



ALLIANCE TO ADVANCE CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

PRODUCER APPLICATION

ARKANSAS

www.allianceforcsa.org

2024

allianceforcsa@vt.edu



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND LIFE SCIENCES
VIRGINIA TECH.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

PRIMARY APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please enter your primary address, as would appear on your license. This may differ from the address of your farm(s). You will enter farm information next.

Full Name: _____

Business or Farm Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

A unique email is required.

Mobile

Landline

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

In the spirit of the Justice40 Initiative, at least 40% of enrolled producers will be from historically underserved operations. These operations will qualify for an additional equity payment. Please select the option(s) that best describe the Primary Applicant. You may choose more than one. If none apply, please select None of the above.

If you qualify as a Historically Underserved Farmer or Rancher, please select the group that best describes your operation. Please note that USDA has identified the groups below as Historically Underserved. **See Appendix I for full definitions.**

Beginning Producer

100% Women-Run Operation

Limited Resource Producer

Small Producer

Socially Disadvantaged Producer

Veteran Producer

None of the above

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

FARM #1 INFORMATION

Please enter the location of Farm #1.

This may differ from the primary address you listed on the first page.

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

County

The farm must be operated in one of the below participating districts

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas County | <input type="checkbox"/> Jefferson County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland County | <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drew County | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Francis County |

Business Classification:

Indicate the business classification for Farm #1 (LLC, Limited Partnership, etc.).

To participate in the Alliance, producers are required to submit Farm Service Agency farm, field, and tract numbers. If you do not have established farm records, please register with your local FSA office before applying.

Farm Service Agency Farm Number: _____

Farm Service Agency Tract Number(s): _____

Farm Service Agency Field Number(s): _____

Please choose the commodity that will be produced (select only one):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wheat | <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit/Vegetable | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Row Crop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Goats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | | |

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES - ACRES

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Crop Rotation (328) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover Crop (340) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture (381) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Management (590) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture and Hay Planting (512) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Forest Buffer (391) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation Water Management, Alternative Wetting and Drying (449) | |

Number of Acres You Plan to Enroll: _____

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES – ANIMAL UNITS

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed Grazing (528) | <input type="checkbox"/> Feed Management (592) |
|---|--|

Number of Animal Units You Plan to Enroll: _____

Please note that payment is determined by Animal Units, which may differ from the number of animals. Contact your local district to determine the correct stocking rate and carrying capacity for your operation's grazing pasture.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

CO-APPLICANT #1 INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Each farm may include (1) Co-Applicant if you wish to divide the share of payment between you and another operator on your farm. You will be asked to provide the Co-Applicant's primary information and their share of payment. The total must equal 100%. Please be aware of the following:

- ▶ The Primary Applicant must retain a portion of the payment. Please enter a share percentage less than 100%. The total between Primary Applicant and Co-Applicant must equal 100%.
- ▶ One co-applicant is allowed per FSA farm number, for a maximum of two co-applicants per application (if you are applying with two unique FSA farm numbers);
- ▶ The same co-applicant may be added to both farms.

Full Name: _____

Business or Farm Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

A unique email is required.

Mobile Landline

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Co-Applicant Share of Payment: _____%

Primary Applicant Share of Payment: _____%

Enter only whole numbers. The co-applicant and primary applicant shares must equal 100%.

If the co-applicant qualifies as a Historically Underserved Farmer or Rancher, please select the group that best describes your operation. **See Appendix I for full definitions.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> 100% Women-Run Operation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Resource Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Producer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socially Disadvantaged Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Producer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above | |

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

FARM #2 INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Please enter the location of Farm #2.

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

County

The farm must be operated in one of the below participating districts

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas County | <input type="checkbox"/> Jefferson County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland County | <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drew County | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Francis County |

Business Classification:

Indicate the business classification for Farm #2 (LLC, Limited Partnership, etc.).

