

Application for the Alachua County Small Farmer Grant

Grant Due 5 PM June 28, 2024

Name of Applicant:	Daniel Robleto, Aviva Asher, Nicoya Farm
Email:	nicoyafarm@gmail.com
Phone Number:	352-792-7178
Address of Farm/Small Producer Operation. Please include the parcel number.	2202 SE 27th St, Gainesville, FL 32641 16101-001-000
Total Funding Requested (request may not exceed \$5,000):	\$2,686
My operation's total Gross Cash Income per year is between \$1,000 and \$250,000 (<u>yes</u> / no) AND (Please select one below) Between \$1,000 and \$75,000. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Between \$75,001 and \$150,000. <input type="checkbox"/> Between \$150,001 and \$250,000. <input type="checkbox"/>	
The owner and operator of the farm has not received the Small Farmer Grant in the past two years (<u>yes</u> / <u>no</u>)	
The owner and operator of the farm/small producer operation is a black, women, indigenous, and or persons-of-color. (<u>yes</u> / no)	
The owner and operator of the farm is a first-time applicant OR has not received a Small Farmer Grant award in the past two years. (<u>yes</u> / <u>no</u>)	
If awarded the funding will only be used to purchase equipment or other capital investments that enhance the economic productivity of my operation. (<u>yes</u> / no)	

<p>Explain what equipment is needed, its cost, how it will be utilized, and economic return to your operations.</p> <p>If you have taken the Extension Office's Agricultural Entrepreneurial Series, please attach your Farm Plan. (5 bonus points)</p>	<p>We respectfully request \$2,686 toward a Berta 26" flail mower (quote attached.) This is a mower implement that attaches to the Grillo walk-behind tractor that we purchased last year with the assistance of SMAACA funds. By using a mower that is powered by the Grillo, we will be maximizing the usefulness of the walk-behind tractor, using it for two vital jobs in the field.</p> <p>A mower is used in our vegetable production system to chop up crop residue and cover crops, allowing them to be more easily incorporated into the soil. Returning all organic material to the soil is an integral part of our regenerative farming system. Up to this point, we have been using a rotary mower mounted on our 1941 Ford Tractor, which leaves residue only partly chopped up. We previously used heavier tillage equipment, such as a disc harrow, to then incorporate this rough residue. However, since acquiring the Grillo walk-behind tractor with the power harrow implement, we have eliminated the use of the disc harrow, thus greatly reducing tillage. We now till only the top two inches of soil, rather than the previous six to eight inches. This has dramatically improved our soil health, increased the benefits of our farm-made compost, greatly reduced our fuel consumption and reduced our dependence on aging equipment.</p> <p>A flail mower for our farm would help maximize the effectiveness of the power harrow by chopping crop residues into much smaller particles, depositing them right on top of the beds, which will be much easier to incorporate into the soil with the power harrow.</p> <p>The benefits of improved soil health due to reduced tillage are hard to quantify, but due to the marked improvement of our crops' health and productivity, we can confidently say it has greatly improved our farm's profitability. The mower would contribute by improving our efficiency in incorporating crop residues and preparing seed beds. In addition, use of the walk-behind tractor reduces our fuel consumption by about half compared to the Ford Tractor. This results in a large reduction in fuel consumption, which saves money, reduces our dependence on non-renewable energy and reduces our</p>
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carbon emissions. We currently spend about \$250 a year on fuel for mowing, which would be reduced to \$125 with the Berta Flail Mower.

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X I certify that I am an Alachua County resident, have an agricultural exemption, and that all information in this grant application is true and correct. I understand that any errors, misrepresentations, or omissions in this application may result in the application not being considered, points reduced, or if discovered after the award, that the grant funds may be reimbursed to Alachua County.</p>	



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Bill-To Address
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QUOTE

Ship To
Nicoya Farm Daniel Robleto 2202 SE 27th St Gainesville, FL 32641

Date	P.O. No.	Quote #	Customer Class	Terms	Sold By
6/20/2024		4212		To be determined	DRH

Qty	Item	Description	HTS Code	Total
1	WG BER SHARK...	Berta Brand 26" / 65cm Flail Mower with removable discharge baffle, for Grillo G85D/G107 w/ Integral Male Quick Coupling. (retail price \$2400) - REQUIRES GRILLO 5CM QH FEMALE IF CUSTOMER DOES NOT HAVE ONE (Setup Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WX2A_bWSK_k&feature=youtu.be) **ships Class 100**	8433.20.0040	2,280.00
1	WG BER FLAIL ...	Set of front Skids (with fasteners) for Berta flail mowers...protects lower front edges of housing from wear, and helps prevent "scalping" in rough terrain (Retail \$79)	8432.90.0005	69.00
1	6927.358 H	Debris Screen For Honda GX 340 / 390 Engines, Yamaha MX300, 360 & 400 engines (NOT MZ300 / 360) -- keeps small material discharged from mowers from clogging cooling fins on engine Retail \$85 (Maintenance Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64j78IOid1c)	8432.90.0080	79.00
	LTL RES Shipping	Shipping charges via motor freight TO END OF DRIVEWAY of residential / farm location, with lift-gate service, provided that a semi-truck can safely access the location RL-250CL100-21-43-6-11781962~2days		258.00
	No Sales Tax	We do not collect sales tax in your state.		0.00
		Sales Tax		0.00

QUOTE ON EQUIPMENT GOOD FOR 30 DAYS, QUOTE ON SHIPPING GOOD FOR 14 DAYS.	Subtotal	\$2,686.00
	Total	\$2,686.00