The goal of the Delaware State University Small Farms program is to improve the income levels and economic viability of small farm enterprises across Delaware. Our program specializes in assisting small farm families through one-on-one farm visits, workshops, research and demonstrations. We are the Delaware resource for alternative markets such as, Aquaculture, Ethnic Vegetables, High tunnels, Meat Goats, Pole Lima Beans, Profiting from a Few Acres, as well as, Small Flock Poultry. The program staff can assist with any of the topics listed above plus; farm management, USDA program services, financial management, direct marketing, sustainable agriculture practices and on-farm research.

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Cooperative Extension Education in Agriculture, Youth Development and Home Economics. Delaware State University, University of Delaware and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating, Dr. Dyremely Marsh, Administrator. Distributed in furtherance of the Food and Agricultural Act of 1977. It is the policy of the Delaware Cooperative Extension System that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, disability, age or national origin.
Please join us the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

All Workshops will be held at Delaware State University’s Smyrna Outreach and Research Center (884 Smyrna-Leipsic Road) except the October 16, which will be held at Delaware State University’s Hickory Hill Research Farm (Route 42, west of Cheswold, Delaware).

There are no fees for any of the workshops. However, registration is required by calling 302-857-6462.

If you have special needs, please let us know at registration.

There will be light refreshment served.

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**2008 Series**

**Aquaculture – “What is it and why should I care?” Overview of aquaculture in the U.S. and the opportunities in Delaware.** March 13.

**Using Small Scale Tillage Equipment and Mowers.** See and have the chance to operate a variety of equipment that is just the right size for small acreage. April 10.

**Irrigation for Your Crops and Water Quality.** We never know how much rain we will get during the growing season. Learn about effective ways to provide water to your plants and keep your well protected. May 15.

**Tractor Driving 101.** Here is the opportunity to attend a hands-on training on how to safely operate and drive a compact tractor. June 12.

**Open House—Come see our Research and Demonstration Projects for 2008!** We have pole lima beans, ethnic vegetables, a high tunnel, small fruits and many more. July 10.

**Niche Market Opportunities.** Learn about specialty crops to meet the needs of diverse populations in the Mid-Atlantic region. August 14.

**Farm Planning 101.** Create a business plan for your farming enterprise. Includes record-keeping and tax information. September 11.

**Introduction to Sheep and Goats.** Do you want to get started in the sheep and goat business? Come and learn about housing, feeding, and breeding sheep and goats as well as common diseases. Delaware State University’s Hickory Hill Research Farm. October 16.

**Marketing and Value Added Products.** Opportunities with retail sales with unique and common vegetables and processing to create products for market. November 13.

**Year end and Year ahead.** We invite you to be a part of the 2008 review and help us plan for 2009 Small/Beginning Farm Series. December 11.

For your convenience, please use this workshops list as a helpful reminder of the events.

_____ **Aquaculture**, March 13, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Using Small Equipment**, April 10, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Irrigation**, May 15, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Tractor Driving 101**, June 12, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Open House**, July 10, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Niche Markets**, August 14, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Farm Planning**, September 11, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Intro to Sheep & Goats***, October 16, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

*(To be held at Hickory Hill, Rt. 42)*

_____ **Market Opportunities**, November 13, 6:00 p.m. Thursday

_____ **Year end and 2009 Planning**, December 11, 6:00 p.m. Thursday