Incubator Farm
A land-based, multi-grower project that provides training and technical assistance to aspiring and beginning farmers. New Entry Sustainable Farming Project works to coordinate the National Incubator Farm Training Initiative (NIFTI). We conduct a yearly survey of incubator farm projects (IFPs), for 2016 data, 43 IFPs completed the survey. The average plot size ranges from 0.88 to 4.73 acres of land with 8 businesses being run on the land; 51% have 2 or fewer full and part-time staff members.

More info: www.nesfp.org/nifti

Participants
Participants range in age from 18–73 with the average between 25–57. Most IFPs limit the amount of time the participant can stay on the land—with the average being 5 years. 61% of past farming participants are still farming.

Demographics

Top Supported Services
- 86% Irrigation Infrastructure
- 75% Access to Greenhouse or Hoop House
- 70% Post Harvest Handling Sites
- 70% Discounted Rent for Incubator Plots
- 55% Free Access to Farm Tools

Services IFPs Offer to Address Barriers for New Farmers
- Land Linking
- Land Search
- Start-up Loans
- Infrastructure
- Equipment
- Marketing Support
- Technical Assistance
- Access to Capital

Top Production Items
- 97% Vegetables
- 37% Fruit
- 71% Flowers
- 70% of farming participants use food to feed their families.

Funding
Each bar represents the percentage of IFPs who receive funding from each source.

- **59% Foundation Grants**
  On average, IFPs receive 33% of their funding from foundation grants.

- **51% Federal Grants**
  On average, IFPs receive 52% of their funding from federal grants.

- **53% Farmer Fees**
  On average, IFPs receive 52% of their funding from farmer fees.

- **41% Individual Fundraising**
  On average, IFPs receive 9% of their funding from individual fundraising.

- **41% State/Local Government Funds**
  On average, IFPs receive 10% of their funding from state/local government sources.

- **18% Revenue from Farm Products**
  On average, IFPs receive 3% of their funding from earned revenue.