

Bringing a young person into a farm or ranch operation presents challenges, but at the same time helps accomplish key goals: helping the young person get a solid start, keeping the farm or ranch in the family, and ensuring a more comfortable retirement for all involved.

But blending a variety of talents and personalities into one operation takes planning, communication and management. The Returning to the Farm program is designed to assist families and farm or ranch operations in developing a financial plan and successful working arrangements that will meet the needs of multiple families.

Returning to the Farm will be offered Dec. 16 and 17 in Valentine's Niobrara Lodge. It is the first time the program has been offered outside of Lincoln in a shorter, two-day format. The workshop schedule is from 1-7 p.m. Central Time Dec. 16 and 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Dec. 17.

Sponsors are Farm Credit Services of America and UNL Extension.

Registration is due by Dec. 5 or until the workshop is full. Some easy homework will be mailed prior to the workshops for completion, so timely registration is important. For more information call UNL Extension in the Central Sandhills at 308-645-2267, or UNL Extension in Cherry County at 402-376-1850.

The workshop is intended for multiple generations, so the cost for an entire family is \$75. On-site babysitting is available. Call for more information and to reserve a spot.

Returning to the Farm is for families in the early stages of transitioning, where a calm environment allows all to be heard, and a plan to be developed for multiple generations.

Participants will set a transition plan, review financial feasibility, and look at the communication process between family members. Break-out sessions will allow participants to think through different scenarios.

