MGI INTERNATIONAL FARMSCHOOL 2027

In 2027, we will continue running the Wilmars Gaerten Farmschool, where students learn market gardening through hands-on experience and real fieldwork, complemented by essential theoretical knowledge. Together with the Market Gardeners Institute in Québec and a global guild of pioneering farms, we form the international School Farm Network.

A global movement training the next generation of small-scale organic farmers who nourish communities, restore ecosystems, and safeguard the future of food! Grounded in the teachings of Jean-Martin Fortier, we offer a full-season, fully immersive program in professional market gardening.

This is an invitation to those who feel called to step into one of the most meaningful roles of our time:
to become growers, land stewards, and regenerative practitioners working at the frontline of ecological and social transformation.

Applications open November 25, 2026

Fully immersive program: March 15 – November 15, 2027

WILMARS GAERTEN
currently busy terraforming

WHY BECOME A GROWER NOW

In a world saturated with pesticides, herbicides, and nutrient-depleted food — in a world where industrial agriculture exhausts soils, drains water systems, and strips ecosystems of life — choosing to become a farmer is not simply a profession.

It is a stand. A commitment. A form of resistance.
It means creating decentralized, resilient, human-scale food systems around our cities — systems that nourish people while regenerating the land that sustains them.

Small farms are not nostalgic.

They are the backbone of the future. They hold the power to stabilize regional food security, revive ecosystems, rebuild soil, and create livelihoods rooted in meaning, craft, and care.

This work is not theoretical.

It is soil under your fingernails, seasons in your muscles, and the quiet knowledge that you are doing something that matters. Growing food and regenerating soil is the foundation of all life — and farmers hold a key to the future that no corporation, machine, or algorithm can replace.

FARMSCHOOL at WILMARS GAERTEN

A 5-HECTARE NO-TILL MARKET GARDEN

At Wilmars Gaerten, you will learn within a 5-hectare, no-till market garden designed around the principles of the MGI Masterclass and adapted to the ecological realities of our landscape.

INTEGRATED AGROFORESTRY

Inside the garden, the individual bed blocks are framed by agroforestry strips: fruit trees, shrubs, hedgerows, perennial herbs and flowers. These living edges create microclimates, habitat, wind protection, structure, and beauty — turning the garden into a dynamic, ecologically rich mosaic. You learn market gardening within a diverse, interconnected landscape, where perennial and annual systems support each other and biodiversity becomes a practical tool.

HERBS, FLOWERS & BIODIVERSITY

Our herb and flower gardens produce culinary herbs and cut flowers for the Berlin markets. They also enhance pollinator life, soil structure, and the sensory richness of the garden.

WE SELL OUR PRODUCE

- twice a week at farmers' markets in Berlin
- through our small farm shop in Berlin-Schöneberg
- to high-end restaurants committed to local, ecological food
- through our veggie bags (a model similar to CSA)

You will learn professional standards, quality control, post-harvest handling, and the realities of feeding communities.

COMMUNITY CULTURE

Throughout the season, we host:

- open farm days
- school visits
- community gatherings
- weekend workshops

You experience how regenerative farms nourish not only bodies, but community, culture, and imagination.

LOCATION & ACCESSIBILITY

Our garden is located in Märkisch Wilmersdorf, 40 km south of Berlin. It is easily accessible via the RE4 regional train to Thyrow, followed by a 15-minute bike ride to the garden.

PLEASE NOTE that accommodation is not provided as part of the Farmschool program. Participants are responsible for their own accommodation and daily commute to the garden.

FARMSCHOOL at WILMARS GAERTEN

HANDS-ON WORK

You will spend most of the time in the garden, because that's how you learn the work of a market gardener. Your practical work includes bed preparation, transplanting, cultivating, weeding, direct sowing, nursery work, harvesting, delivering produce and selling it at the market

LEARNING BUILT ON THE MGI MASTERCLASS

Your hands-on work, combined with the MGI Masterclass, forms the backbone of your theoretical learning.

During slower months, you dive into Masterclass modules.

This combination of real-world practice and theory is one of the strongest pathways to becoming a professional grower.

PLANNING, BUSINESS & FARM DESIGN

Spring learning includes:

- Farm processes & tools
- Bed preparation & direct seeding
- Nursery & transplanting
- Irrigation installation & management
- Crop families

Autumn learning includes:

- Farm layout & infrastructure design
- Farm business planning
- Crop planning
- Marketing, CSA models & distribution

CERTIFICATION THROUGH THE MGI SYSTEM

Completion of the program grants credits toward the MGI Junior Market Gardener certification, recognized throughout the MGI global network.
Your progress is recorded in your personal digital learning profile, creating a professional farm pathway.

ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION — NO TUITION FEE

The program is free of charge.
We are working towards making this form of agriculture accessible to everyone.

Farmers are the stewards of our most essential resources. We hold the keys to the resilience of future generations. Our hands shape not only food systems, but the possibility of a livable world. If you want to become part of the critical mass:

WE INVITE YOU TO APPLY

Send your motivation letter and CV to:

FARMSCHOOL@WILMARSGAERTEN.COM

We look forward to meeting you :)

