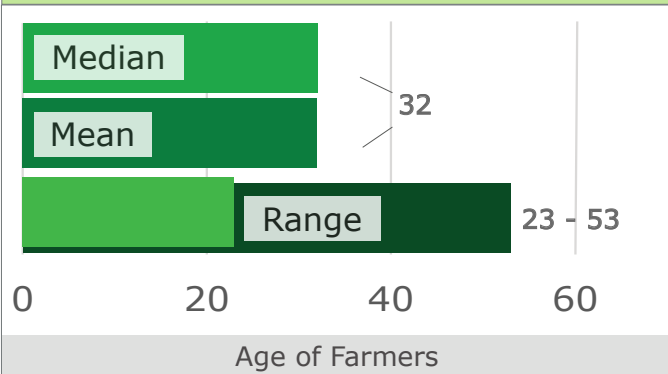


Survey of Maryland Next Generation Farmland Acquisition (Next Gen) Program Participants: Survey Results

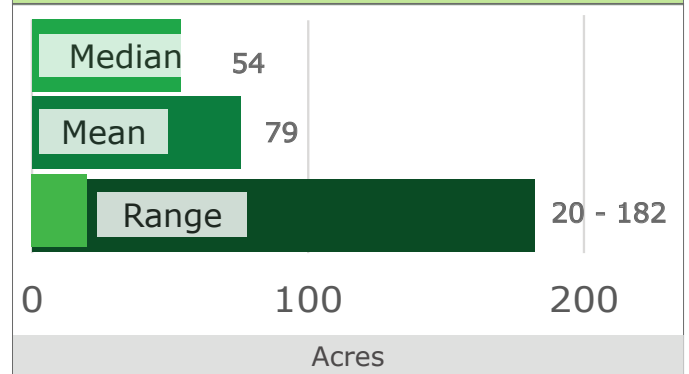
In 2023 [Indiana University Food and Agrarian Systems Program](#) conducted a survey of young farmers who have purchased a farm through the Maryland Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program (Next Gen).

62% of Next Gen farmers filled out the survey.
The highlights of the survey results are presented below.

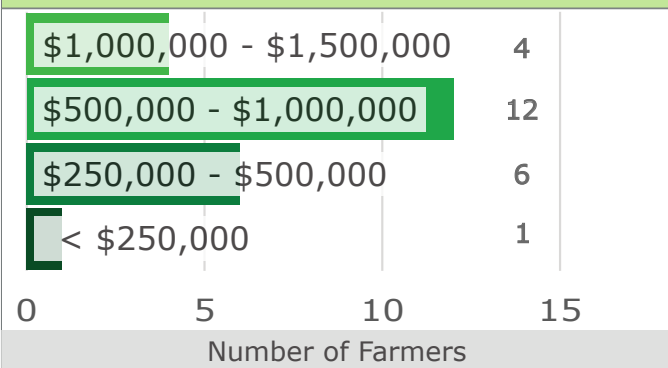
Age at Year of Enrollment



Land Purchased Through Next Gen



Total Farm Property Cost



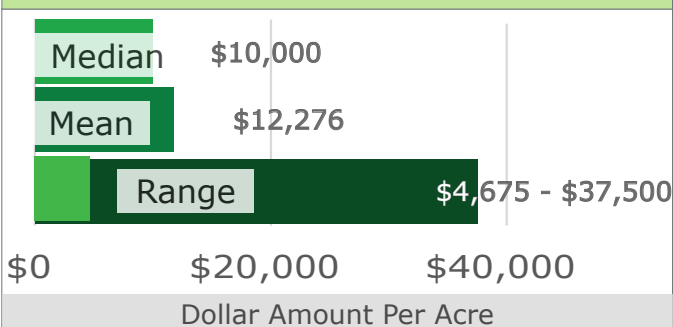
71% of respondents owned no land before purchasing a farm through NextGen.

Still, land access challenges persist.

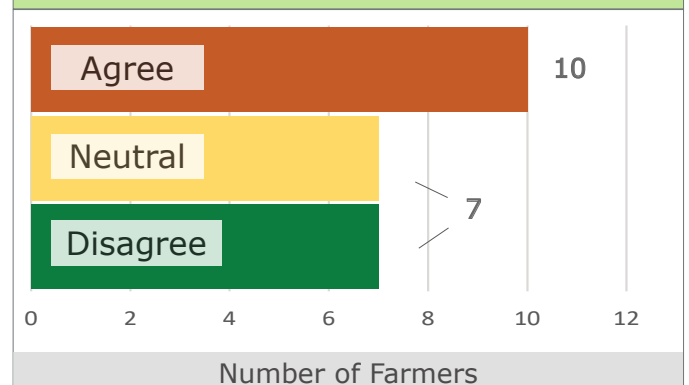
Only one farmer purchased all the land they wish to work through Next Gen.

