Southwest Florida Water Management District

Mini-FARMS Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems Program







Mini-FARMS

Mini-FARMS is a cost-share program that assists agricultural operations of 100 acres of crops or less to conserve water and protect water quality within the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District). Mini-FARMS projects implement the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)-adopted best management practices (BMPs)*.

Under the Mini-FARMS Program guidelines, the District will reimburse growers 75 percent of their project costs up to \$8,000 per project.

Mini-FARMS Program Guidelines

Growers who wish to participate in Mini-FARMS must be:

- Actively engaged in agriculture for the last two years.
- In compliance with District regulatory requirements.
- Enrolled in the applicable FDACS-approved BMP program.

In addition, growers will be required to complete an application and budget estimate of project costs. Project materials cannot be purchased prior to receiving approval from the District.

*A quick link to FDACS-adopted BMPs can be found at *WaterMatters.org/FloridaBMPs*

Southwest Florida Water Management District



Soil Moisture Metering



Weather Station



Field Soil Moisture Telemetry



Rainwater Harvesting

Mini-FARMS Program Process

- 1. Grower contacts District FARMS staff.
- 2. Grower and District FARMS staff review the proposal.
- 3. Grower completes the project budget and three-page application and maintenance agreement and submits to District FARMS staff.
- 4. District reviews the application and notifies grower of project approval.
- 5. Grower completes the project and contacts District FARMS staff.
- 6. District FARMS staff verifies the project completion and processes reimbursement.
- 7. District releases payment within 30 days.

Eligible Cost-Share Project Items

Mini-FARMS projects can include, but are not limited to:

- Soil moisture probes/tensiometers
- Weather stations with evapotranspiration measurements
- Irrigation pump station automation
- Irrigation conversions
- Irrigation pumps, controls, filtration and infrastructure
- Fertigation
- Surface water pump station and filtration

Eligible items may also include other approved water conservation projects.

Mini-FARMS projects are for agricultural operations that are enrolled in an FDACS-adopted best management practices program and located within the District.



For More Information

Southwest Florida Water Management District FARMS Program

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