



2026 WOMEN'S AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Local Leadership: Global Impact

CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN FARMER

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE | TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum | 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, MN

7:45-8:30AM

Registration & Networking

8:35AM

Welcome: **Keeley Runge**, Minnesota FFA Association State Reporter

Emcee: **DeeAnn Lufkin**, CannonBelles Cheese

8:45AM

General Session: Keynote Panel, *Local Leadership: Global Impact - Celebrating the International Year of the Woman Farmer*

Speakers:

Lady Diana Gómez Forero, MAST International Columbia

Jodi Ohlsen Read, Shepherd's Way Farms

Lori Stevermer, Stevermer Farms and Past-President, National Pork Producers Council

Jane Windsperger, Gedef Organic Farm

10:15AM

Break & Networking

10:45AM

Breakout Session #1

12:00PM

Luncheon Program

Greeting: **Doris Mold**, Conference Co-Founder

Remarks: **Andrea Vaubel**, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Outstanding Agricultural Mentor Award: **Emily Krekelberg**, WALC Mentoring Committee Chair

Networking Activity

1:45PM

Break & Networking

2:00PM

Breakout Session #2

3:15PM

Mini Sessions - Roundtables on different topics

Learn about a variety of industry issues, new ideas, and other trends by taking part in up to three 14-minute mini-sessions. Multiple sessions occur simultaneously, creating substantial energy.

4:00PM

Closing & Prizes: Join us for a quick wrap up and prizes

4:30PM

Optional *Continue the Conversation*

Join us for post-conference networking to connect, exchange ideas, and continue to build meaningful connections.

#WALC2026



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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Bridging Generations: Communicating Across Legacy, Leadership, and the Future of Agriculture

Kristin J. Pronschinske, CEO & Owner, LookUp, LLC

Cultivating Global Markets: Navigating Export Growth in Minnesota Agriculture

Christina Connelly, International Trade Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Sarah Schmidt, Vice President of Marketing, Associated Milk Producers Inc. (AMPI)

Financing the Future: Tools & Opportunities for Young and Beginning Farmers

Scott Anderson, Developing Markets Officer, AgCountry Farm Credit Services

Kim Neumann, Financial Officer, AgCountry Farm Credit Services

From the Field to the Floor: Navigating 2026 Agricultural Policy

Amanda Bilek, Senior Public Policy Director, Minnesota Corn Growers Association

Carolyn Olson, Vice President, Minnesota Farm Bureau

Megan Roberts, Agricultural Economist, Compeer Financial

Anne Schwagerl, Vice President, Minnesota Farmers Union

Intro to Marketing Tools

Tessa Herman, Farm Marketing Consultant, Hurley & Associates

Haley Van Nurden, Farm Marketing Consultant, Hurley & Associates

Meaningful Engagement in Your Industry & Community

Erica Sawatzke, Farmer, Oakdale Farm

The Neuroscience of Stress and Coping

Jennifer Vaughn, LMFT & Agricultural Mental Health Provider, Acquire Mental Health

A Weed by Any Other Name

Linda Black Elk, Director of Education, North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems (NATIFS)

Luke Black Elk, Farmer and Food Sovereignty Activist

CONFERENCE PRICING

Early Bird Conference Rate: \$115

Conference registration received after Monday, **March 16** will increase by **\$25**

Student conference rate: **\$75**

Does not increase after **March 16th**

Register Online

Payments made through Eventbrite
womensagriculture.org

Questions?

☎ **612.414.7574** ✉ doris@sunriseag.net

Limited scholarships are available!

Please complete this scholarship form by **Monday, March 16th**



Conference registration includes meals, conference materials, and Arboretum entrance (regularly \$15). Cancellations received by March 16th are refundable. Cancellations received after March 16th aren't refundable, but registration can be transferred to a different attendee.

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THANK YOU TO OUR SPEAKERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND OUR HOST - THE FARM AT THE ARB!