UT FARM MARKET PROGRAM

Informational meeting  Oct 26 & 28
WHO WE ARE

Sarah Broughton: Graduate Student, M.S.
Jeff Martin: Graduate Student, M.S.
Grant McCarty: Student Assistant
Mary Rogers: Research Associate
Hannah Schrum: Extension Assistant
Annette Wszelaki: Assistant Professor and Vegetable Specialist
Other team members: DJ Mitchell and Mary Clare Smith
Located on Government Farm Rd., off of John Sevier Hwy

21 tilled acres: 13.5 in transition, 7.5 “conventional”

1 greenhouse, 3 high tunnels (4 more being built this winter)

Lots of projects: season extension, reduced tillage, cover crops & green manures, vegetable production, pest management, native pollinators, etc.
UT FARM MARKET PROGRAM
PROGRAM GOALS

- To create a farm market for the university community
- To teach students (you!) how to plan a small farm, grow high quality vegetables and market the produce
WHY?

- We are filling a gap! This is the first UT program that offers hands-on experience in growing vegetables and small-farm marketing across disciplines.

- Small farmers need to be able to plan, grow and market in order to be successful.

- A weekly farm market in the UT Gardens will be a fun event that connects the university community.
WHO CAN BE AN INTERN?

Any UT student who is interested in:

1. How to manage a small farm or vegetable garden (production)
2. Small business management and marketing (business)
3. Fulfilling Plant Science Internship requirements (300 hours needed)
WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

- Complete the program
  - Work on the Organic Farm for 8 months (Jan 2010 until Aug 2010)
  - Share farm market responsibilities
  - Attend the ‘SproUTing Growers’ workshop series
  - Register for an Ag Econ class in spring, 2010
‘SPROUTING GROWERS’ WORKSHOP SERIES

- 6-part series that will teach you how to be successful farmers. Topics are:

1. Business planning
2. Production planning
3. Marketing strategies
4. Transplant production
5. Market garden planning & maintenance
6. Harvest & handling
Register for AGEC 350: The Food & Agricultural Marketing System

Taught by Kim Jensen

3 credits, MWF 9:05-9:55 am.

Late registration is January 7, 2010!
Employment is paid: $8.50 per hour

Winter-spring (Jan-May): 10 hrs/week

Summer (June, July, Aug): 32 hrs/week

Duties include: maintenance of vegetable gardens, harvesting, farm market duties, helping out with research projects, keeping a production log
PRODUCTION LOG

- Recording your day-to-day activities helps...
  - you remember what you have done
  - you keep track of your hours
  - for future planning
  - organic certification
  - keep track of your Plant Sciences internship requirements
FARM MARKET

- Will be held once a week in the UT Gardens Friendship Plaza
- You create the market logo. This includes designing marketing materials like t-shirts, reusable grocery bags, market signage, etc.
- The market will be a special event with different activities: music, kitchen demos, art projects, etc.
WANT TO BE AN INTERN?

Submit:

- Application and current résumé
- Cover letter outlining career goals

To: Mary Rogers, mroger30@utk.edu

http://organics.tennessee.edu/