



Farm Basics for New Refugee Farmers

International Rescue Committee —Arizona

An International Rescue Committee (IRC) program educated refugee farmers on expanding marketing opportunities while mitigating financial and legal risks through passing Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) audit. The key to success for participants was the combination of training and technical assistance that featured an ongoing theme and follow-up by the International Rescue Committee staff and outside experts throughout the program.

As a result of this program, 18 producers developed a business plan which detailed their production plan, 27 created a one-year cash-flow to add to their business plan, 14 learned the importance of record keeping and how to use record keeping tools, 17 developed a simple marketing plan and identified and established relationships with markets and how to implement their marketing strategies, 16 implemented GAP and GHP on their farm, and 20 created and implemented recordkeeping systems.

Producer Stories

After fleeing their home country of Liberia, an educated accountant and his wife began farming in Ghana. They later moved to Phoenix where they participated in IRC's New Roots Farm and Food Security Program and were one of the first and most successful farmers to complete the program. Though they had always kept records, he was able to integrate the templates provided at the record keeping workshops and found them to be more useful for his operations.



A refugee farmer from Togo, fled his country due to war and moved to Phoenix in the spring after hearing about IRC's New Roots Farm and Food Security Program. IRC's program was able to help him get started farming on three organic acres where he has now completed two seasons successfully. The program helped him create a business plan and enabled him to access capital through IRC's loan program to get his farm started.





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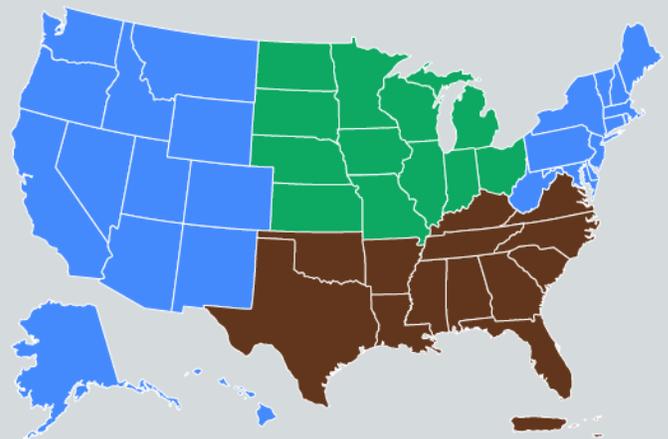
**“Educating America’s farmers and ranchers
to manage the unique risks of producing food
for the world’s table.”**

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>



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