



REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

FARM OF THE FUTURE

FUNDING YEAR: Fiscal Year 2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 15, 2021

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: Not Applicable

FUNDING AVAILABILITY: Approximately \$3,936,000

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 10.230

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. The Farm of the Future (Farm of the Future) is listed in the Assistance Listings (formerly CFDA) under number 10.230

Table 1: Key Dates and Deadlines

| Task Description | Deadline |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Application: | 5:00 P.M. Eastern, October 15 th , 2021 |
| Letter of Intent: | Not Required |
| Applicants Comments: | Within six months from the issuance of this notice (<i>NIFA may not consider comments received after the sixth month</i>) |

Stakeholder Input. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) seeks comments on all request for applications (RFAs) so it can deliver programs efficiently, effectively, with integrity, and with a focus on customer service. NIFA considers comments, to the extent possible when developing RFAs and uses comments to help meet the requirements of [Section 103\(c\)\(2\) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 \(7 U.S.C. 7613\(c\)\(2\)\)](#). Applicants may submit written comments to Policy@usda.gov (email is for comments only). Please use the following subject line: Response to the Farm of the Future RFA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Farm of the Future is a competitive grant program that will support research, education and extension activities that establishes an agricultural test bed and demonstration site. Farm of the Future seeks to launch this rural test bed for precision agriculture, smart automation, and data connectivity and transfer to demonstrate best practices in production agriculture and animal systems that enhance sustainability and farm profitability. The test bed will evaluate smart technologies [autonomous robotics, remote sensing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, Internet of Things, unmanned aerial systems (UAS), satellites], to provide accessible, data-driven solutions that support resilient agricultural and value-added practices. The Farm of the Future seeks to optimize climate-smart agricultural productivity, environmental health, and natural resources management.

This notice identifies the priorities for Farm of the Future projects, deadline dates, funding information, eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and application forms and associated instructions needed to apply for the Farm of the Future grant. This RFA solicits Collaborative Grants, whereas project types solicited in this RFA are Integrated Research, Education and Extension projects.

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PART I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Legislative Authority

The FY 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Section 799 (Public Law 116-260) authorized the National Institute of Food and Agriculture – Research and Education Activities, approximately \$3,936,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, for a competitive grant to an institution in the land-grant university system to establish a Farm of the Future testbed and demonstration site.

B. Purpose and Priorities

The Farm of the Future under assistance listing 10.230 will integrate advances in precision agriculture, smart automation, resilient agricultural practices, socioeconomics, and plant and animal performance. The site will develop data-driven solutions by technology integration to increase productivity, create value-added agricultural products, and enhance connectivity and resilience for thriving rural communities.

Applications are expected to address more than one of the following priorities:

- Precision management of crop and animal operations including control of pests and pathogens. Technologies could include but are not limited to use of robots, UAS, Unmanned Ground Vehicles, and sensors that can securely gather quality data in real-time to support AI-driven accessible decision support tools.
- Applicability of technology use in a broad range of agricultural enterprises such as but not limited to crops and animals, conventional or organic approaches, various farm sizes, and diverse agroecological management strategies.
- Climate-smart practices that positively impact productivity, resilience, and sustainability.
- Farm profitability and economic sustainability of food production using a ‘whole systems’ approach to address nutritional quality and security, consumer and producer acceptability, as well as social concerns such as but not limited to farm worker health and safety, workforce development, and community building.
- Scale-neutral practices that can be applied broadly, are accessible to underserved farmers and ranchers, value traditional and indigenous knowledge, and provide demonstration opportunities for hands-on learning for K-12 to college-level education programs.

The program addresses the following USDA Strategic Goals for FY 2018-2022:

Goal 2: Maximize the Ability of American Agricultural Producers to Prosper by Feeding and Clothing the World

Goal 4: Facilitate Rural Prosperity and Economic Development

Goal 5: Strengthen the Stewardship of Private Lands Through Technology and Research

Goal 7: Provide All Americans Access to a Safe, Nutritious, and Secure Food Supply

Public comments were solicited through a Virtual Stakeholder Listening Session on May 6, 2021, to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input to assist NIFA in the development of a Request for Applications. In addition, written comments were invited to be sent to the NIFA Farm of the Future team until May 31, 2021.

