

So, you are thinking about starting a blog.

Here are a few things to keep in mind before you begin this exciting journey.

- More than one person can contribute to a blog. This is especially helpful when writing time may be at a premium
 or when you have a team-oriented blog concept.
- Take a moment to consider your audience. Who do you want to reach?
- How often will you be posting? Maintaining a blog is not an easy task. Ideally, there should be one blog post per week and each post should include a photo or graphic.
- As a rule of thumb, each post should have 500-100 words (or more), but ultimately, an emphasis should always be placed on the quality of the post rather than the number of words it contains.
- What do you want to call your blog? A catchy title will help draw followers.
- Once you settle on a name, <u>email it to Leilana McKindra</u>, communications specialist. Leilana will work with Torsten Kilschautzky, communications specialist, and DASNR IT to create the blog.
- Once the blog is set up, Leilana will contact you via email with best practices and guidelines on how to create your first post.
- Understand that you will be responsible for managing content, comments and promotion.

As always, the Agricultural Communications Services team is here to answer questions to help ensure your efforts are successful. Please do not hesitate to ask or set up a convenient time to talk.