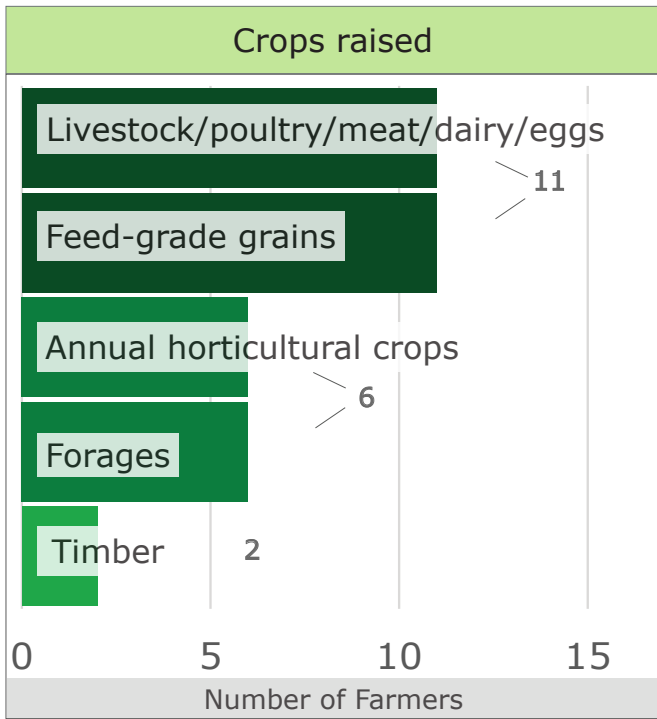
Even after benefiting from the program, **42%** of farmers say they continue to face a land access challenge.

Cost of Farm Per Acre



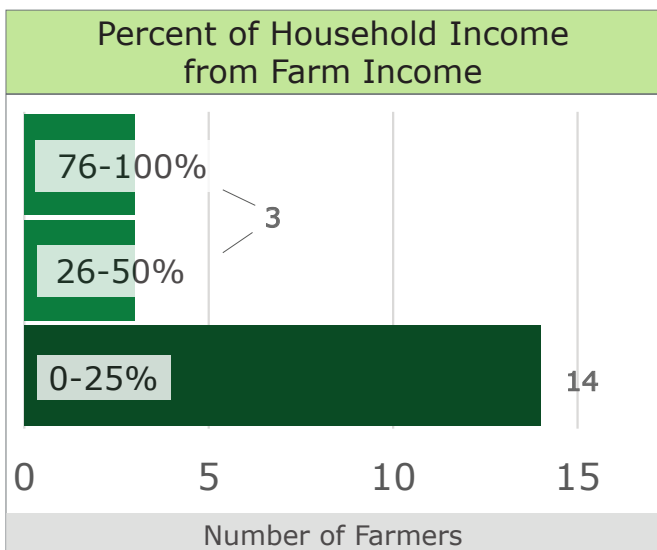
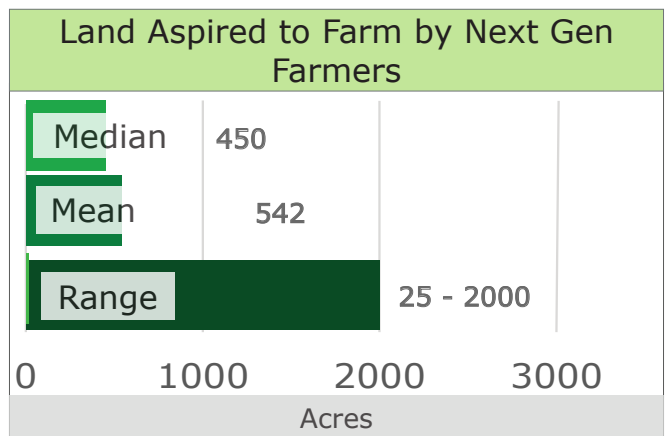
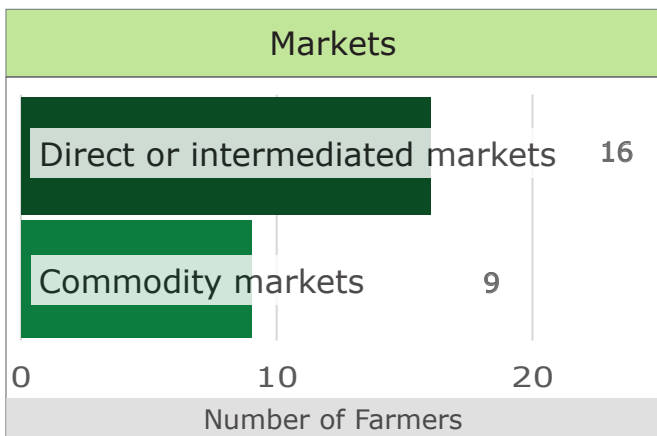
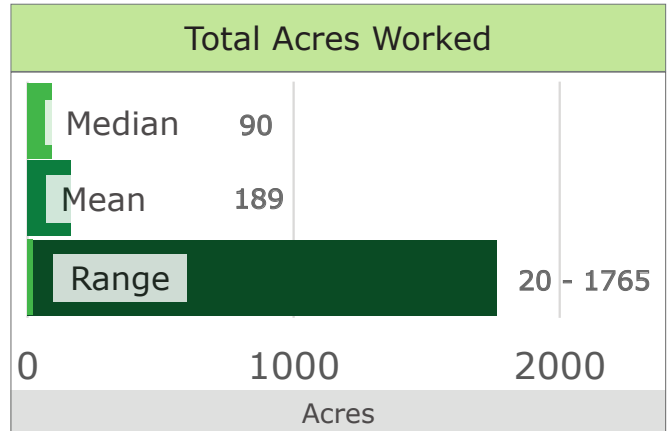
At the present time, I face a land access challenge.



