### Welcome to the webinar!

- •We'll be starting at the top of the hour!
- •To ask a question or to comment, type in the question box on your control panel and hit return. We'll be reading the questions aloud and answering as many as we can.
- •To find a handout of the slides, go to <a href="http://www.extension.org/pages/68922">http://www.extension.org/pages/68922</a> (paste that link into your browser).
- •Find all upcoming and archived eOrganic webinars at http://www.extension.org/pages/25242





Be My Friend: Utilizing Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest to Engage and Interact with your Audience

Debbie Roos, North Carolina State Extension and Debra Heleba, University of Vermont Extension October 7, 2013

http://www.extension.org/organic\_production







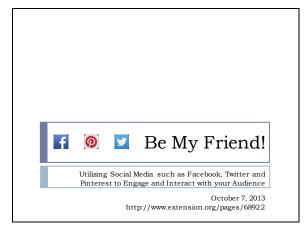




Debbie Roos



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# Today's agenda Social media: where they fit in with farmer outreach / education. Making social media work – 7 Lessons learned. Virtual tour of social media in action! Q&A.



# Deb's assumptions about you:

- You think that social media may have good potential in your outreach and/or education programming.
- You currently work with or are interested in working organic farmers.
- You know a little... or a lot about social media tools already.

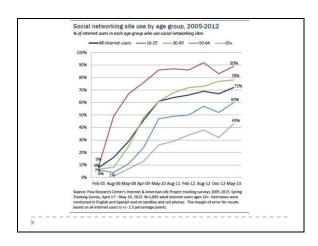


Photo credits: unless otherwise noted, all photos sourced from Microsoft Office.

Social Media Use in Farmer Outreach and Education – Here's what we know:

Social media is today's means of communicating.





# The Landscape of Social Media Users

	% of internet users who	The service is especially appealing to
	67%	Adults ages 18-29, women
Use Facebook	67	Women, adults ages 18-29
Use Twitter	16	Adults ages 18-29, African-Americans, urban residents
Use Pinterest	15	Women, adults under 50, whites, those with some college education
Use Instagram	13	Adults ages 18-29, African-Americans, Latinos, women, urban residents
Use Tumblr	6	Adults ages 18-29

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project Post-Election Survey, November 14— December 09, 2012. N=1, 802 internet users. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish and on landline and cell phones. Margin of error is 1+2.0 spectratage points for results based on internet users. Facebook figures are based on Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project Omnibus Survey, December 13-16, 2012. Margin of error for Facebook data is 1+2.29 percentage points for results based on internet users in-860).

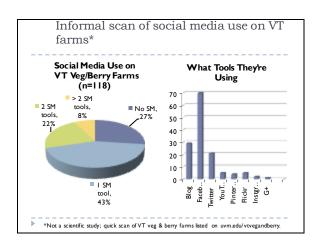
Social Media Use in Farmer Outreach and Education – Here's what we know:

# Farmers are using it.



Photo credit: Debra Heleba University of Vermont Extension

Farmers and Internet Use 2012	
▶ 67% US farmers have Internet access (59% in 2009).	
▶ 68% crop farms	
▶ 66% livestock farms	
Farms with greater sales, better connected	
▶ 82% of farms with >\$250k	
65% of farms with <\$100k	
How Farmers are using the Internet	
<ul> <li>16% purchasing ag inputs</li> <li>14% conducting marketing activities</li> </ul>	
> 40% conducting marketing activities > 40% conducting business with non-ag sites	
Other activities?	
http://usda01.libraryc.ome II.edu/u sda/current/Farm Com p/FarmC omp-0 8-20-2 013.pdf	
Young farmers are using social media	
▶ 2011 American Farm Bureau study of Young Farmers and Ranchers (18-35 yo):	
92% of AFB young farmer and ranchers use computer and internet	
▶ 98% have internet access	
> 76% use Facebook	-
▶ 81% use internet for news and ag information	
Organic farmers are using social media	
→ OFRF's 2004 National Organic Farmers' Survey:	
> 78% of respondents indicated that they have Internet access (72% have access at home or farm).	
Use Internet most frequently to check weather (61%).	
> 50% use Internet to look for organic market information.	
> 28% use Internet to sell their organic farm products.	
<b>)</b>	



Social Media Use in Farmer Outreach and Education – Here's what we know:

- ▶ Social media can fit in with our current programming...
- ▶ How are you currently providing any outreach and education to farmers?



