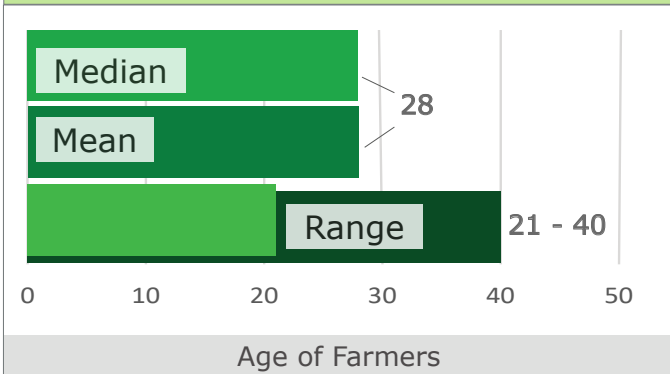


Survey of Delaware Young Farmer Loan Program Participants: Survey Results

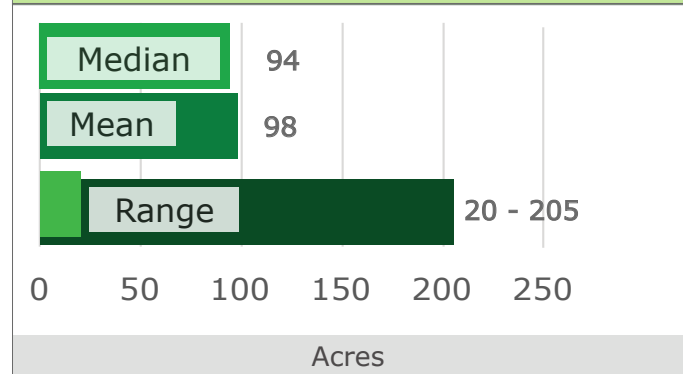
In 2023 Indiana University Food and Agrarian Systems Program conducted a survey of young farmers who have purchased a farm through the Delaware Department of Agriculture - Young Farmer Loan Program (YFLP).

Over half of the Delaware farmers who have enrolled in the YFLP since 2012 filled out the survey. The highlights of the survey results are presented below.

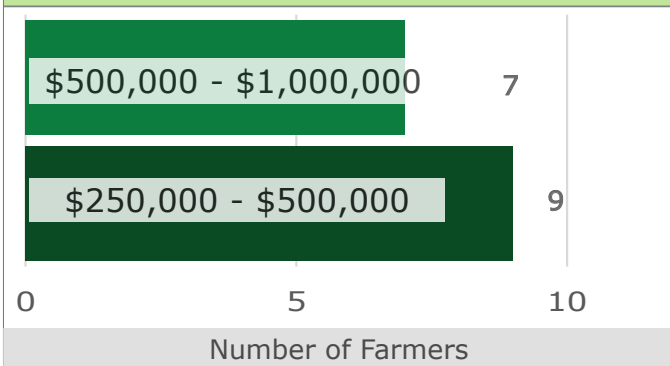
Age at Year of Enrollment



Land Purchased Through the YFLP



Total Farm Property Cost



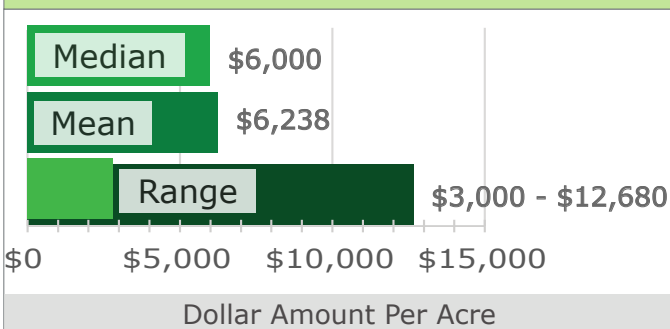
81% of young farmers surveyed did not own farmland prior to purchasing with the YFLP.

Still, land access challenges persist.

