



TAEP Producer Diversification Program

Fruits & Vegetables Criteria

For Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012

Program Criteria:

- This information is current as of **December 14, 2011** and is a supplement to the TAEP 2011 Application and Guidelines.
- **Producers** are eligible for the following cost share percentages for qualified expenses:
 - **Standard** - 35% cost share up to a maximum of \$10,000.
 - **Priority** - 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$15,000 for producers meeting special requirements for select items.
- The proposed activity must encompass **quality expansion** or **improvement** of the applicant's business. Eligible categories include:
 - Farm Infrastructure
 - Specialty Equipment
 - Marketing

Competitive Projects – Fruits & Vegetables:

Priority is given to projects that are focused on improving or increasing production. Marketing projects are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Priority Cost Share – Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share:

Who is eligible?

The applicant must have a viable commercial need for a packing facility for food safety purposes. Wholesale growers that have markets demanding Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) food safety plans will be given priority. The applicant must have attended one of the following workshops or mock audits from the list below prior to reimbursement deadline.

- GAP Food Safety Workshop
 - February 24, 2010 – Ethridge, TN
 - March 2, 2010 – Fayetteville, TN

- March 3, 2010 – Columbia, TN
- March 16, 2010 – Johnson Co, TN
- October 20, 2010 – Greeneville, TN
- January 28-29, 2011 – Nashville, TN – Tennessee Horticultural Expo
- February 7, 2011 – Fayetteville, TN
- May 12, 2011 – Grainger Co, TN
- October 17, 2011 – Greeneville, TN
- January 25-28, 2012 – Nashville, TN – Tennessee Horticultural Expo
- Cornell GAPs Online Produce Safety Course
- More 2012 - TBD
- GAP Mock Audit
 - May 27, 2010 – Pulaski, TN
 - June 17, 2010 – Ethridge, TN
 - July 6, 2010 – Fayetteville, TN
 - July 13, 2010 – Spring Hill, TN

What items are eligible for the 50% priority cost share?

- Produce packing facilities
 - Structure
 - Electrical
 - Plumbing
 - Packing line/washing equipment
 - Loading Dock
- Food grade materials needed for a GAP plan
 - Plastic harvest bins
 - Plastic storage bins
 - Plastic pallets
- Hand washing stations and permanent restroom facilities for workers
 - Stand alone structure or part of packing facility
 - Sinks
 - Toilets

- Plumbing
- Electrical

What items are eligible for the 35% standard cost share?

All of the items listed above (under priority cost share) are eligible for 35% if the applicant does not meet the special requirements for priority cost share.

Brochures	- overhead	Pump – irrigation, filter
Fan – greenhouse	- pivot	Retail shelter
Fertilizer equipment	- pump	Row covers
Field planter	<u>Lighting -</u>	Sign
Filter system - irrigation	- greenhouse	Sink – produce washing
Filter pump – irrigation	- parking	Soil mixer
Freezer	- pavilion/retail shelter	Spray equipment
<u>Gravel-</u>	- not for aesthetics	Sprayer
- foundation	Loading area/dock	Thermostat – greenhouse
- propagation area	Mulch machine	Trellis materials
- parking lot	Mulch layer/lifter	<u>Fruit stock</u>
<u>Greenhouse-</u>	Packing building	- apples
- hydroponic	Packing line equipment	- blackberries
- overwintering	<u>Parking area -</u>	- blueberries
- shade system	- gravel	- peaches
- structure	- pavement	- raspberries
Heater - greenhouse	- site preparation	Walk-in cooler
High tunnel/hoop house	- space markers	Water level control
<u>Irrigation -</u>	Pavilion – retail sales	Water storage tanks
- controller system	Pond liner- irrigation	Website development
- drip	system	Wood boiler
- filter system	Production line equip.	

Examples of Ineligible Items:

Building – storage	- hosting	Labor – applicant or
Chemicals	- membership	employees of applicant
Computers	Fencing	Landscaping
Containers - bottles,	Fertilizer	Land – clearing of
pots	Forklift	Livestock
Driveways	Fuel	Maintenance of existing
Drip tape	Give-a-way items	structures
Electrical service	Golf Cart	Meeting expenses
<u>Fees</u>	Insecticides	Merchandise
- domain		Motorized vehicles

Mower
Office equipment
Permits
Pesticides
Plants – *liners/plugs*
Ponds – *digging of for a water source*
Product development

Property – *purchase or debt payment*
Renovations of existing structures
Seeds – *produce, nursery, flowers, etc*
Software
Store - *general*
Tractor

Trade show expenses
Trailers – *livestock*
Used equipment
Water source creation – *ponds/wells*
Website – *annual or hosting fees*
Wells – *drilling of*

Contact:

- For more information regarding the TAEP Producer Diversification Program – contact **Jon Frady** at 615-837-5344 or Producer.Diversification@TN.gov.
- Check for updates at <http://www.TN.gov/agriculture/enhancement> or 1-800-342-8206