



BMP Mini-Grant Announcement

Request for Proposals – FDACS Best Management Practices Mini-Grant Program

Background and purpose: The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has a cooperative agreement with the University of Florida (UF) that provides state financial assistance in support of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) implementation required under the FDACS BMP program through mini-grants. The purpose of this mini-grant call is to enhance the ability of UF/IFAS Extension to provide science-based education and outreach that assists agricultural producers with the implementation of FDACS-adopted water quality and water conservation BMPs as required by the FDACS BMP program that help protect water resources and promote water conservation.

Requirements:

- Extension activities supported under this program include educating producers about FDACS BMPs through direct contact, demonstration of FDACS BMP implementation in the producer context, and presentation of advancements in practices or technologies that promote nutrient and water use efficiency on agricultural operations. Projects must incorporate performance measures or metrics for determining meaningful impacts on educational efforts, behavioral changes, or other metrics.
- Recipients will present final project results in quarterly meetings hosted by regional specialized agents (RSAs), or recipients may provide project updates and share meeting content with RSAs such as presentations, meeting handouts, and photos taken at field days.
- Recipients are required to submit a final report that includes:
 - Background: Project motivation, justification, and objectives
 - Methods: What was done to achieve objectives
 - Results: Outcome of the project including a summary of performance measures (e.g. pre-determined metrics that document cultural or production method changes as a result of the project/demonstration). Examples include before and after photos, a summary of data collected (if any), and other qualitative outcomes such as producer survey results, etc.
 - Conclusions: What worked/did not work, lessons learned, and potential next steps.
- Submit all receipts, invoices, and appropriate supporting documentation for awarded funds spent on the project, including in-state travel expenses, pursuant to the purpose of this RFP.

Eligibility: All University of Florida county Extension agents are eligible to apply. Projects must be led by county faculty, who are encouraged to collaborate with state specialists on proposal ideas. Projects must also incorporate working with FDACS. Projects can be single or multi-county.

Available funding: Total funding is approximately \$150,000, with up to \$10,000 for most projects. It is anticipated that up to 2 to 3 projects with budgets up to \$30,000 may be funded with appropriate justification such as broad scope and multi-county applicability.

Budget: Awards can be used for materials, supplies, soil testing, tissue testing, petiole sap testing and in-state travel. Funds may not be used for personnel or graduate students. Funds will be provided on a cost reimbursement basis upon receipt of invoices and appropriate supporting documentation to include any approved travel expenses and purchase orders. Funds must be spent, and reimbursements submitted no later than June 15, 2022.

Proposal format (3 pages maximum):

- A. Title
- B. Name and e-mail of faculty contact
- C. Situation (max. 300 words) - How does the project meet the RFP requirements? Why is this project important? Why should it be funded now?
- D. Objectives (max. 250 words) - What are you proposing and how does the project support the FDACS BMP program?
- E. Materials and methods
- F. Performance measures
- G. Expected outcomes/outreach
- H. Collaborations
- I. Budget - Describe and justify the budget request

Important dates:

Application deadline – Friday, May 28, 2022
 Notification – Friday, July 23, 2022 (tentative)
 Project End – Wednesday, June 15, 2023
 Results Due – Wednesday, June 15, 2023
 Last day to submit for reimbursements – Wednesday, June 15, 2023
 Final Report Due – Wednesday, June 15, 2023

Submit proposals to: Melissa Friedman, melimel@ufl.edu (until 11:59 p.m. on May 28, 2022)

For further information: Please contact Dr. Lakesh Sharma, lakesh.sharma@ufl.edu or Dr. Michael Dukes, mddukes@ufl.edu

UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Extension Center
Spring 2022 Field Day
Wednesday, April 13, 2022
<https://tinyurl.com/HAEC-SpringFieldDay2022>

BMP Summit 2022

Two CEUs will be offered with each presentation at the BMP summit. Each presentation will be 15 minutes followed by a 5-minute Q & A period. For registration and more information:

<https://bmp.ifas.ufl.edu/bmp-in-action/2022-summit/>

April 5, 2022, Tuesday

9:00 – 9:20 am	What is the process in developing UF/IFAS fertilizer recommendations
9:20 – 9:40 am	History and success stories of BMP
9:40 – 10:00 am	NDVI sensor-based nitrogen management
10:00 – 10:20 am	Benefits of using of soil moisture sensor
10:20 – 10:40 am	Sulfur applications in agriculture
10:40 – 11:00 am	Use of smart fertilizers to improve N use efficacy



April 12, 2022, Tuesday

9:00 – 9:20 am	Nitrogen management of sugarcane in sandy soils
9:20 – 9:40 am	Nitrogen management in potatoes
9:40 – 10:00 am	Cost-benefit analysis of cover crops use in citrus production systems
10:00 – 10:20 am	Cover crop use in nutrient management in row crops- a case study
10:20 – 10:40 am	Animal Ag BMPs
10:40 – 11:00 am	FDACS update on IV's BMP implementation

CONTACT US:

<https://bmp.ifas.ufl.edu>

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