



the market gardener  
**masterclass**

SYLLABUS

# About the Program

Since 2017, the Market Gardener Masterclass has become the global standard for professional small-scale organic farming education, with over **10,000 farmers trained in 90+ countries**.

This comprehensive online program is designed for aspiring and professional growers who want to operate profitable, ecological farms without scaling beyond a human-focused model.

The new edition of the Masterclass Certificate delivers **expanded content, more expert voices, and a redesigned student experience**, making it the most complete and impactful version yet.





# Our Promise to Students

By enrolling, you are not just joining an online course, you are joining a global movement to make biointensive farming viable, rewarding, and accessible.

## You will leave with:

Practical systems to design, operate, and grow your farm

Clear financial and production plans tailored to your context

Confidence in your technical skills

A network of peers and experts to support your journey for years to come

# New features

- **1-YEAR ACCESS**  
to the full course & community (renewable for USD \$149/year)
- **BROADER TOPICS**  
marketing, management, farm design, growing in the tropics and more updated throughout the year
- **NEW EXPERTS FACULTY**  
with 90+ years of combined experience
- **REDESIGNED STUDENT DASHBOARD**  
with guided learning paths and progression tracking
- **MULTI-LANGUAGE CONTENT**  
(English, Spanish or French)
- **PROGRESSION FOLLOW-UPS**  
to ensure content assimilation
- **COMPLETION CERTIFICATION**  
& inclusion in our Worldwide Directory of Certified Growers
- **EXCLUSIVE COMMUNITY SPACES**  
with monthly events, and peer-to-peer exchange
- **AI EXPERIENCE**  
with our new Masterclass in your pocket where you can ask anything to our AI bot to find your answers quickly!  
(Coming in 2026)

# Your Faculty



COURSE CONTENT



## Jean-Martin Fortier

### Lead Instructor

Globally recognized authority on small-scale organic vegetable production, JM has inspired hundreds of thousands of growers through his farm, best-selling book *The Market Gardener*, TV series, and educational work. His vision combines ecological integrity with proven profitability.



## Luke Sheldrick

### Crop Planning

Founder of Terramor Farm, Luke has grown a small CSA into a thriving farm serving top restaurants, markets, and retail outlets. Known for cost-effective farm management and sales strategy, Luke brings a decade of hands-on expertise to your crop planning module.



## Lizianne Fortier

### Marketing

Business strategist and owner of La Pivoinerie Lili, Lizianne has guided over 100 farms and flower farms in building powerful marketing strategies that increase sales and elevate brand identity.

# Your Faculty



COURSE CONTENT



## Chloé Roy

### Flower Farming

Founder of Floramama Farm, Chloé is renowned for her romantic, lush floral design and mastery of cut flower production. She shares both the technical and creative sides of profitable flower growing.



## Benjamin Fahrer

### Farm Design

Permaculture designer and farmer known for ecological, high-efficiency farm designs, including pioneering rooftop farms in California.



## Thierry Lison

### Growing in the Tropics

Marine biologist turned tropical farmer, Thierry leads a 50-acre permaculture project in Raiatea, French Polynesia, developing innovative solutions for wet tropical climates.

# Your Faculty



## The Expert Series

COMMUNITY CONTENT



**Julia Shanks**

Budgeting & Finances

Julia is the author of The Farmer's Office and a trusted advisor in farm business management.

She will lead a series of expert sessions in the Masterclass community on budgeting and farm finances starting in Spring 2026.



**Lynsey Gammon**

Women in Farming

Lynsey Gammon is the founder of Mountain Song Farms Consulting and Farm Director at Gracie's Farm at Blue Sky.

She brings extensive experience in small-scale farm operations, team leadership, and community-centered farm management.