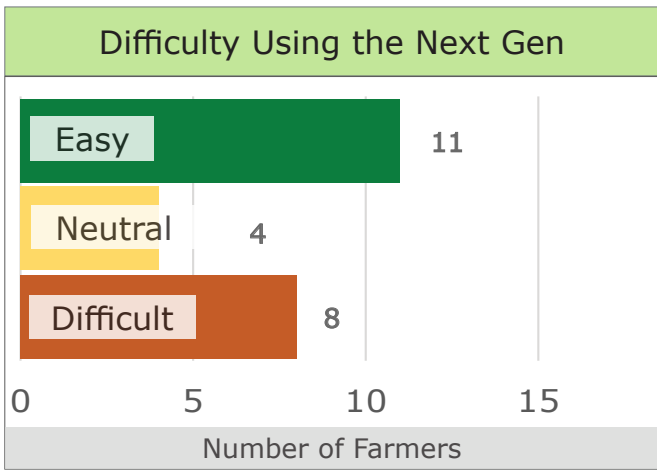
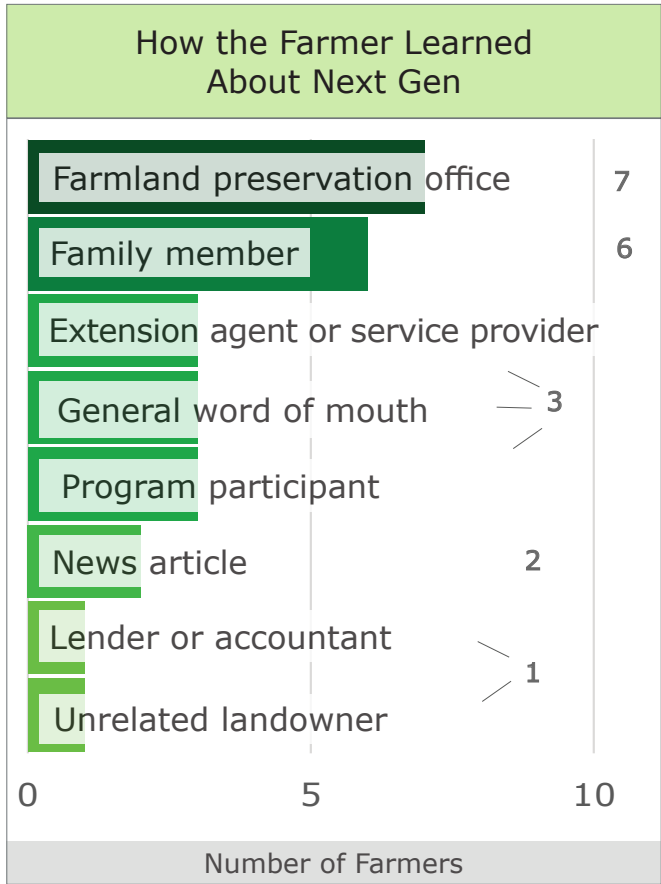
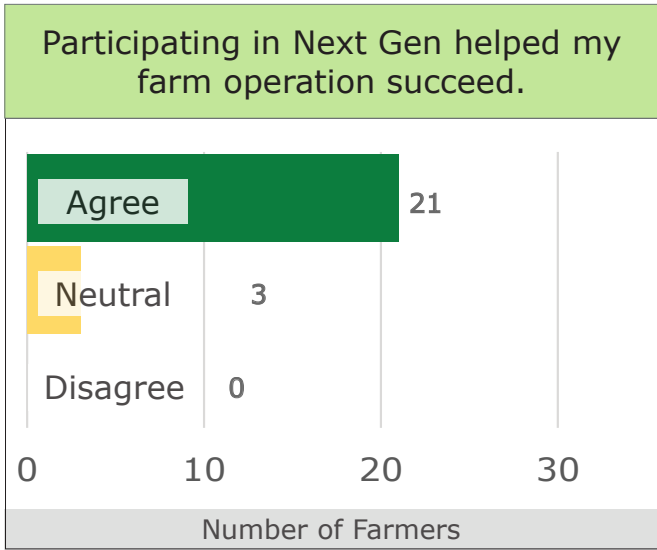


Farmers purchased 79 acres on average through the Next Gen Program.

On average, they work 189 acres but aspire to be stewarding 542-acre farms. This is nine times the average Next Gen purchase.



Stewarding Maryland Farmland
(50%) of Next Gen 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).