Table 1: Program Key Information

| Title | Description |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Program Code: | FOTF |
| Program Code Name: | Farm of the Future |
| CFDA Number | 10.230 |
| Project Type: | Integrated only |
| Grant Type: | Standard |
| Application Deadline | October 15th, 2021 |
| Grant Duration: | 36-48 Months |
| Anticipated # of Awards: | 1 |
| Maximum Award Amount: | Approximately \$3,936,000 |

PART II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funding

The anticipated amount available for Farm of the Future in FY 2022 is approximately \$3,936,000. This will be issued as a competitive award. USDA is not committed to fund any particular application and is restricted to make a single award. The [Automated Standard Application for Payments](#), operated by the Department of Treasury, Bureau of Fiscal Service, is the designated payment system for awards resulting from this RFA.

B. Application Restrictions

NIFA will evaluate applications using the criteria described in [Part V](#) of this RFA. Applications for FY2022 are limited to the following application types:

1. *New application*: New applications will be evaluated using the criteria described in [Part V](#) of this RFA and are subject to the due dates herein (see [Appendix III](#) for definition).

C. Project and Grant Types

The following describes the types of *projects* or *grants* that are eligible for funding:

1. Project Types. Applicants must propose Integrated projects only (research, extension, and education). An Integrated Project includes at least two of the three functions of the agricultural knowledge system (research, education, and extension) within a project.
2. Grant Types. Only Standard grants are applicable.

D. Ethical Conduct of Funded Projects

In accordance with sections [2, 3, and 8 of 2 CFR Part 422](#), institutions that conduct USDA-funded extramural research must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity, bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, and maintain and effectively communicate and train their staff regarding policies and procedures. In the event an application to NIFA results in an award, the Authorized Representative (AR) assures, through acceptance of the award that the institution will comply with the above requirements. Award recipients must, upon request, make available to NIFA the policies, procedures, and documentation to support the conduct of the training. See [Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research](#) for further information.

PART III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligibility Requirements

Applicants for the Farm of the Future RFA must meet all the requirements discussed in this RFA. Failure to meet the eligibility criteria by the application deadline may result in exclusion from consideration or, preclude NIFA from making an award. For those new to Federal financial assistance, NIFA's [Grants Overview](#) provides highly recommended information about grants and other resources to help understand the Federal awards process.

Eligible entities: A single competitive grant will be awarded to an institution in the land-grant university system as defined in [7 USC §3103](#). Public and private collaborations are encouraged.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

No Match Required - The Farm of the Future program has **NO** matching requirement. NIFA will not factor matching resources into the review process as an evaluation criterion.

PART IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION

A. Method of Application

Applicants must apply to this RFA electronically; no other method or response is accepted. The electronic application for this RFA and additional resources are available on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and [Grants 101](#). Table 2 provides instructions on how to obtain an electronic application. Part II § 1 of the [NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide](#) (Application Guide) contains detailed information regarding the [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) registration process.

Table 2: Steps to Obtain Application Materials

| Steps | Action |
|------------------------------|---|
| Step One: Register | New Users to Grants.gov must register early with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application (Register Here). |
| Step Two: Download Adobe | Download and Install Adobe Reader (see Adobe Software Compatibility for basic system requirements). |
| Step Three: Find Application | Using this funding opportunity number USDA-NIFA-OP-008501, search for application here: Opportunity Package . |
| Step Four: Assess Readiness | Contact an AR prior to starting an application to assess the organization’s readiness to submit an electronic application. |

Table 3: Help and Resources

| Grants.gov Support | NIFA Support |
|--|---|
| Grants.gov Online Support Telephone support: 800-518-4726 Toll-Free or 606-545-5035 Email support: support@grants.gov Self-service customer based support: Grants.gov iPortal Key Information: Customer service business Hours 24/7, except federal holidays . | Email: Policy@usda.gov Key Information: Business hours: Monday thru Friday, 7a.m. – 5p.m. ET, except federal holidays |

B. Content and Form of the Application

The [Application Guide](#) is part of the corresponding application package for this RFA. The RFA overrides the [Application Guide](#) if there is a discrepancy between the two documents. NIFA will accept subsequent submissions to an application until the application deadline. However, applicants that do not meet the application requirements, to include partial applications, risk being excluded from NIFA’s review. NIFA will assign a proposal number to all applications that meet the requirements of this RFA. Applicants must refer to the proposal number when corresponding with NIFA. **Table 4** outlines other key instructions for applicants.

