

**Hope your new year is off to a great start!** At UGF, we're hitting the ground running for a jampacked first-half of 2023. We are getting the soil ready to plant our new muscadine vines in late spring, renovating the livestock barn for the arrival of our sheep in March, and making great progress on the construction of the distillery.

We took time to look back to **2022 on UGF** with a video posted our <u>@uniongrovevineyard</u>Instagram. Take a minute to <u>check it out</u> and please follow us.



Conference season is underway, and Union Grove Farm is well-represented. Dr. Laura Kavanaugh and Martin Crompton, on our UGF leadership team, were asked to speak at the **2023 RegenOrganic Summit** in Scottsdale, Arizona. This event brought together leaders and practitioners across regenerative agriculture to share knowledge, experience and ideas with the top minds in the industry. <u>Read more</u> in our <u>UGF blog</u>. This week, you can find Dr. Laura in Ontario, California, presenting at the Compost Conference.

## **Union Grove Farm Distillery**

There is amazing progress on the UGF distillery construction. As you drive by our farm on Dairyland Road, you can see the new cupola peeking out from the top of the building, and we have moved in the new tanks and distilling equipment. Soon we will start building the beer garden and the fountain wall inspired by gardens in Tivoli, Italy.

## Get ready to hop on the hay wagon and experience the farm

Yes! Farm tours are on the way. With so much to see, enjoy and learn about our regenerative farm, we will be inviting our neighbors and the community to join us for a tour. Visit with our worms in the lab, see our burgeoning hügelkultur and <u>mushroom logs</u>, and soon experience herding our sheep. Get ready to geek out on farm science and have some fun!



Welcome Collin to the UGF team

We are so excited to finally welcome Collin Mallett fulltime to the UGF team. He started at the farm working summers and then as an intern while he was attending Appalachian State. Now graduated in December 2022 with his Sustainable Technology degree, you will find him on the farm every day. Learn more about <u>our UGF team</u> on our website.

## Calling all aspiring farmers!

Preparing the farm to plant almost 30 acres of new muscadine vines is quite a feat. We welcome your help! Once the vines arrive, we will have to move quickly to get them all in the ground. If you would like to volunteer to learn about farming and help plant vines in the first few weeks of April, <u>let us know</u>.

Find our **newsletter archive** and sign up to subscribe <u>on our website</u>. And if you have any questions, please feel free to <u>reach out to us</u>.

It's always a grape day at Union Grove Farm! 🎕