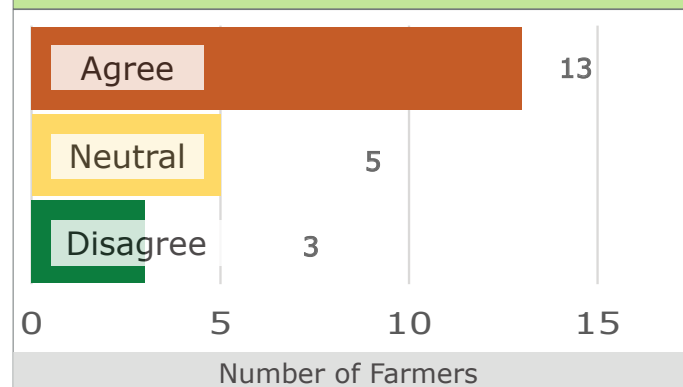
Only one farmer purchased all the land they wish to work through the YFLP.

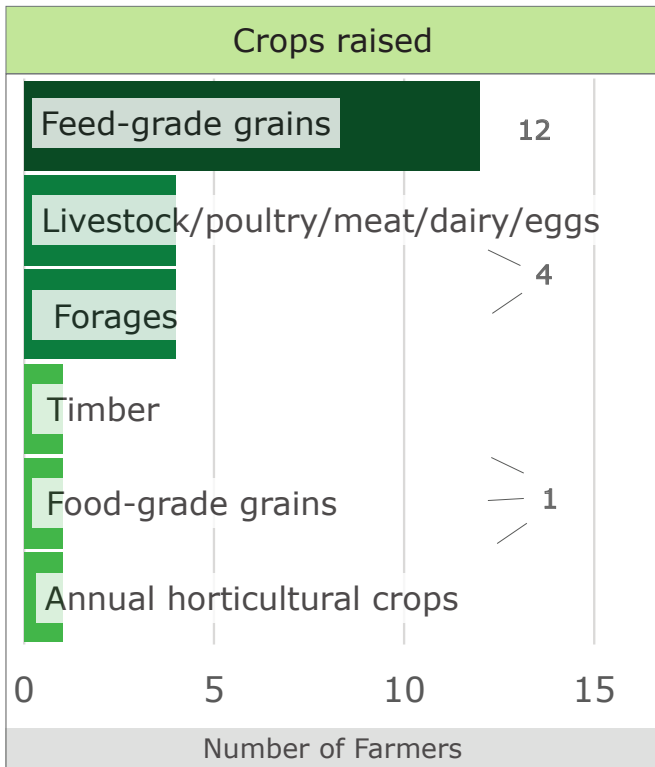
Even after benefiting from the YFLP, 62% of farmers say they continue to face a land access challenge.

