SOVA Agribusiness Information Technology Program

Long Range Goals of TICRC

- Planting the seeds of entrepreneurial activity and change includes establishment of conditions that will support risk-taking and creative approaches to economic revitalization – which includes business, employment, education, technology, cultural enrichment, and **value-added agricultural products**.

Vision of the Project

- The overall objective of the (SOVA IT grant) is to improve the management, marketing, record keeping and production capabilities of beef cattle, dairy, sheep, and goat producers in tobacco dependent communities, thereby, enhancing farm profitability with corresponding benefits to the region's overall economy.

Central Virginia Livestock Improvement Program

18 counties

- Amelia
- Appomattox
- Bedford
- **Brunswick**
- Buckingham
- Campbell
- Cumberland
- Henry
- Franklin

- Charlotte
- Halifax
- Lunenburg
- Mecklenburg
- Nottoway
- Pittsylvania
- Prince Edward
- Dinwiddie
- Wythe

Eligibility Requirements

- At least 18 years of age

- Must be farming at least 20 acres of crops annually (cumulative if rotating crops) and/or

- Must own or raise a minimum of 20 head of cattle or small ruminants.

- Must have a minimum sales of $1,000 from self-grown produce, meat, or agriculture products from farm, or agricultural or agritourism activities.

- If you meet at least one of the requirements above you are eligible to apply. Self Certification sheet is enclosed in packet.

Expectations

- Attend a training session

- Maintain or upgrade records on funded components for at least 5 years

- File Annual Report to local Extension Office for 5 years

- Follow all guidelines

Program Components

Farm Logic Software

Cattle Management Software

Professional Website Development

Optional Components: **(Can only be purchased with one of the Program Components above.)

Laptop Computer

QuickBooks Financial Software

Ipad/tablet ** Only optional if you do Farm Logic Software

Cow/Calf mobile app.   (Cost $15)

33% reimbursement up to a max of $1,200 in eligible expenses

Around $3600 total to get $1200

May be utilized in one component or a combination

What is Farm Logic

- FarmLogic is a farm record keeping system that empowers growers to build better records, make informed decisions and increase efficiency of their operations. Information about farming activities is secure and readily available on a tablet, smartphone or desktop computer. Access your records, anytime and anywhere.

FarmLogic Web Headquarters is the foundation of the FarmLogic System. From the My Lists section to GIS map drawing

•View and Print Reports of your daily farming operations

•Define your field boundaries with our easy to use Drawing Tools

•Build and Assign Work Orders for Plant, Spray, and NPK operations

•Review work done in the field with a seamless Sync from FarmPAD

•Plan applications/expenses for next year's crop and print a Bill of Goods

•View your entire farming operation with our latest satellite imagery

•Attach a Controller file to your NPK records for easy reference

•Practice precision soil sampling with Soil Test Pro

Planning Module

Planning Module helps develop your strategy for next year's growing season. Seed, chemical, and fertilizer are easily planned for application to fields.

Cattle Management Software

- Cow Calf 5, Cattle Pro, Angus Management

- Management is a dynamic process requiring timely, accurate, and comprehensive information. Although many herd record systems are effective, computerized records allow fast access to large data sets and easily-retrievable, summarized reports.

Cow Calf Mobile Phone APP

- Cost is $15 from University of Nebraska
- If you are technologically advanced this program will do everything you need to do from your phone.
- Cow Calf5 & Cattle Pro are old technology and will not work on all computers. I see them being replaced with new programs in the future. To purchase the App you have to purchase Cow Calf5

Professional Website

- This is limited to Agribusiness operations that are establishing or enhancing a direct sales mechanism through the web site development opportunity.

- E-commerce capability is not required, however you must outline the plan for specifically how the website will increase sales, including a tracking mechanism.

- **Contractor must offer website development as a professional service (Cannot be family)

Optional Laptop

- Minimum Requirements
  - 8 G of memory
  - 256 GB of static storage

I PAD or Tablet Option (Farm Logic)

- Minimum Requirements
  - Must have GPS Compatibility (Wi-Fi + Cellular)
  - Must have access to he Apple AppStore or the Google PlayStore (Android or iOS operating system)
  - Applicant may not apply for cost-share on a laptop and Ipad/Tablet. (must pick one or other if purchasing Farm Pro)
  - Applicants who currently own Farm Logic and not applying for Farm Logic are not eligible to receive cost share on an Ipad/tablet.

Quick Books Pro (Optional)

- Financial software

  Helps with managing accounts, taxes and organizing the farm business.

Items required with Application

- Completed Application Request Form

- Completed Producer Self-Certification Form

- FSA Aerial Photograph of applicant's farm (including FSA Farm and Tract Number) or FSA info for property where component placed

- Cost Estimate for proposed components

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Application Process

➢ Fill out Application completely

       -take time to provide complete information

       -Only ***complete*** applications will be considered

Application Process

➢ Fill out Application and return to Extension offices starting **Feb. 4, 2019**

-no sooner than date above and based

on first-come-first-serve-basis

- Only ***complete*** applications will be considered

➢ Screening Committee reviews/recommends

➢ Administrator handles notification of approval

Dates to Remember

- Return completed application to VCE offices in your county by June 14th 2019 at 4:30 pm.
- Do not make any purchases till you receive approval letter.

NOTES/SUGGESTIONS

·   Obtaining receipts from sellers is the sole responsibility of the producer. It is not the responsibility of the DOC committee or VCE personnel to have to contact sellers directly regarding receipts.

Be sure to review and have receipts following procedures described in the Guidelines.

·   Changes to any cost share request must be approved by the program administrator and/or the DOC. If a producer desires to change practices or request additional funds, the original application will be voided and a new application submitted. It is critical that you sign-up for all you desire to purchase when you turn in your application.

Take Home Messages

- Read and follow guidelines for each part of the program in which you desire to participate.
- Study it and ask questions.
- Use the check list to make sure you filled in complete information
- If you have questions on application, meet with Extension Agent <u>BEFORE</u> you turn in application – remember only applications that are complete will be considered

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