Table 4: Key Application Instructions

| Instruction | References (All references are to the <u>Application Guide</u>) |
|---|--|
| Attachments must be in a portable document format (PDF) format. | Part III § 3 |
| Check the manifest of submitted files to verify attachments are in the correct format. | Part III § 6.1 |
| Conduct an administrative review of the application before submission. | Part VII |
| Follow the submission instructions. | Part IV § 1.5 |
| Provide an accurate email address, where designated, on the SF-424 R&R. | Part IV § 1.5 |
| Contact the Grants.gov helpdesk for technical support, and keep a record of the correspondence. | N/A |
| Contact NIFA if applicant does not receive correspondence from NIFA regarding an application within 30 days of the application deadline. | N/A |

SF 424 R&R Cover Sheet. See Part V § 2 and Part V § 2.17 of the [Application Guide](#) for the required certifications and assurances.

SF 424 R&R Project/Performance Site Location(s). See Part V § 3 of the [Application Guide](#).

R&R Other Project Information Form. See Part V § 4 of the [Application Guide](#).

1. Field 7. Project Summary (PS)/Abstract. The PS must show how the project goals align with the project goals of the [Farm of the Future]. See Part V § 4.7 of the [Application Guide](#) for instructions and suggested templates.
2. Field 8. Project Narrative (PN). The PN must not exceed 21 *1.5 spaced* pages of written text and up to 4 *1.5 spaced* additional pages for figures and tables (the font size for tables should be no smaller than 11 points, Times New Roman). The page limits outlined here ensure fair and equitable competition. Appendices to the PN are allowed if they are directly germane to the proposed project. Appendices should not be added to circumvent the page limit. The PN must include all the following:
 - a. Introduction;
 - b. Rational and significance;
 - c. Objectives;
 - d. Approach;
 - e. Project timeline;
 - f. Cooperation and institutional involvement;
 - g. Data management plan (DMP);
 - h. Logic model;
 - i. Summary of previous work; and

3. Field 12, Add Other Attachments. See **Part V § 4.12** of the [Application Guide](#).

R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded). See **Part V § 5** of the [Application Guide](#) for profile requirements, details about the biographical sketch, and suggested support templates.

R&R Personal Data. This information is voluntary and is not a precondition of award (see **Part V § 6** of the [Application Guide](#)).

R&R Budget. See **Part V § 7** of the [Application Guide](#).

1. Indirect costs (IDC) – See **Part IV § C** of this RFA for funding restrictions regarding indirect cost, and **Part V § 7.9** of the [Application Guide](#) for additional information
2. **Data Management Plan**. A DMP is required for this program. Applicants should clearly articulate how the project director (PD) and co-PDs plan to manage and disseminate the data generated by the project. The DMP will be considered during the merit review process (see **Part V § B** of this RFA, **Part III § 3.1** of the [Application Guide](#) and [NIFA's Data Management Plan](#)).

Supplemental Information Form. See **Part VI § 1** of the [Application Guide](#).

1. Field 2. Program to which the applicant is applying. Enter the program name Farm of the Future and the program code Farm of the Future Accurate entry is critical.
2. Field 8. Conflict of Interest List. See **Part VI § 1.8** of the [Application Guide](#).

Representations Regarding Felony Conviction and Tax Delinquent Status for Corporate Applicants. This is required for corporate applicants. See **Part VI § 2** of the [Application Guide](#) for a description of the term, “corporation.”

C. Funding Restrictions

Indirect Cost (IDC) not to exceed 30 percent of Total Federal Funds Awarded (TFFA) of the recipient. Section 1462(a) and (c) of the [National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 \(NARETPA\) codified in 7 U.S.C. 3310](#) limits IDC for the overall award to 30 percent of Total Federal Funds Awarded (TFFA) under a research, education, or extension grant. The maximum IDC rate allowed under the award is determined by calculating the amount of IDC using:

1. the sum of an institution's negotiated indirect cost rate and the indirect cost rate charged by sub-awardees, if any; or
2. 30 percent of TFFA.

The maximum allowable IDC rate under the award, including the IDC charged by the sub-awardee(s), if any, is the lesser of the two rates.

If the result of number one is the lesser of the two rates, the grant recipient is allowed to charge the negotiated IDC rate on the prime award and the sub-award(s), if any. Any sub-awards would be subject to the sub-awardee's negotiated IDC rate. The sub-awardee may charge its negotiated IDC rate on its portion of the award, provided the sum of the IDC rate charged under the award by the prime awardee and the sub-awardee(s) does not exceed 30 percent of the TFFA.