Cost of Farm Per Acre



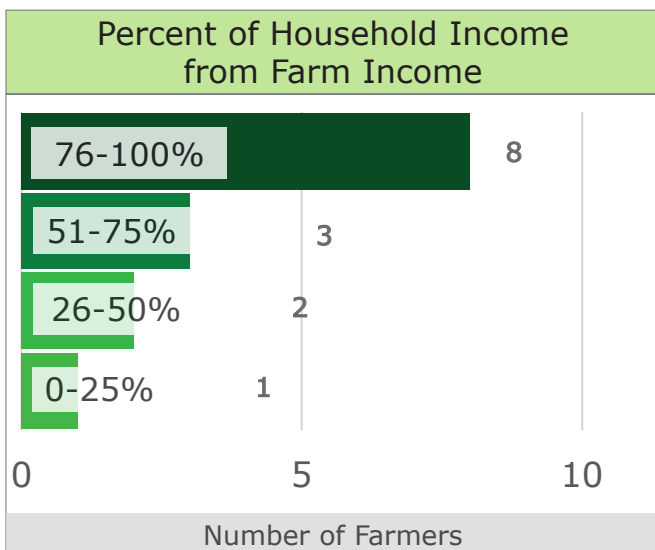
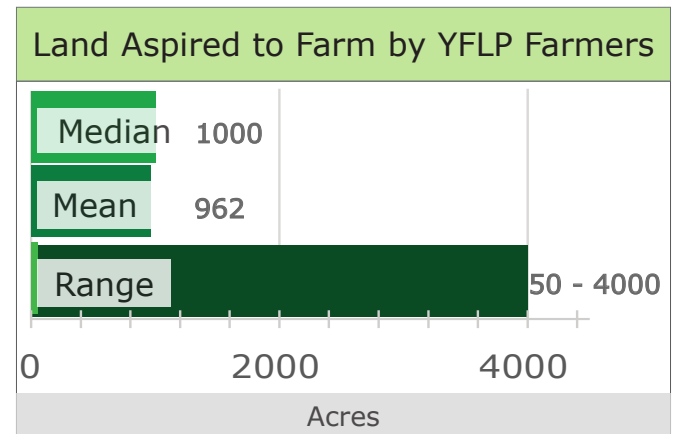
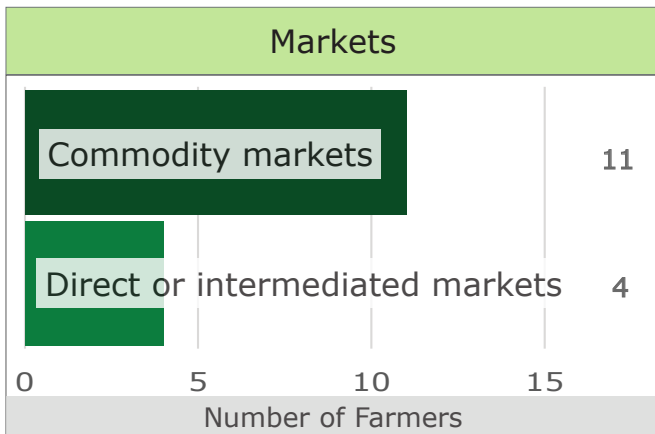
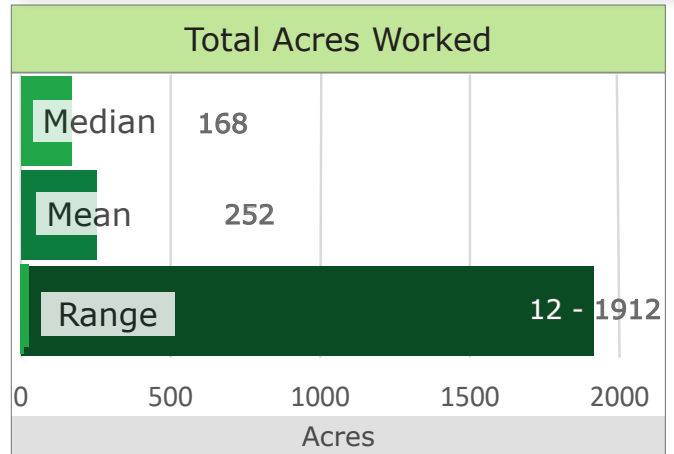
At the present time, I face a land access challenge.



