



Welcome to the first Farmer Resource Newsletter from Farm Aid!

Over the past year we've met you at conferences and events, where we connected and let you know about our upcoming Farmer Resource Newsletter. The wait is over! We'll be sending this newsletter quarterly, highlighting resources, grants and other opportunities. We won't inundate your inbox and will never share your information outside of Farm Aid. Hit reply and let us know what you'd like to see in this newsletter! We'd love to hear from you.

Caitlin Arnold Stephano, Hotline Program Manager



Farm Aid's Hotline and Farmer Resource Network

Did you know that [Farm Aid's Farmer Hotline](#) has been running since 1985? You can call us at 1-800-FARM-AID, Monday through Friday, 9am-9pm ET (6am-6pm PT). One of our Hotline Team members will answer your call, listen, and find you the best resources for your situation. You

can also submit an [Online Request for Assistance](#) anytime. Our Spanish Hotline is available Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm ET, and the Spanish Online Request for Assistance can be found [here](#).

Our [Farmer Resource Network](#) is a free online database of national, regional and state resources. We have 23 different service categories to search by — from Farm Stress to Funding Opportunities to Legal Help. The Farmer Resource Network is also [fully accessible in Spanish](#).

Preparing for Drought Season

Although rain and snow occupy our view out the kitchen window presently, recent predictive models suggest another season of drought for much of the country come summer. Temperatures are expected to be above normal across most of the country, precipitation is expected to be lower than normal, especially in the West, while soil moisture indexes predict dryer than normal soil for much of the Midwest. This information comes from [drought.gov](#) which might be worth bookmarking for future reference.

The National Drought Mitigation Center has created a guide, [Strategies to Prepare for Drought](#), which not only highlights conservation practices but also helps you prioritize and invest your capital wisely.

This article from the Noble Research Institute, [Prepare for Drought with A Regenerative Ag Mindset](#), is a great starting point. Crop producers might explore no- or low-till methods, cover crops, improved irrigation systems, high tunnels, diversified enterprises, and/or shifting to less thirsty or perennial crops to name a few. National Center for Appropriate Technology's (NCAT) webinar [Dale Strickler: Creating Drought-Free Agriculture](#), dives into these strategies and more,

To learn more about drought recovery, including resources at national and state levels, please refer to our blog [Resources for Farmers and Ranchers Facing Drought](#). If you have more questions, give us a call on the Hotline.



Open Grant Opportunities/Coming Soon

The [Value Added Producer Grants](#) are currently open and the deadline is April 11, 2024 for online applications.

The [Rodale Institute BIPOC Farmer Micro-Grants](#) will open in Spring of 2024.

We often post grant and funding opportunities on [Twitter](#) and [Threads](#) — follow us to see more.

Come see us!

We've recently been at [Pasa](#) and [Marbleseed](#) — coming up, you can find us at:

[National Farmers Union Convention](#)

[National Agrability Conference](#)

[National Farm Viability Conference](#)

Stop by our table and say hello! We love talking with farmers.

Do you know a farmer friend that might like to receive these emails?

[Farmer Resource Newsletter Sign-up](#)

Check out our blog!

Interested in hearing about what's up with the 2023 Farm Bill? [Check out our new blog post.](#)

[Blog](#)

Did you know we have a podcast?

[*Against the Grain*](#) is Farm Aid's new podcast. Hear from farmers and artists, advocates and food experts, activists and policymakers – all of whom are working towards building a more just and equitable farm and food system.

[Podcast](#)



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