If the result of number two is the lesser of the two rates, then the maximum IDC rate allowed for the overall award, including any sub-award(s), is limited to 30 percent of the TFFA. That is, the IDC of the prime awardee plus the sum of the IDC charged by the sub-awardee(s), if any, may not exceed 30 percent of the TFFA.

In the event of an award, the prime awardee is responsible for ensuring the maximum indirect cost allowed for the award is not exceeded when combining IDC for the Federal portion (i.e., prime and sub-awardee(s)) and any applicable cost-sharing (see [7 CFR §3430.52\(b\)](#)). Amounts exceeding the maximum allowable IDC are considered unallowable. See sections [408](#) and [410](#) of [2 CFR 200](#).

Successful applicants must not use grant funds awarded under the authority of this RFA to renovate or refurbish research, education, or extension space; purchase or install fixed equipment in such space; or to plan, repair, rehabilitate, acquire, or construct buildings or facilities, except in activities related to this award.

PART V. APPLICATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

A. NIFA's Evaluation Process

NIFA evaluates each application in a two-part process. First, we screen each application to ensure that it meets the administrative requirements as set forth in this RFA. Second, a scientific peer-review process will be used to technically evaluate applications that meet the administrative requirements using a review panel (see NIFA Peer Review Process).

Scientific Peer Review Process:

NIFA selects reviewers for the review panel based upon their training and experience in relevant scientific, extension, or education fields, taking into account the following factors:

1. the level of relevant formal scientific, technical education, or extension experience of the individual, as well as the extent to which an individual is engaged in relevant research, education, or extension activities;
2. the need to include experts from various areas of specialization within relevant scientific, education, or extension fields;
3. the need to include other experts (e.g., producers, range or forest managers/operators, and consumers) who can assess relevance of the applications to targeted audiences and to program needs;
4. the need to include experts from a variety of organizational types (e.g., colleges, universities, industry, state and Federal agencies, and private profit and non-profit organizations) and geographic locations;
5. the need to maintain a balanced composition with regard to minority and female representation and an equitable age distribution; and
6. the need to include reviewers who can judge the effective usefulness of each application to producers and the general public.

After the peer review panel has completed its deliberations, the responsible program staff of NIFA will recommend that your project is either approved for support from currently available funds or declined due to insufficient funds or unfavorable review.

NIFA reserves the right to negotiate with the PD/PI and/or the submitting organization or institution regarding project revisions (e.g., reductions in the scope of work, funding level, period, or method of support) prior to recommending any project for funding.

After the review process has been completed, NIFA sends copies of reviews, not including the identity of reviewers, and a summary (if applicable) of the review panel comments to the PD.

Conflicts of interest. NIFA takes extreme care to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may influence the review or evaluation ([see NIFA Peer Review Process for Competitive Grant Applications](#)).

B. Evaluation Criteria

NIFA will use the following criteria to evaluate this RFA:

A reviewer's written evaluation entails two levels of assessment. First, the reviewer summarizes how well the application addressed each evaluation criterion. After the application has been

assessed for strengths and weaknesses of each criterion, the reviewer then evaluates the overall likelihood that the project will have significant outcomes. These written reviews are used to begin panel discussions with other reviewers serving on the peer review panel. Through these discussions, peer review panelists come to consensus on the final rating and ranking of proposals. A complete description of NIFA's peer review process can be found at the [NIFA Peer Review Process for Competitive Grant Applications page](#).

Detailed evaluation criteria for each project types, grant types, are outlined in the Evaluation Criteria. We will use the appropriate evaluation criteria to review applications submitted in response to this RFA. Please note: NIFA is accepting only Integrated applications for this funding opportunity.

The Farm of the Future Program evaluation criteria are listed below and in priority order of importance:

(1) Rationale and Significance

This criterion is used to assess the likelihood that the project will integrate precision agriculture, smart automation, resilient agricultural practices, applied socioeconomics, and improved crop varieties from advanced genomics and phenotyping. The application of these resources should lead to data-driven solutions to increase productivity, integrate technology, create value-added agricultural products, and enhance connectivity and resilience for thriving rural communities across varied landscapes and locations.