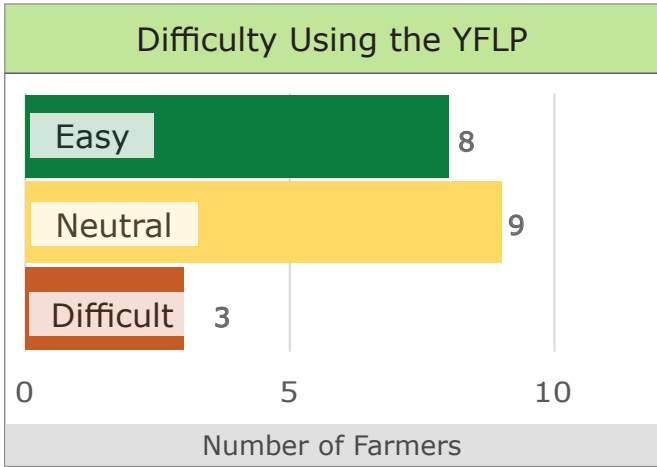
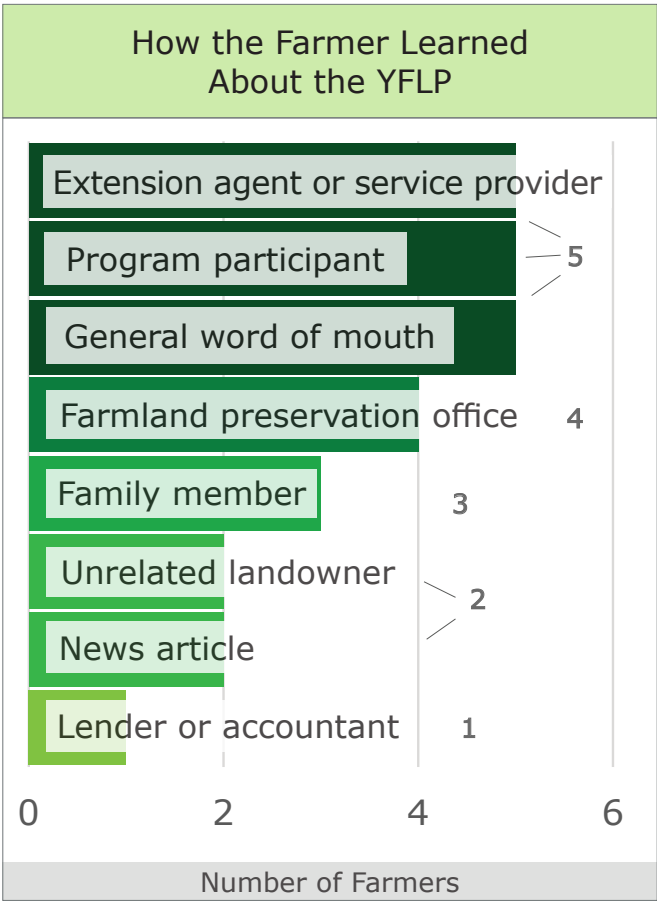
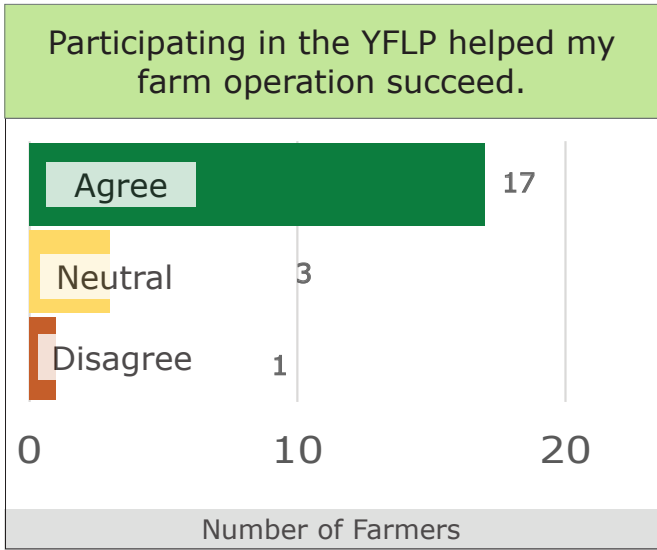


Young farmers purchased 98 acres on average through the YFLP.

On average, they work 250 acres but aspire to steward 960-acre farms. This is ten times the acreage of the average YFLP purchase.



Stewarding Delaware Farmland
43% of YFLP farmers are enrolled in USDA-NRCS conservation programs.



To learn more, read our [summary of the survey results here](#). There is more data available from the surveys. If you are interested in this data contact, Julia Valliant (jdv@iu.edu) and Marie O'Neill (mtoneill@iu.edu).