# Upcoming topics



*Coming in 2026*



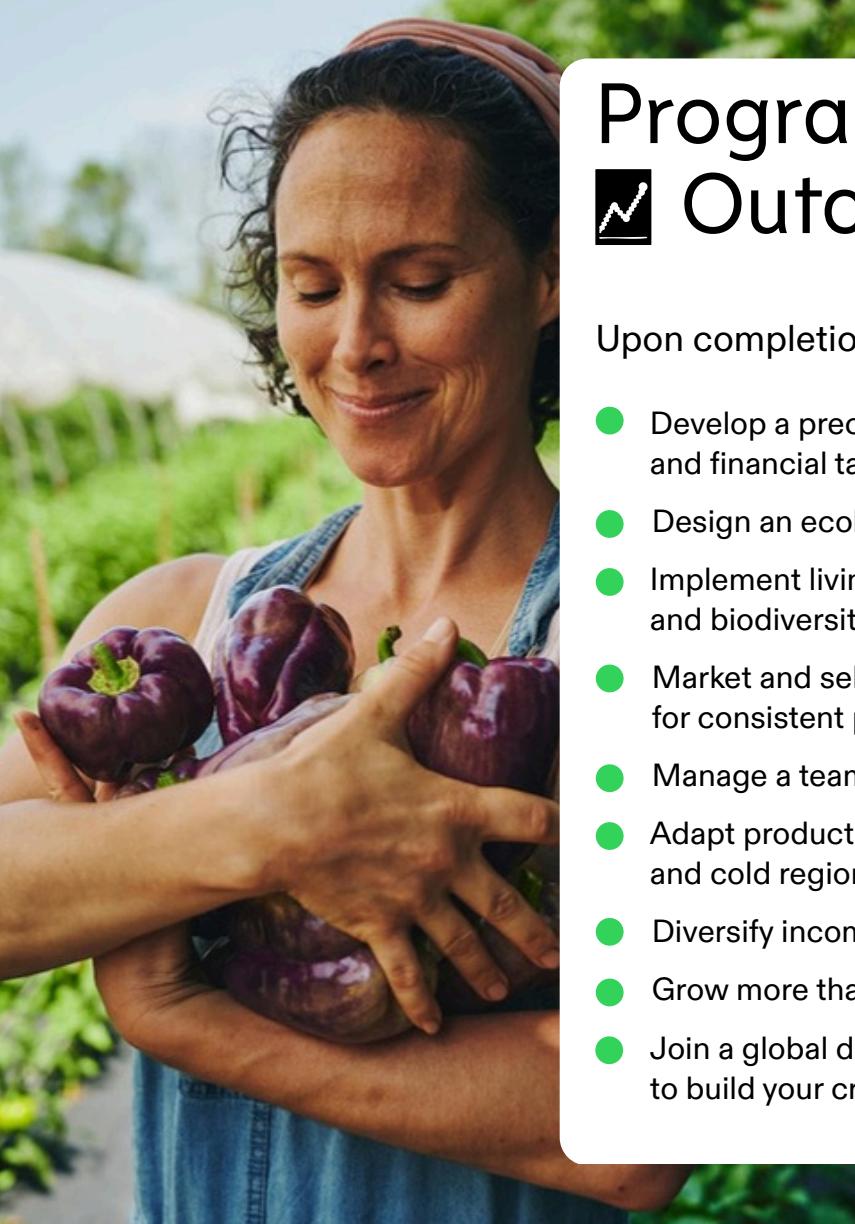
Fertilisation



Team Management



Budget & Finances



# Program Learning

## ✓ Outcomes

Upon completion, you will be able to:

- Develop a precise crop plan with realistic production and financial targets
- Design an ecological and efficient farm layout
- Implement living soil practices to sustain productivity and biodiversity
- Market and sell your products strategically for consistent profits
- Manage a team for motivation, productivity, and retention
- Adapt production for varied climates, including tropical and cold regions
- Diversify income with herbs and specialty crops
- Grow more than 45+ top-quality vegetables
- Join a global directory of certified market gardeners to build your credibility

# Time Commitment



100 + hours

of video lessons,  
readings, and exercises



Self-paced  
learning

with progress tracking

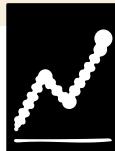


Most students complete  
the course within

6–12 months

while actively farming

# Progression Tracking Flow



Our goal is to support our students through their learning journey and encourage them to complete the course in the most effective and dynamic way possible.

