours of local farms or a trip to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.