To participate in the Alliance, producers are required to submit Farm Service Agency farm, field, and tract numbers. If you do not have established farm records, please register with your local FSA office before applying. *The FSA farm number must be different from Farm #1.*

Farm Service Agency Farm Number: _____

Farm Service Agency Tract Number(s): _____

Farm Service Agency Field Number(s): _____

Please choose the commodity that will be produced (select only one):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wheat | <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit/Vegetable | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Row Crop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Goats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | | |

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES - ACRES

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Crop Rotation (328) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover Crop (340) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture (381) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Management (590) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture and Hay Planting (512) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Forest Buffer (391) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation Water Management, Alternative Wetting and Drying (449) | |

Number of Acres You Plan to Enroll: _____

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES – ANIMAL UNITS

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed Grazing (528) | <input type="checkbox"/> Feed Management (592) |
|---|--|

Number of Animal Units You Plan to Enroll: _____

Please note that payment is determined by Animal Units, which may differ from the number of animals. Contact your local district to determine the correct stocking rate and carrying capacity for your operation's grazing pasture.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

CO-APPLICANT #2 INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Each farm may include (1) Co-Applicant if you wish to divide the share of payment between you and another operator on your farm. You will be asked to provide the Co-Applicant's primary information and their share of payment. The total must equal 100%. Please be aware of the following:

- ▶ The Primary Applicant must retain a portion of the payment. Please enter a share percentage less than 100%. The total between Primary Applicant and Co-Applicant must equal 100%.
- ▶ One co-applicant is allowed per FSA farm number, for a maximum of two co-applicants per application (if you are applying with two unique FSA farm numbers);
- ▶ The same co-applicant may be added to both farms.

Full Name: _____

Business or Farm Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

A unique email is required.

Mobile

Landline

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Co-Applicant Share of Payment: _____%

Primary Applicant Share of Payment: _____%

Enter only whole numbers. The co-applicant and primary applicant shares must equal 100%.

If the co-applicant qualifies as a Historically Underserved Farmer or Rancher, please select the group that best describes your operation. **See Appendix I for full definitions.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> 100% Women-Run Operation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Resource Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Producer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socially Disadvantaged Producer | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Producer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above | |

EVALUATION TOOLS

As part of this pilot, research faculty from Virginia Tech will collect self-reported data from participating farms and ranches to determine the greenhouse gas benefit of climate-smart agriculture.

All enrolled participants will self-report and self-verify the installed practice and commodity using COMET-Planner.* The Carbon Management Evaluation Tool (COMET) is an evaluation tool designed to provide the estimated greenhouse gas impacts of conservation practices, without extensive on-site sampling. Enrolled producers will be required to submit their COMET-Planner data to the Alliance through the Producer Dashboard. Find out more at www.comet-planner.com.

Virginia Tech will select up to 10% of applicants to participate in COMET-Farm. Producers who choose to report through COMET-Farm will be compensated an additional \$1,000 per year for the estimated 35 hours to collect and input historical farm data. Find out more at www.comet-farm.com.

Have you previously used COMET-Planner?

Yes No I don't know

Have you previously used COMET-Farm?

Yes No I don't know

Have you previously used Field to Market farm planning or other environmental benefit quantification tools?

Yes No I don't know

If you have used another environmental benefit tool to calculate greenhouse gas benefits of climate-smart practices, please enter it here:

Are you interested in using COMET-Farm?

You may also choose to report greenhouse gas data using COMET-Farm. Producers who participate in COMET-Farm will qualify for an additional payment of \$1,000 for the estimated 35 hours required to collect and input historical farm data.

Note that opting in to COMET-Farm does not guarantee you will be selected to participate. If you choose to use COMET-Farm, you will still be required to submit COMET-Planner data.

Yes No

**COMET-Planner does not include all practices and commodities. If your chosen practice is unavailable, the Alliance will provide an alternative reporting tool.*

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All boxes must be checked.

- I understand that enrollment is not guaranteed and is subject to funding and eligibility verification;
- I agree to comply with data reporting requirements, including submitting data through COMET-Planner;
- I consent to have control of the land for the term of the contract;
- I consent that the acres and/or animal units and the practice(s) requested are not currently enrolled in a USDA Conservation program or other program associated with the USDA's Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities sponsored grant program;
- I consent the land enrolled and the practice(s) requested will not be dually enrolled in a cost-share program;
- I will retain all practice documentation to support this certification for up to 12 months following practice adoption and will provide this documentation to the Alliance if selected for a spot check. (Up to 10% of enrolled Alliance participants will be randomly selected for spot checks).
- I consent to furnish additional information before receiving the balance of the payments (e.g. yield);
- I agree that failure to meet the terms and conditions of the application and accompanying documents may require refund of payments;
- I agree that the applicant is not a foreign person or entity;
- I consent to be contacted via email or phone regarding this application and other project related opportunities, whether or not selected for the program.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

APPLICATION SUPPORT

If you received assistance from an Alliance partner to complete this application, please list their information in this section. This could include assistance from your local soil and water conservation district, extension service, or equity partner.

