



## **Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association**

234 West Valley Street, Suite B  
Abingdon, VA 24210



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*"Moving the Beef Industry Forward through Management and Marketing"*

# **Program Guidelines for Pastures for Profit**

*A partnership among the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Revitalization Commission, the Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association, and Southwest Virginia Livestock Producers.*

# Pastures for Profit

The Pastures for Profit Program is a cost-share project that will allow producers to make capital improvements in new fertilizer and lime application equipment and new animal waste distribution equipment. By making these improvements, producers in tobacco dependent communities will be able to improve profits through increases in production of pounds of animal per acre.

**PARTICIPATING PRODUCERS will actively work with Virginia Cooperative Extension Agents to:**

- Determine soil fertility needs by soil testing
- Interpret soil test results
- Custom develop fertilizer and lime programs that address soil needs, conserve resources, and protect water quality.
- Assess farm needs and make recommendations for upgrades to **fertilizer and lime application equipment.**
- Assess farm needs and make recommendations for upgrades to **animal waste distribution equipment.**

## **Grant Procedures**

1. Funds will be allocated evenly to the 12 participating counties.
2. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis in each county office.
3. County applicants received for which there is not sufficient funding will be placed on a waiting list.
4. After six (6) months any funds not allocated in a given county will be re-allocated to counties with surplus applicants.
5. Applications will be reviewed by a Disbursement Oversight Committee (DOC), comprised of farmers from the participating counties, for eligibility and approval or denial.
6. After purchasing an eligible practice, participants will submit receipts to the local Extension Office. Receipts must have the date of purchase, the amount, and the name and address of the vendor and the participant.
7. Purchases made by the participant prior to notification (from the DOC) to proceed are not eligible for reimbursement.
8. All payments to producers are on a reimbursement basis and dependent on AFCA receiving funding from TRRC.
9. Participants have the right to petition the DOC for a hearing should a disagreement arise.

## **General Application Requirements**

- 1) Eligibility requirements:
  - **Applicant must be a resident and property owner in participating counties.**
  - Must have in possession a minimum of:
    - 25 breeding age females or
    - 25 stocker calves or
    - 25 breeding ewes or goats
  - Must own 25 acres of hay/pasture land.
  - Applications will only be accepted from individual farm operations
  
- 2) Information required for completed applications:
  - name, address, home telephone / cell phone number
  - a tax ID or social security number
  - FSA/USDA farm number/tract number
  - FSA aerial map of farm (photocopy)
  - A valid 5 year lease for rented properties.
  
- 3) Cost share is limited to 33% of the cost of a approved purchase. Total cost-share dollars that can be received by any participating producer is \$3,000. Producers may allocate funding on multiple practices in order to get the most benefit from funds provided.
  
- 4) A minimum purchase amount of \$1,000.00 is required to receive cost share with a reimbursement amount of \$330.00.
  
- 5) Should a producer fail to utilize funds by the reimbursement deadline, their allocation will be redistributed at the discretion of the Disbursement Oversight Committee.
  
- 6) Each individual/producer who receives cost-share shall be provided an IRS Form 1099 by the Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association (referred to as AFCA in the rest of the document).
  
- 7) Producer is required to supply an original numbered and dated receipt indicating buyer and seller information (including complete address) to be eligible for payment. In the absence of an original numbered and dated receipt, a copy of cancelled check(s) will be accepted at the discretion of the DOC.

***A statement regarding the understanding of requirements by the producer will be signed and dated by applicant. If a producer fails to meet the requirements of the agreement, they will be ineligible for any future funding opportunities.***

## Pastures for Profit

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### ELIGIBLE ITEMS:

- Fertilizer / lime application equipment
- Animal waste distribution equipment

### General Program Guidelines

- All equipment purchased through the Pasture for Profit Project will be NEW at time of purchase.
- **USED or SELF-FABRICATED EQUIPMENT IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.**
- Labor provided by the applicant, family, or employees is not eligible for reimbursement.
- \*\*\*All equipment purchased through this program shall be maintained for a minimum of 5 years and are subject to inspection for program compliance during the life-span of the practice.
- \*\*\*Maintenance of the practice is the responsibility of the applicant. Applicants who fail to meet these requirements will be notified by mail that repayment of the funds is required.

**For additional information regarding the Pastures for Profit Project, please contact your local Virginia Cooperative Extension Office:**

<b>Bland</b>	Bland County Extension Office	(276) 688-3542
<b>Buchanan</b>	Buchanan County Extension Office	(276) 935-5093
<b>Dickenson</b>	Dickenson County Extension Office	(276) 926-4605
<b>Grayson</b>	Grayson County Extension Office	(276) 773-2491
<b>Lee</b>	Lee County Extension Office	(276) 346-1522
<b>Russell</b>	Russell County Extension Office	(276) 889-8056
<b>Scott</b>	Scott County Extension Office	(276) 452-2772
<b>Smyth</b>	Smyth County Extension Office	(276) 783-5175
<b>Tazewell</b>	Tazewell County Extension Office	(276) 988-0405
<b>Washington</b>	Washington County Extension Office	(276) 676-6309
<b>Wise</b>	Wise County Extension Office	(276) 328-6194
<b>Wythe</b>	Wythe County Extension Office	(276) 223-6040