The new user journey ensures comprehension of the fundamental principles, setting you up for success while allowing flexibility in navigating the content.

## **Start Here Module** (Mandatory for certification)

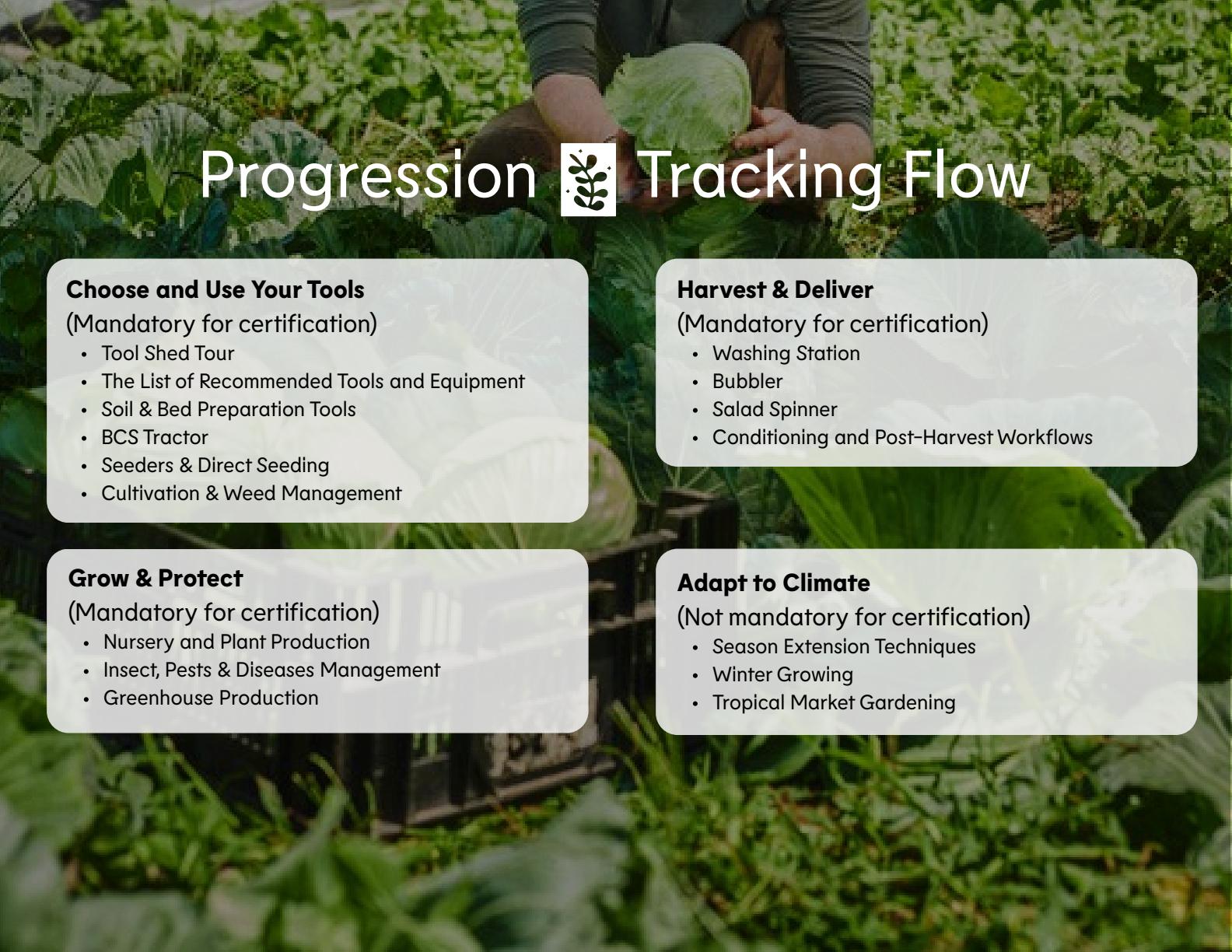
- Welcome!
- How to Use This Course
- The Masterclass Community

## **Set Your Vision for Success** (Mandatory for certification)

- Mission & Goals
- Bio-Intensive Principles
- Crop Planning
- Farm Design
- Marketing