Virtual Farm Tours & Field Days

Virtual Field Day

UF/IFAS Extension

\*\*Production\*\*

\*\*Produ



















Making it work! 7 lessons learned		
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# I . Have a social media plan		

# Start with the End in Mind

## ▶ Social Media Plan:

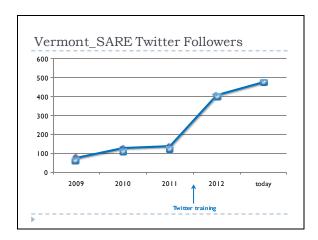
- ▶ Goal
- Is your social media focused on **Education** or **Outreach**? Etc.
- Social media outputs
  - # number people reached
  - # conversations
  - → # ideas implemented
  - # of views
- ▶ Tools/tactics to measure
- ▶ Blog comments
- ▶ RTs
- ▶ Unique site visitors

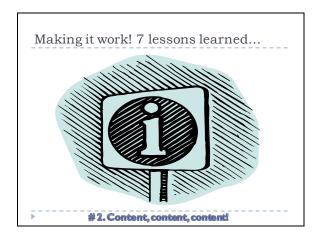
Social media plan example

## Vermont SARE Twitter

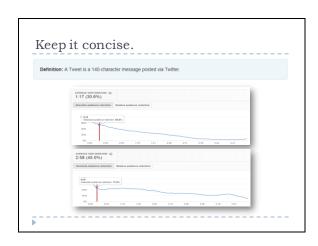
- ▶ Goal:
  - Inform Vermonters about SARE and sustainable agriculture
- ▶ Social Media Output:
  - Will reach 300 Vermonters per year through Twitter.com and Twitter feed embedded into state page on nesare.org.
- ▶ Potential Tools/Tactics to Measure:
  - Reach through number of followers (Twitter stats)
  - Engagement of information measured through RTs
    - Crowdbooster
    - ▶ TwentyFeet
  - → Klout
  - Could investigate sentiment on certain topics...

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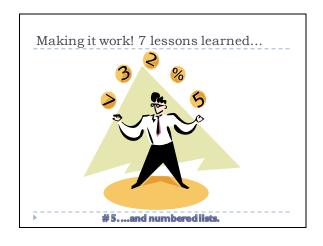


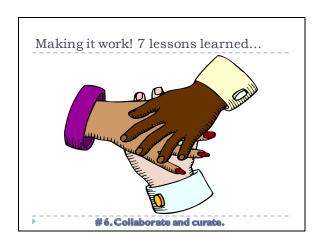






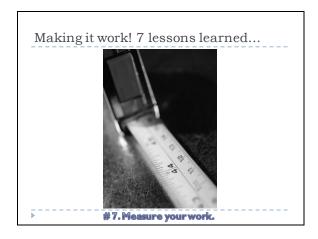




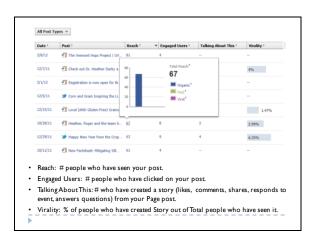




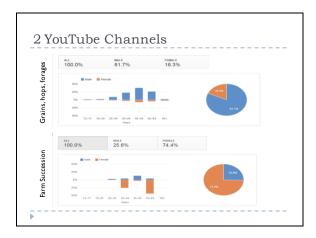












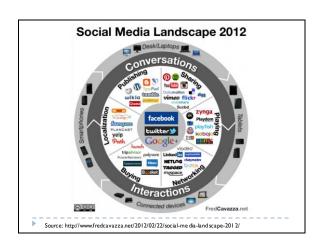


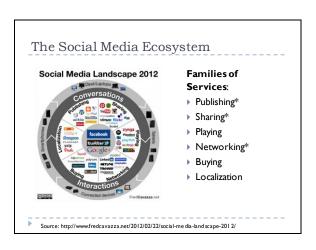
Impacty: Specific Changes in Farming Practices and Advice Given to Farmer by Agricultural Professionals as the Result of eOrganic Webinars
In the follow-up surveys sent to participants in E-COppeir, within to 1—16 months other the low session, participants were sided from the orbitants offered disaspose them forming and otherwy practices. The following section between the prefix (changes on them and applicables) perfected assumptional termination that survey respondents with wree the could off the volutions they attended.
Assessing N Contribution and Rhizobia Diversity Webinar Wilsur offerd on December 14, 2010, evaluate at legs to the extension and pages 2015.
<ul> <li>83% of facuse respondents seed that the restrance characters or marger or one facus against the 185% of corporations and they applied the knowledge granted in the verbiant to their work.</li> </ul>
12 farmers stated that they made the following changes as a result of attending the
white:
<ul> <li>2 (17%) calculated how much bissums is in their legiture cover corps</li> <li>1 (2%) calculated how much naturages is in their cover corp histogen.</li> </ul>
1 OPG calculated how much rationant was usade resoluble to non-largest cover come.
<ul> <li>3 (29% dasard the species of language cover grops pleated</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>I (3%) started planting-cover crops for the first time</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>6/50% dataged the very in which they used legions cover copy (new rotation, mixes, etc.)</li> <li>4/53% inscripted their legistate cover cross.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>#CAPs; parentated their nightae cover copy.</li> <li>#CAPs; made other changes on their first as a result of the website.</li> </ul>
If former advisors provided information on the following topics as a result of the recitinar • 3 (27%) provided information on colorfishing how much bostons is in feguractory comp. • 2 (17%) provided information on coloridating how much N is in lumpor cover only because
<ul> <li>2(10%) permitted appropriate on concentrate how much N is available to one-league cover to proceed.</li> <li>2(10%) prior advice on coloralating how much N is available to one-league cover from league.</li> </ul>
urrer com:  • 7/05Pu) persided information on selecting species of largeau cover corps
<ul> <li>6.55% periodo i infrancisco ou planting core conys for the flori size</li> <li>5.42% periodo infrancisco ou champia; the vary so use legame over conys</li> <li>3.42% periodo infrancisco ou acondisting cores core;</li> </ul>

