Women in agriculture play unique roles as wives, mothers and members of their community. Your goals, hopes and dreams for the future unite you with each other in very specific ways. Your lives are intricately woven into the land and family surrounding you.

Each day you face challenges of communication and leadership. Each day you tackle practical problems that require care and sensitivity. You may also face long term challenges related to the future of your operation. In this meeting series, we will address topics of profitability and risk management.
Session I  February 6, 2014
Recognizing our Strengths
– Michele Strobeck, SUNY Cobleskill Ag Business, Certified Strengthsfinder Instructor

Participants will receive the book and have completed the StrengthsFinder 8.6 assessment on-line prior to Session One.

Participants will be introduced to the study of “Strengths Psychology” and the notion that developing/utilizing one’s natural talents is more effective than trying to improve personal shortcomings.

What is Risk Management?
– Don Smyers, Executive Director, CCE Schoharie and Otsego Counties
+ Risk avoidance, risk control, risk financing.

Crop Insurance – Sarah Johnston, Organics and Risk Management Specialist, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
⇒ Overview of benefits/challenges of crop insurance

Session V  March 6, 2014
(Human and Legal Risk)

Human Resources – Tom Maloney, Senior Extension Associate, Human Resource Management, Labor Policy and Regulations, Cornell University
◇ Understanding labor relations and employee responsibilities

Estate/Transition Planning – John Lehr, Financial Consultant, Farm Credit East
* Estate Planning / Farm Transition Planning

NOON  Working Lunch – Introduction of NYS Agriculture Mediation Program
-- Chris Tauzel, Program Manager and coordinator of NYSAMP Discussion Leaders for all host sites

Speaker Michele Strobeck leads a discussion on Strengths Finder in an Annie’s Project session in New York.