## **Optimize Soil & Water** (Mandatory for certification)

- Cover Crops
- Irrigation Setup
- Fertilization (coming 2026)



# Progression Tracking Flow



## Choose and Use Your Tools

(Mandatory for certification)

- Tool Shed Tour
- The List of Recommended Tools and Equipment
- Soil & Bed Preparation Tools
- BCS Tractor
- Seeders & Direct Seeding
- Cultivation & Weed Management

## Harvest & Deliver

(Mandatory for certification)

- Washing Station
- Bubbler
- Salad Spinner
- Conditioning and Post-Harvest Workflows

## Grow & Protect

(Mandatory for certification)

- Nursery and Plant Production
- Insect, Pests & Diseases Management
- Greenhouse Production

## Adapt to Climate

(Not mandatory for certification)

- Season Extension Techniques
- Winter Growing
- Tropical Market Gardening

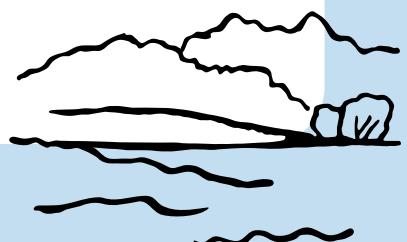


# Vegetable Modules



## – Full List

- Arugula
- Baby Greens
- Basil
- Beets
- Bell Peppers (Field)
- Bell Peppers (Greenhouse)
- Bush Beans
- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Carrots (Fresh & Storage)
- Cauliflower
- Celery
- Celeriac
- Cucumbers (Greenhouse)
- Dill & Coriander
- Eggplants (Field)
- Eggplants (Greenhouse)
- Fennel (Mini)
- Frisée
- Garlic
- Ginger (Baby)
- Green Onions
- Ground Cherry
- Hot Peppers
- Kale
- Leeks
- Lettuce
- Little Gems Mini Lettuce
- Melons
- Mesclun Mix
- Microgreens
- Onions (Fresh & Storage)
- Parsley
- Pole Beans
- Potatoes
- Radishes
- Salad Turnips
- Spinach
- Snap Peas
- Swiss Chard
- Tomatoes (Field)
- Tomatoes (Greenhouse)
- Winter Squash
- Zucchini



# The Masterclass Community



A living extension of the curriculum

The Masterclass community is a core part of the learning experience. It is not a support forum or a comment section. It is an extension of the curriculum, designed to support growers as their farm evolves.

Members return to the community to get inspired, explore new concepts, ask questions as they arise, and gain perspective from others who are actively farming. Through the interactive map, growers can also connect with other Masterclass members in their own region, making it easier to exchange local insights.

It serves as a long-term learning space that supports clarity, confidence, and better decision-making over time.



# What You Can Expect in The Community



## Content Pillars

Seasonal  
Conversations  
with JM

The Expert Series  
(additional course content)

Exclusive  
workshops and replays

Virtual  
farm tours

## Discussions Tabs

Say  
Hello

Ask Your  
Question

Share Your  
Wins

Get  
Support

All Workshops Recommendations Replays

Team Management 101  
3 likes 0 comments 0 questions

Making Greenhouses  
3 likes 0 comments 0 questions

Marketing Mastery with Lizianne Fortier  
0 likes 2 comments 0 questions

Build a High Performance Team  
0 likes 0 comments 0 questions

Costly Mistakes to Avoid & Winning Moves on a Flower Farm  
7 likes 2 comments 0 questions

Profitable Agriculture  
7 likes 2 comments 0 questions

Harvest Hacks  
0 likes 0 comments 0 questions

Keys to Soil Ecology in the Garden  
0 likes 0 comments 0 questions

# Membership Options



## Masterclass Certificate

**\$2,250 USD**

Operate your farm with the #1 online course for small-scale organic farming. This is the base course, giving you access to all content.