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# Making it work! 7 lessons learned... 1. Know your audience, know yourself. 2. Content, content. 3. Make it concise. 4. Choose a voice. 5. Use photos and numbered lists. 6. Time management: collaborate and curate. 7. Measure your work...and your impact.













# Selecting the "Right" Tools Know Thyself Why am I doing this? What tools do I currently use? Know Thy Audience What tool(s) does your target audience use? Know Thy Resources What's your capacity? Define Your Goals ...and Your Message Implement Evaluate!

http://www.slideshare.net/ifPeople/developing-a-social-media-plan-1323287

# Let's Look at Some Social Media Examples!

Debbie Roos North Carolina Cooperative Extension

# Growing Small Farms Website

www.growingsmallfarms.org

- Launched in 2002, it has grown to over 500 pages
- Social media is a great complement to the website and has helped increase traffic
- *Content* is on website, but *interaction* is through social media



# Why/How I Use Facebook

- I started out anti-Facebook! I train farmers how to use it but initially had no interest myself
- I made the decision to use a personal profile for my work facebook page; this has advantages and disadvantages

Why	/How	Π	Jse	Fac	eboo	k
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- Notify folks of website additions
- Educate about crop problems, etc.
- Promote farmer workshops, events, farmers' markets
- Increase agricultural literacy
- One-on-one consultation
- Great way to get feedback
- Also great for sharing content from others
- PHOTOS are integral and elicit most response

# **Facebook Positives**

- It has raised awareness of my program among a new group
- I have an email list of over 2,500 folks but many FB friends are not on it so new audience
- Increased visibility and traffic of my website
- Brought new clients to programs
- Effective at promoting farms and events
- It's fun!

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- No geographic boundaries but with my big website I already felt this and field questions from around the country (even internationally)
- Functions 24 hours a day; expectation of responding – must set boundaries
- Difficult to search mainly for current events
- It can be a time suck!

# Feedback from Facebook Users

 I like the instant notice about classes, pollinator garden tours, farmers' markets & what they're selling. I feel more connected and interested. The Facebook posts are easier for me than remembering to check the website because they come to me directly on my phone.

# Feedback from Facebook Users

 It invites persons to connect with you in a much larger way than simply having a visit to your extension office..which is, of course, a very good thing as well... but your extension net is cast wider and your approachability is greater

# Feedback from Facebook Users

- I started a Pollinator Garden this year, based solely on the photos my wife and I have seen uploaded on your facebook page each day.
- I really like the current events & cutting-edge news that you share through the facebook page.



# Why/How I Use Twitter

- I started out on Twitter in 2009 2,200+ followers
- My tweets have declined since I' ve increased activity on Facebook
- I use it mainly for learning new information
- Mostly peers (educators) & organizations on Twitter, not as many farmers in my community

# Why/How I Use Twitter

- Use Lists feature to manage feed and keep up with important posts
- Don't forget to use photos! I use Twitpic
- Interacting with others not as easy as Facebook; sometimes fall into trap of broadcasting, not interacting

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- Many farmers use YouTube to learn new techniques and to educate folks about their farm
- Great for demos fruit tree pruning, setting up postharvest handling stations, trellising techniques, installing bee packages, soil improvement techniques, plant propagation, etc.

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- I have a personal page & just created a Growing Small Farms page
- Not many farmers I work with use it yet BUT gardeners/consumers do
- #1 referral site
- I think it will be a good way for me to connect with gardeners & farmers' market customers
- Have to rethink the way I make web pages always need a photo or it's not "pinnable"!

Let's Look at Some Examples!

http://go.ncsu.edu/eorganic-social-media

Find the slides and recording of this presentation at <a href="http://www.extension.org/pages/6892">http://www.extension.org/pages/6892</a> 2	
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http://www.extension.org/pages/25242	
We need your feedback! Please fill out our follow-up	
email survey!	



