

Agricultural & Agri-Business Grant Opportunities

Presented By:
Connie Miner
Grant Consultant

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets:

- Overview of eligibility requirements:
 - n Agricultural & Farmland Protection Boards
 - Erie County
 - n Municipalities
 - Town of Brant
 - n Non-profit Organizations with 501 (c)3 status
 - Brant Economic Development Corporation
 - n Private entities, individuals
 - i.e. Marty Rosiek

Primary Funding Agencies

- USDA/Rural Development (Federal)
- NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
- SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) supported by USDA
- NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
- NYSERDA (NYS Energy Research & Development Authority)

USDA/Rural Development

● *Building Better Rural Places*

n Publication is available online for free:

● <http://attra.ncat.org/guide>

● Or call: 1-800-346-9140

● Other Places to search:

n The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance:

● <http://12.46.245.173.cfda/cfda.html>

n The Federal Register:

● www.gpoaccess.gov/fr

n Grants in all Federal Agencies:

● www.grants.gov

n The Foundation Center:

● www.fdncenter.org

Other Important Issues to Consider

- What are the program's objectives
- How much funding is available and what are the matching requirements (cash, in-kind services)
- Are there any restrictions on the use of the funds
- What is the deadline and timeframe for implementation
- What are the reporting requirements

Building Better Rural Places

Overview

- Agricultural Management Assistance
- Agriculture Risk Management Education
Competitive Grants Program
- Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural
Areas
- Beginning Farmer & Rancher
Development Program
- Market Access Program (MAP)

Building Better Rural Places

Overview

- Conservation Security Program
- Direct Farm Ownership & Operating Loans
- Down Payment Farm Ownership Loan Program
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- EPA's Ag Assistance Center

Building Better Rural Places

Overview

- Small Business Administration
- Nat'l. Organic Certification Cost-Share Pgm.
- Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvements Program
- Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance
- Rural Business Opportunity Grants

Building Better Rural Places

Overview

- Rural Cooperative Grant Program
- Small Business Innovation Research Program
- Small Farm Program
- Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program (SARE)
- Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms
- Value-Added Producer Grants

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

<http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/>

● Agricultural Workforce Certification Pgm.

- n Assists farmers with the recruitment, training, placement of ag. employees; provides training for individuals with no farm work experience and skills upgrades for those already employed on a farm with training split between classroom and field work

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

● GROW New York Program (not GROW NY Enterprise Pgm.)

- n Funds implementation of innovative, low-risk approaches to research, development, production, processing and distribution of ag. products and food that capitalize on the State's unique resources and location near significant markets
- n Types of projects include:
 - new product development,
 - alternative production, processing and distribution, marketing methods
- n Implementation is limited in time to one year or less in duration
- n Equipment and structures are not eligible for funding, but may be used as matching funds

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

Johne's Disease Control on Farms

- n \$500,000 was available statewide to control the spread of Johne's Disease through the adoption of management practices
- n Each individual farm was eligible to receive up to \$4,000 for the purchase of equipment and materials with a 25% match required
- n Funds cannot be used for salaries, contractual services, disposable supplies (milk replacer) or for overhead expenses

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

● Coop. Promotional Projects for NY Agricultural or Food Projects

- n Participants in the Pride of NY Program are eligible to submit proposals to link advertising & promotion of their products with the Pride of NY Program
- n Applicants must describe a marketing activity or program that promotes the quality, value or availability of one or more agricultural or food products to increase the demand for these products
- n Up to \$15,000 is available for each project for costs related to development of cooperative advertising or promotions

NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets

● Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution

- n Applications must consist of activities that will reduce, abate, control, or prevent nonpoint source pollution originating from agricultural sources, including planning and implementation
- n Funds may be used for preventative or remedial initiatives, or both.
- n Applicants requesting State funding to conduct planning projects or for the implementation of eligible BMPs must have completed a current AEM Tier I inventory and an AEM Tier II assessment on all participating farms.
- n 25% matching funds requirement

SARE

<http://www.sare.org/grants/index.htm>

● Grants support producers who want to try an experiment, trial, or demonstration project on their farm

● Examples include:

- n new techniques for adding value;
- n a new crop;
- n a pest-management strategy; or,
- n a method of direct sales.

SARE

- Program Goal: help farmers explore sustainable and innovative production and marketing practices that are profitable, environmentally sound, and beneficial to the community.
- Successful proposals define a problem and offer innovative solutions.
- Proposals can address a broad range of agricultural production or marketing issues.

SARE

Eligible Applicants:

- n You must be a farmer in the Northeast SARE region.
- n You need not be farming full time, but your operation must produce an established crop or animal product that you sell on a regular basis.
- n Many community-supported farms qualify, but farms where the primary mission is educational normally do not.
- n Limited to one application per farm per year.