- ✓ 12 months access
- ✓ Downloadable technical sheets & Excel templates
- ✓ Access to exclusive community & events
- ✓ 3 months Heirloom software
- ✓ Progression follow-ups
- ✓ Official certification
- ✓ Language options between EN, FR or ES

**Renewal \$149/year**

## Masterclass Certificate Plus

**\$2,525 USD**

This course includes everything in the Masterclass Certificate plus 1-year access to our farm management software Heirloom, as well as all of our exclusive partner discounts allowing you to save up to 8000\$.

This is the best of both worlds and is the perfect package for owner starting their farm and needing to make big investments.

- + 1-year Heirloom software subscription
- + Premium Partner Discounts — save up to \$8,000 on tools, seeds, equipment, and resources

**See partner discounts** on the following pages

**Renewal \$475/year**

## Business Plan Custom Pricing

Multi-user access, educational licenses, full library, tailored coaching.  
**Contact us for details.**



# Support Programs

## NPO Program

Non-Profit Organization (NPO) can take advantage of an exclusive 30% discount on the Masterclass Certificate.

You are eligible for the program if:

- Your non-profit organization is actively engaged in promoting sustainable agriculture, small-scale organic farming, or similar fields.

Please fill out [this form](#) to confirm your eligibility for the program.

## Academic Program

Students can take advantage of an exclusive 20% discount on the Masterclass Certificate.

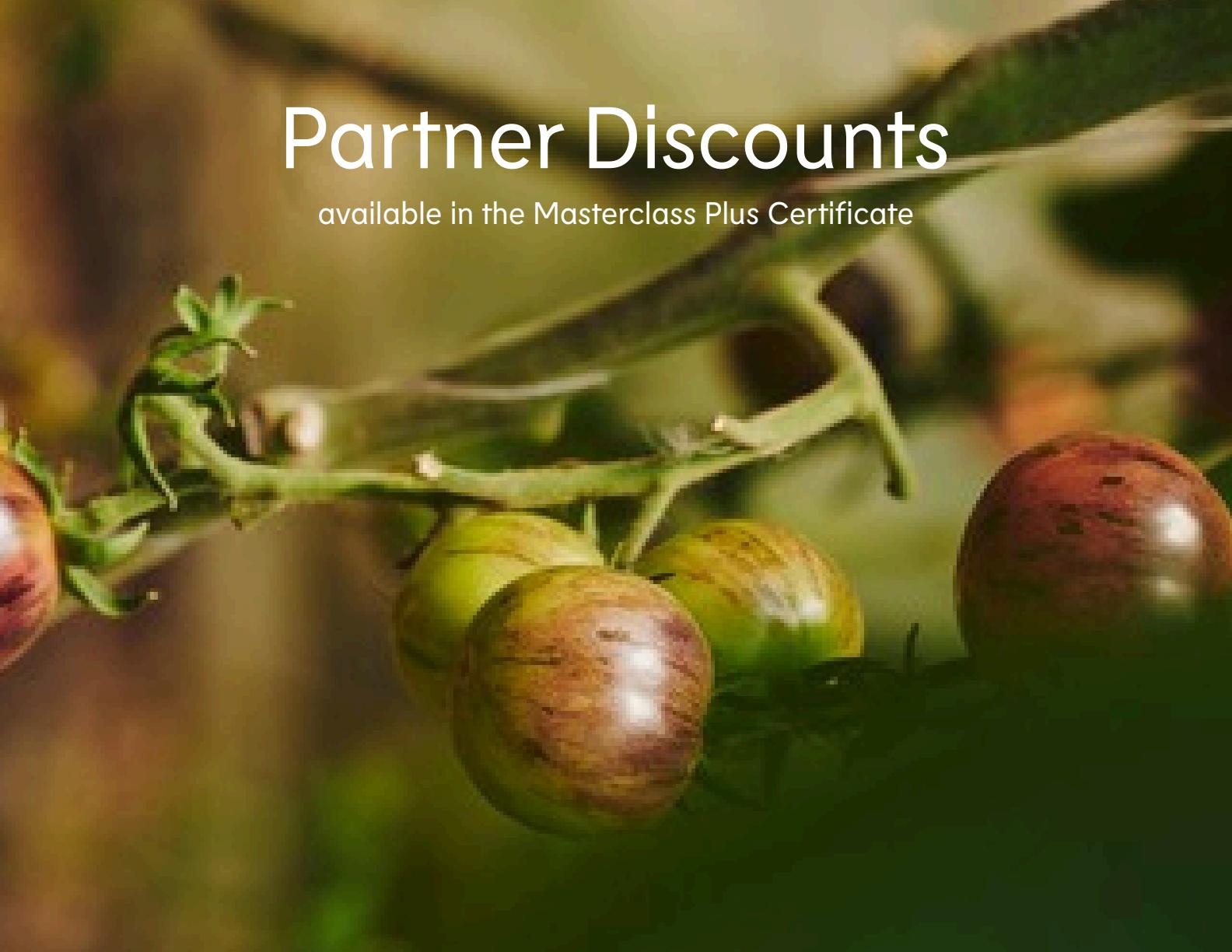
You are eligible for the program if:

