Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (ACBFR)

About Membership

The advisory committee is comprised of 20 members representing the following groups: (1) Farm Service Agency (FSA); (2) State beginning farmer programs; (3) commercial lenders; (4) private nonprofit organizations with active beginning farmer programs; (5) the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; (6) community colleges or other educational institutions with demonstrated experience in training beginning farmers or ranchers; (7) other entities or persons providing lending or technical assistance for qualified beginning farmers or ranchers; and (8) farmers and ranchers.

The following individuals will serve a two-year term through October 2021.

Farmers and Ranchers Representatives

Davon Lamar Goodwin
- North Carolina

Katie R. Carpenter
- New York

Cassandra L. Spradley
- New Mexico

Jacob William Handsaker
- Iowa

Adam Michael Brown
- Illinois

Amanda Jo Carey Goodfellow
- Michigan

Paul D. Bickford
- Wisconsin

Jason Todd Brand
- Hawaii

Jeffry R. Gittins
- Utah
Farm Service Agency (FSA) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)  
Regular Government Employees (RGE)

Denis Ebodaghe (USDA NIFA)  
Latrice Hill (USDA FSA)  

Commercial Lenders -- Representatives  
Robert Alan Hoskins  
  • Indiana  

Anton (Tony) Edward Gudajtes  
  • North Dakota  

Private Non-Profit Organizations  
Julie A. Obudzinski  
  • District of Columbia  

The Cooperative Extension Service and Educational Institutions – Representatives  

John T. Bailey  
  • California  

James Carl Hafer  
  • Montana  

E’licia L. Chaverest  
  • Alabama  

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Assistance Organizations- Representatives  
Shelby Ellen Swain Myers  
  • Indiana  

Liya Schwartzman  
  • California  

State Beginning Farmer/ Rancher Programs - Representative  

Anusuya Rangarajan  
  • New York