SARE

- Your project must offer some sort of outreach component.
- Common outreach mechanisms are field days, demonstrations, fact sheets, handouts, or materials made available to other farmers through a producer network.
- You can plan to present your project at a meeting, develop a flyer, or seek media coverage for your project.
- Your outreach plan should target people who will benefit from knowing about your project, and should cover as wide a geographical area as possible.

SARE

- Two types of grants:
 - n **Grass Roots - experimental and innovative**
 - goal is to help you test new ideas
 - n **Farm Trial - support the adoption of specific practices**
 - goal is to field-test production techniques that have been previously researched and gather data about their results and effectiveness
- Each uses a different cover sheet and narrative format, so make sure you use the right materials.

SARE


- In 2004, Northeast SARE awarded \$219,593 to 38 farmers.
- Awards ranged from \$1,121 to \$10,000, and the average grant was about \$5,800
- The cap in 2005 on any single grant will be **\$10,000**.
- Field Trial grants have a limited budget that is keyed to acreage.

SARE

FUNDS CAN BE USED TO:

- n Compensate you for your time and the time your employees work directly on the project
- n Buy materials specific to the project
- n Pay for project-related services like soil testing and consulting
- n Support project-related travel
- n Pay for postage, printing costs, telephone, and other outreach expenses
- n Compensate advisors, collaborators, and other participants
- n Rent equipment needed specifically for the project
- n Pay other direct project costs not explicitly excluded below

SARE

- 
- THINGS SARE DOES NOT FUND:**
- n **Normal operating expenses**
 - n **Capital expenses**
 - n **Projects that show no direct link to sustainability**
 - n **Projects where the benefit to other farmers is limited or not clear**
 - n **SARE does not fund Grass Roots proposals that seek to replicate sustainable techniques that are already known are effective**

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

<http://nysparks.state.ny.us/grants/>

● Barns Restoration and Preservation Program

n **Eligible Structures**

● The **structure** that is the subject of the application must be a barn, shed, silo, or farm outbuilding that:

- n is in need of substantial repair;
- n is at least 50 years old (built and/or placed in service before 1951);
- n listed on or eligible for the National and State Registers of Historic Places
- n was constructed for storage or shelter of livestock, farm equipment, or agricultural products.

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

ⁿ Program Intent

- The intent of the program is to preserve the historic character and extend the useful life of historic agricultural buildings.
- Proposed project work must be compatible with the historic character of the building.

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

● Highest Priority

- n Greatest impact upon building longevity, such as repair and restoration of **foundations, sills, and framing**, and repair and replacement of **roofs**.

● Lesser Priority

- n Repairs that protect the barns' structural systems and/or preserve character-giving historic features, such as repairs to **siding, doors, windows, flooring, cupolas, and architectural details**.

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

● Not eligible for funding are:

- n repairs to non-historic features of the building;
- n work relating to conversions to non-agricultural use;
- n work that is incompatible with the historic nature of the building, including:
 - n removing historic building fabric, using non-historic materials such as vinyl or plywood, and
 - n moving a building off its historic site; and
- n work that is purely cosmetic.

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

- **Maximum Grant Award: \$25,000**

- **Applicant's Cost Share:**

- n Ranges from 10% to 50% of total project cost, on a sliding scale according to income

- **Type of Matching Funds:**

- n The grantee's cost share can be in the form of cash, in-kind services, or labor.

NYSERDA

www.nyserda.com/rddopps.htm

● Innovation in Agriculture Grants

- n Funds are provided for agriculture innovation projects involving energy conservation or productivity improvement, which enhance the profitability of agriculture in New York State
- n Up to 50% of the total project cost
- n Projects must develop, demonstrate and commercialize energy-efficient products, technologies and services targeted for use by industry, including: manufacturing, materials processing, food processing, production agriculture

NYSERDA

- **Category A - Early Development Proposals (Up to \$400,000 available)**
- Proposers should submit under Category A if they have not yet developed a commercial prototype.
- Projects proposed under Category A would typically include tasks such as:
 - n proof-of-concept investigations;
 - n bench-scale prototype development;
 - n commercial prototype design and development;
 - n preliminary market assessment; and
 - n business plan development.
 - n NYSERDA will provide up to \$75,000, or up to 50% of the total project cost, whichever is less, for selected Category A projects.

NYSERDA

- **Category B - Demonstration and Commercialization Proposals**
(Up to \$800,000 available)
- Proposers should submit under Category B if they have completed most of the tasks listed for Category A, and
- are ready to demonstrate and commercialize their product, process or service.
- Projects proposed under Category B would typically include:
 - n performance testing;
 - n field demonstrations;
 - n manufacturability analysis;
 - n continued commercial design development;
 - n certification; development of production system; and
 - n development of commercialization strategies.
 - n NYSERDA will provide up to \$400,000, or up to 50% of the total project cost, whichever is less, for selected Category B projects.
 - n Category B winners may be required to repay NYSERDA through a royalty agreement.