

# Application for the Alachua County Small Farmer Grant

Grant Due 5 PM June 28, 2024

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| Name of Applicant:   | Annette Johnson   |
| Email:   | larryannette@yahoo.com                                  |
| Phone Number:  | 352-481-2370  |
| Address of Farm/Small Producer Operation. <b>Please include the parcel number.</b>   | 1128 SE CR 219A<br>Hawthorne, FL 32640<br>19129-003-000 |
| Total Funding Requested (request may not exceed \$5,000):  | \$5,000   |
| <p>My operation's total Gross Cash Income per year is between \$1,000 and \$250,000 (yes / no)     <b>YES</b></p> <p><b>AND (Please select one below)</b></p> <p><u>Between \$1,000 and \$75,000.</u></p> <p>Between \$75,001 and \$150,000.</p> <p>Between \$150,001 and \$250,000.</p> |   |
| <p>The owner and operator of the farm has not received the Small Farmer Grant in the past two years (yes / no)     <b>YES</b></p>  |   |
| <p>The owner and operator of the farm/small producer operation is a black, women, indigenous, and or persons-of-color. (yes / no)     <b>YES</b></p>   |   |
| <p>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)     <b>YES</b></p>  |   |
| <p>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)     <b>YES</b></p>   |   |

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| <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><b>Equipment Needed:</b> Metal and screws to replace the metal roof on our Butler barn. The attached quote for all materials needed to complete the job totals \$5,235.30</p> <p>Replacing the metal roof on a 40' x 60' Butler barn in Alachua County, Florida, built in 1973 is essential for several reasons specific to the local climate and agricultural operations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Climate Considerations:</b> Alachua County, Florida, experiences a humid subtropical climate with hot, humid summers and mild winters. Such conditions can accelerate the deterioration of metal roofs due to moisture, UV exposure, and occasional severe weather like hurricanes or strong thunderstorms. A roof that is over 50 years old, such as ours has corrosion, rust, and weakened spots, compromising its ability to withstand these environmental challenges.</li><li>2. <b>Protection of Valuable Assets:</b> The barn houses farm equipment (tractors, implements, air compressors, hand tools, herbicides/pesticides, mowers, chainsaws, etc.) and feed valued at over \$250,000. These assets are critical to the daily operations of the farm, including cattle and hay production. A new roof is necessary to protect these valuable assets from damage caused by rain, humidity, and potential storms. Moisture infiltration leads to equipment rust, moldy feed, and structural damage, all of which can result in significant financial losses and operational disruptions.</li><li>3. <b>Economic Impact on Farm Operations:</b> Cattle and hay production operations depend heavily on the functionality and reliability of storage facilities like barns. A new roof will ensure that the barn continues to provide a secure and dry environment for equipment storage and feed preservation. This contributes directly to maintaining operational efficiency, reducing downtime, and minimizing losses associated with damaged equipment or spoiled feed. Improved storage conditions can also enhance the quality of hay and feed, potentially increasing the market value of agricultural products.</li><li>4. <b>Long-Term Cost Efficiency:</b> While the initial cost of replacing the roof exceeds \$5,000, it represents a proactive investment to prevent larger expenses in the future. A new roof typically comes with warranties and is expected to last for decades with proper maintenance, offering long-term cost savings compared to ongoing repairs and potential replacements of damaged equipment or feed due to inadequate storage conditions.</li></ol> |
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In conclusion, replacing the metal roof on the Butler barn our is crucial for protecting valuable farm assets, ensuring the continuity of cattle and hay production operations, and optimizing long-term economic returns. The investment in a new roof not only safeguards against weather-related damage but also supports the efficiency and profitability of agricultural activities in a region prone to specific climate challenges.



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.