Agency/Organization: _____

Representative Name: _____

PLEASE INDICATE HOW YOU HEARD ABOUT THE ALLIANCE:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alliance Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Social media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil and Water Conservation District | <input type="checkbox"/> News Article |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event or Producer Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral/Word-of-Mouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
_____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet search (e.g. Google) |

CONSENT AND SIGNATURE

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

X

Primary Applicant Signature

Please mail your application to:

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture

106A Hutcheson Hall
250 Drillfield Drive
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

Thank you for applying to the Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture!

If you have questions about your application or enrollment in the Alliance, contact us at allianceforcsa@vt.edu.

Once your application is received, an online dashboard will be created at www.allianceforcsa.org. You will receive an email with a link to create your password and activate your Producer Dashboard. Your profile will contain your application summary, as well as the required documents to upload and additional resources for participating in the Alliance.

All producers are required to submit a W9, subsidiary print, a farm map that outlines the farm, tract, and field number(s) included in this application. **The subsidiary print and farm information must be requested from your local Farm Service Agency office.** Please request these documents as soon as possible, as they are required to enroll in the Alliance. If you have physical copies of the above, please include them with this application. If you need help, please reach out to your local conservation district or your state lead for assistance.

ARKANSAS LEAD PARTNER

Megan Perkins
Conservation Program Coordinator | Arkansas Department of Agriculture
megan.m.perkins@agriculture.arkansas.gov | (501) 682-3968

USDA PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE-SMART COMMODITIES

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APPENDIX I — HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS AND RANCHERS

BEGINNING PRODUCER

An individual who has not operated a farm, ranch, for more than 10 consecutive years. To qualify, an individual must provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the operation, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the operation is located. *A legal entity or joint operation can be considered a Beginning Farmer and Rancher (BFR) if all members individually qualify.*

SMALL PRODUCER

An operation with gross cash farm income under \$250,000.

100% WOMEN-OWNED OPERATION

Operations whose principal operator—the individual most responsible for the day-to-day decisions of the farm (or ranch)—is female.

LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCER

An individual who has direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous 2 years, AND

- ▶ has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four in each of the previous 2 years, OR
- ▶ has a total household income less than 50 percent of the county median household income in each of the previous 2 years.

A legal entity or joint operation can be considered BFR if all members individually qualify. To determine if you qualify as Limited Resource Producer, USDA provides an online self-determination tool.

SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED PRODUCER

Members of a group who have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of that group without regard to their individual qualities. *We acknowledge that the term “socially disadvantaged” is not how individuals who fit the definitions below identify themselves. In this guide, it is included out of necessity as a legal term used in the Farm Bill to outline specific incentives and priorities for underserved producers within USDA programs. A legal entity or legal operation can be considered Socially Disadvantaged if at least 50 percent ownership in the business is held by Socially Disadvantaged individuals.*

Includes the following groups:

- ▶ Black or African American
- ▶ Hispanic
- ▶ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ▶ Asian
- ▶ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

VETERAN PRODUCER

A producer who:

- ▶ Served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve component thereof; was released from service under conditions other than dishonorable, **AND**
- ▶ Has not operated a farm or ranch, or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years, **OR**
- ▶ First obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Veteran Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture
Producer Application | Arkansas

APPENDIX II — ADDITIONAL PRACTICES

Note: Producers may only receive one payment per acre or animal unit; installing multiple practices on the same acre or animal unit will not increase the payment. The additional practices must occur on different acres or animal units.

Select the farm where the practices will be installed (select only one):

- Farm #1 Farm #2

Please choose the commodity that will be produced (select only one):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wheat | <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton | <input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit/Vegetable | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Row Crop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Goats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | | |
-

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES - ACRES

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Crop Rotation (328) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover Crop (340) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silvopasture (381) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Management (590) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture and Hay Planting (512) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Forest Buffer (391) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigation Water Management, Alternative Wetting and Drying (449) | |

Number of Acres You Plan to Enroll: _____

PLANNED CONSERVATION PRACTICES – ANIMAL UNITS

Select the practice you plan to implement as part of this program (NRCS practice code)

- Prescribed Grazing (528) Feed Management (592)

Number of Animal Units You Plan to Enroll: _____

Please note that payment is determined by Animal Units, which may differ from the number of animals. Contact your local district to determine the correct stocking rate and carrying capacity for your operation's grazing pasture.