- You're currently (or in the past 6 months) pursuing a degree or certification at a recognized college or university in agriculture or a related field.

Please fill out [this form](#) to confirm your eligibility for the program.

# Partner Discounts

available in the Masterclass Plus Certificate



Partner	Discount	Eligible Regions	Link
ActiveVista	5-10%	Australia, New Zealand	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Advancing ECO AG	15%	Canada, USA, UK	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Agrosemens	13%	Europe	<a href="#">Visit</a>
BCS America	11-16%	USA, Canada, Mexico, Caribbean	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Bootstrap Farmer	15%	USA, Canada	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Cardinal Éditions	20%	Worldwide	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Chelsea Green Publishing	20%	North America, UK	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Éco Société	10-15%	Worldwide	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Floramama	10%	Canada	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Growers & Co.	10%	USA, Canada	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Growing for Market	50%	North America	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Harnois Industries	3-10%	USA, Canada, France	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Harrowsmith	25%	USA, Canada	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Heirloom	1-Year access	Worldwide	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Johnny's Seeds	10%	Worldwide	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Local Line	15%	USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UK, *Europe	<a href="#">Visit</a>
New Society Publisher	35%	Worldwide	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Ooooby	3 months free	Europe	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Re Ag Tools	10%	Europe	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Terradonis	10%	Europe, Africa, Middle East, South America	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Tessier	5-10%	Canada	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Triangle Outilage	5%	France	<a href="#">Visit</a>
Tunnel Vision	5-10%	North America	<a href="#">Visit</a>

# About heirloom Software

Heirloom is an integrated crop planning and farm management platform built **by growers, for growers.** It helps you:

- ★ Plan production for profitability
- ★ Optimize workflow and labor
- ★ Track crops from seed to sale
- ★ Save time, reduce errors, and make better business decisions



