

Application for the Alachua County Small Farmer Grant

Grant Due 5 PM June 28, 2024

Name of Applicant:	Karen Pierce - Sweet Roots Organic Farm
Email:	grow@sweetrootsorganic.com
Phone Number:	352-451-3756
Address of Farm/Small Producer Operation. Please include the parcel number.	16919 SW 15th Ave, Newberry, FL 32669 Parcel: 04405-000-000
Total Funding Requested (request may not exceed \$5,000):	\$650
My operation's total Gross Cash Income per year is between \$1,000 and \$250,000 (yes / no) AND (Please select one below) <input checked="" type="radio"/> Between \$1,000 and \$75,000. <input type="radio"/> Between \$75,001 and \$150,000. <input type="radio"/> Between \$150,001 and \$250,000.	
The owner and operator of the farm has not received the Small Farmer Grant in the past two years (yes / no)	
The owner and operator of the farm/small producer operation is a black, women, indigenous, and or persons-of-color. (yes / 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. (yes/no)	
If awarded the funding will only be used to purchase equipment or other capital investments that enhance the economic productivity of my operation. (yes / 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>How will the grant maximize or contribute to the farm's overall business plan and grow the farms profitability or avoid costs?</p> <p>These funds will help my farm direct seed crops much more efficiently utilizing a Jang Seeder. Hand seeding crops is an enormous time strain on production - making seeding one of my farms biggest bottlenecks. I estimate that these funds will allow me to efficiently & consistently direct seed the following:</p> <p>carrots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 rows, 2" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 1500 carrot seeds - seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings - harvest goals: 12 carrots per bunch (1500/12) = 125 bunches harvested over 3 weeks = 41 bunches of carrots per week - sales: 41 bunches x \$4 per bunch = \$164 in carrot sales weekly <p>broccoli:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 rows, 18" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 100 broccoli seeds - seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings - harvest goals: 1 broccoli crown per plant (900) harvested over 5 months (20 weeks) = 45 broccoli crowns per week - sales: 45 crowns per week/2 crowns per bunch. 22 Bunches x \$5 per bunch = \$110 in broccoli sales weekly - additional harvest & sales goals: harvests of broccoli greens & side shoots <p>radish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 rows, 4" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 750 radish seeds - seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings - harvest goals: 6 radish per bunch (750/6) = 125 bunches harvested over 3 weeks = 41 bunches of radishes per week - sales: 41 bunches x \$4 per bunch = \$164 in radish sales weekly
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turnips:

- 5 rows, 4" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 750 turnip seeds
- seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings
- harvest goals: 6 turnips per bunch $(750/6) = 125$ bunches harvested over 3 weeks = 41 bunches of turnips per week
- sales: 41 bunches x \$4 per bunch = \$164 in turnip sales weekly

beets:

- 5 rows, 4" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 750 beet seeds
- seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings
- harvest goals: 6 beets per bunch $(750/6) = 125$ bunches harvested over 3 weeks = 41 bunches of beets per week
- sales: 41 bunches x \$4 per bunch = \$164 in beet sales weekly

scallions:

- 5 rows, 2" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 1500 scallions seeds
- seeding every three weeks Sept - Feb = 9 sowings
- harvest goals: 12 scallions per bunch $(1500/12) = 125$ bunches harvested over 3 weeks = 41 bunches of scallions per week
- sales: 41 bunches x \$4 per bunch = \$164 in scallion sales weekly

lettuce heads:

- 4 rows, 8" spacing in a 30"x50' bed = 300 lettuce seeds
- seeding every three weeks Sept - March = 12 sowings
- harvest goals: 1 lettuce head per plant (300) harvested over 3 weeks = 100 heads per week
- sales: 100 heads per week x \$3 per head = \$300 in lettuce head sales weekly

Using the Jang Seeder will allow me precision interplanting as well. For example, 3 rows of broccoli with two rows of carrots between (BCBCB). This helps create diversity & integrated pest management within each bed.

What are the estimated financial returns?

\$1230 in weekly sales from direct seeded crops - plus countless hours of time savings.

- \$164 in carrot sales weekly
- \$110 in broccoli sales weekly
- \$164 in radish sales weekly
- \$164 in turnip sales weekly
- \$164 in beet sales weekly
- \$164 in scallion sales weekly
- \$300 in lettuce head sales weekly

What specifically will be purchased with the grant funds

The grant funds will be used to purchase a Jang JP-1 Push Seeder and select seed rollers totaling \$650.00

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. Yes