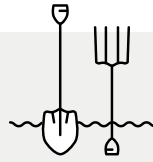


BEGINNING FARMER CASE STUDY: SEARCHING FOR LAND

MARTIN NEAL

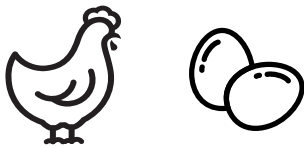


FARMER:

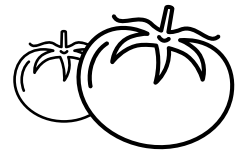
Martin Neal,
Hickman, Nebraska



**CURRENTLY
FARMS 5 ACRES**



**HOPES TO FARM
150 ACRES IN
THE FUTURE**

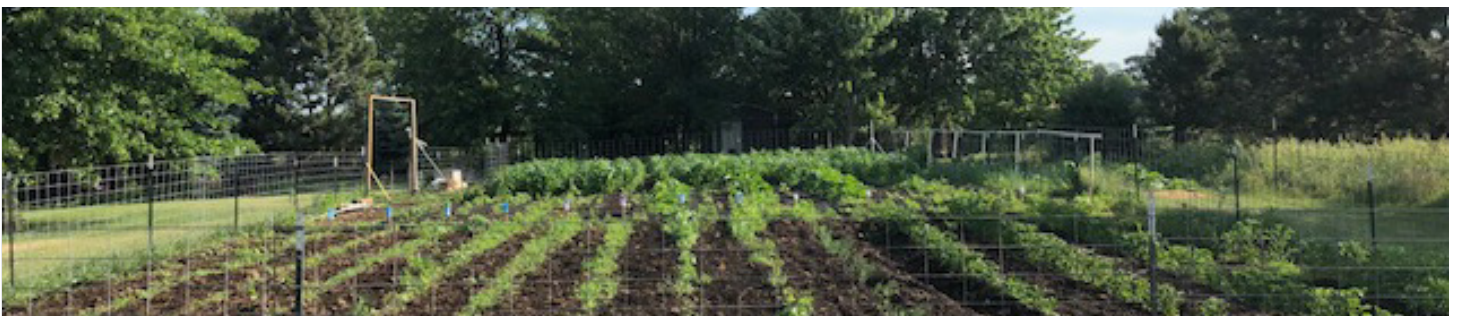


DIFFICULTY OBTAINING LAND:

“When it comes to buying land, most have a pre-authorization letter and don’t need to go through the three- to four-month process like I do.”

OPERATION PLANS:

“I hope to someday have about 150 acres. As of now, our operation includes a little bit of everything: fifty-fifty livestock and crops, diversification, and aquaponics.”



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WHAT WE PRODUCE:

"We sell eggs and vegetables out of our garden by word of mouth."



MARKETS WE SELL TO:

"Eggs are sold privately or direct market. I have approached restaurants in the area that have the option to buy vegetables from me in the summer. In the future, I hope to grow an abundance of crops and sell to grain elevators."



ADVICE FOR OTHERS

"I wish I would have started a lot sooner. If I would have started out in 2010, I think I would have been able to purchase land a lot cheaper."

“
All I want to do is
establish my legacy.

”



This case study is designed to provide new and beginning farmers and ranchers with relevant information to initiate, improve, and run agricultural operations. This case study is funded by a U.S. Department of Agriculture Beginning Farmer and Rancher grant.