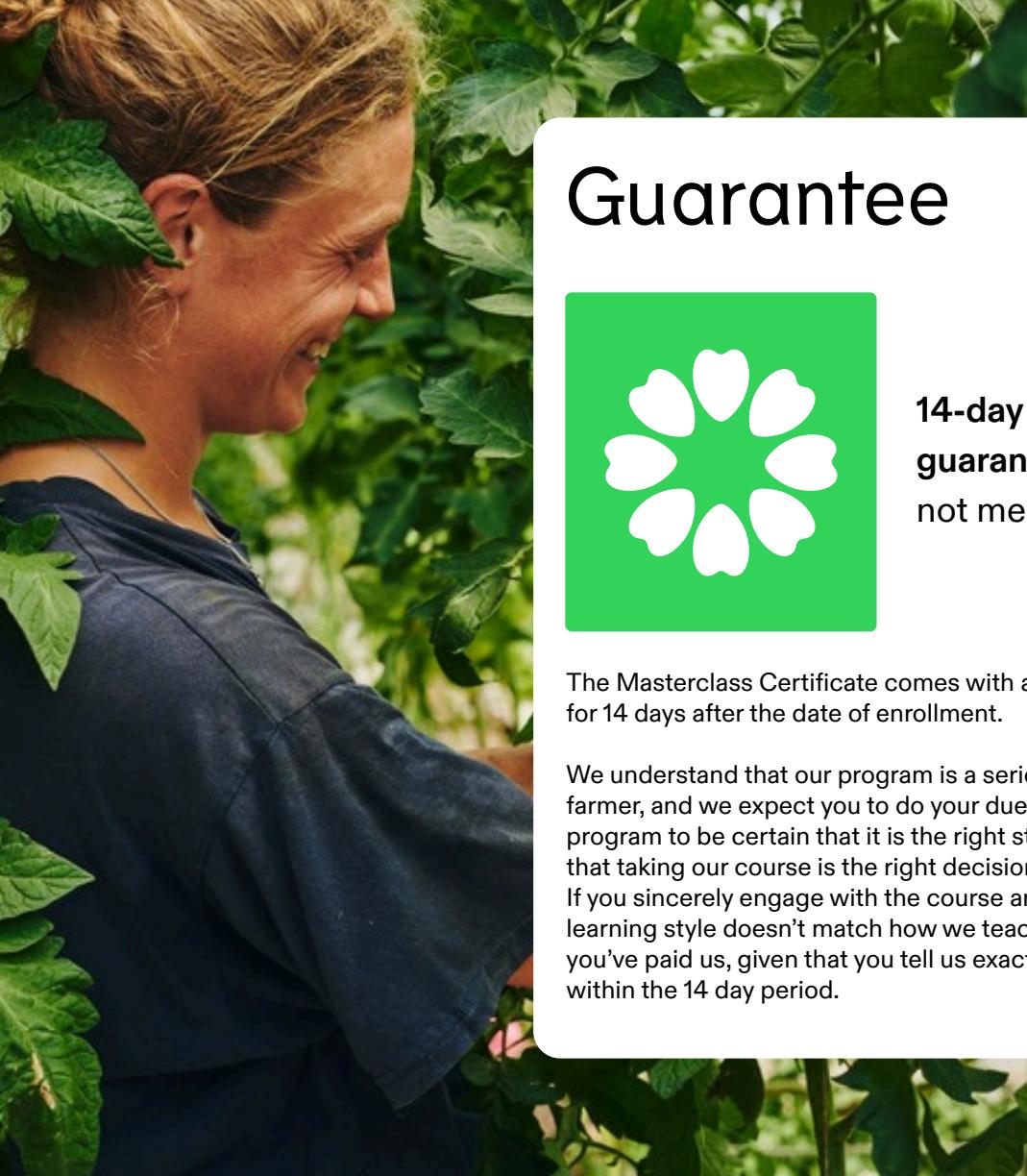
# What if I'm already a Masterclass legacy member?

If you've purchased our signature class the Market Gardener Masterclass anytime before July 2025, don't worry we've got you covered. Your legacy plan is safe with us and you will keep your lifetime access directly in your portal.

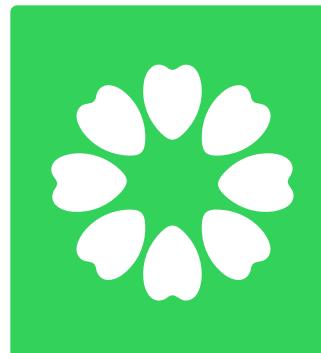
If you want to change your plan and access the new version of the Masterclass Certificate, you can do so while using the unique link in your legacy plan allowing you to add the new course to your dashboard for 149 \$ USD/year.

If you wish to obtain certification, you can take our legacy user certification exam. Upon successful completion, you'll receive your certification and be added to our worldwide directory.





# Guarantee



**14-day 100% money-back  
guarantee** if the course does  
not meet your expectations.

The Masterclass Certificate comes with a 100% Money Back Guarantee for 14 days after the date of enrollment.

We understand that our program is a serious investment for a small-scale farmer, and we expect you to do your due diligence before purchasing our program to be certain that it is the right step for you. We cannot guarantee that taking our course is the right decision for you personally or financially. If you sincerely engage with the course and don't get the value or feel your learning style doesn't match how we teach, we'll happily refund the money you've paid us, given that you tell us exactly why it didn't work for you within the 14 day period.

the market gardener

# masterclass