(2) Objectives and Approach

Evaluation factors include assessment of approach for blending research, education and extension expertise and other outreach and implementation approaches to address principal objectives. The extent the proposal considers the potential costs of a proposed solution and describe how it can be scaled to be sustainable in the short term and long term will be considered in developing the objectives and approach. Project feasibility and probability of success will be evaluated.

(3) Project Assessment

This criterion relates to projects performance monitoring and performance outcomes. Elements include the soundness of the proposed research, extension, and education methodology, performance monitoring, plan of operation, logic model, expected products and results, metrics/targets for expected solutions or improvements, and results dissemination plan.

(4) Institutional Capacity, Division of Labor and Management Plan

This criterion relates to the collaborating organizations capability to perform the project and to the degree to which key personnel have expertise and management plan in place to successfully carry out the proposed work. The degree to which stakeholders are involved in project development, implementation, and evaluation is also considered.

(5) Budget Justification

This criterion relates to how well the total budget supports the project and is cost effective. Elements considered include the necessity and reasonableness of costs to carry out project activities and achieve project objectives; the appropriateness of budget allocations between the

applicant and any collaborating institution(s); the adequacy of time committed to the project by key project personnel; and the degree to which the project maximizes the use of resources, optimizes research and educational value for the dollar, achieves economies of scale, and focuses expertise and activity.

C. Organizational Management Information

Applicants must submit specific management information relating to an applicant prior to an award and update the information as needed. Applicants may only need to update their information if they had previously provided the information under this or another NIFA program. NIFA provides the requisite forms during the pre-award process. Although an applicant may be eligible for award under this program, there are factors that may exclude an applicant from receiving federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual, or a determination that an applicant is not responsible).

D. Application Disposition

Applicants may withdraw application from further consideration at any time before NIFA makes a final funding decision. NIFA will retain all applications, including withdrawn applications and unfunded applications.

PART VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION

A. General

Within the limit of funds authorized, the NIFA awarding official will make grants to responsible and eligible applicants whose applications are judged most meritorious under the procedures set forth in this RFA. The date specified by the NIFA awarding official as the effective date of the grant must be no later than September 30 of the federal fiscal year in which the project is approved for support and funds are appropriated for such purpose, unless otherwise permitted by law. The project need not be initiated on the grant effective date, but as soon thereafter as practical so that project goals may be attained within the funded project period. All funds granted by NIFA under this RFA may be used only for the purpose for which they are granted in accordance with the approved application and budget, regulations, terms and conditions of the award, applicable federal cost principles, USDA assistance regulations, and [NIFA General Awards Administration Provisions, 7 CFR part 3430, subparts A through E.](#)

Award Notice. The award document will provide pertinent instructions and information as described in [2 CFR §200.211](#) (see [NIFA's Terms and Conditions](#)).

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications and the projects outlined in this RFA (some are listed here: [Federal Regulations](#)). Unless specifically noted by statute or award-specific requirements, [NIFA Policy Guide](#) applies to all NIFA awards.

PART VII. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Use of Funds and Changes in Budget

Delegation of fiscal responsibility. Unless the terms and conditions of the award state otherwise, awardees may not in whole or in part delegate or transfer to another person, institution, or organization the responsibility for use or expenditure of award funds.

Changes in Budget or Project Plans. In accordance with [2 CFR §200.308](#), awardees must request prior approval from NIFA for the following program or budget-related reasons (the awardee is subject to the terms and conditions identified in the award):

1. Change in the scope or the objective of the project or program without prior written approval (even if there is no associated budget revision requiring);
2. Change in a key person specified in the application or the federal award;
3. Disengagement from the project for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project;
4. Inclusion of costs that require prior approval in accordance with [2 CFR 200 Subpart E \(Cost Principles\)](#), or [45 CFR Part 75 Appendix IX, \(Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development under Awards and Contracts with Hospitals\)](#), or [48 CFR](#), unless waived by the federal awarding agency,
5. [48 CFR Part 31, Contract Cost Principles and Procedures](#);
6. Transfer of funds budgeted for participant support costs to other categories of expense ([2 CFR §200.456 Participant support costs](#));
7. Sub-awarding, transferring or contracting out of any work under a federal award, including fixed amount sub-awards (see [2 CFR §200.333, Fixed Amount Sub-awards](#)), unless described in the application and funded in the approved federal awards. This provision does not apply to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment, or general support services;
8. Changes in the approved cost-sharing or matching provided by the non-federal entity; and
9. The need for additional federal funds to complete the project.

B. Confidential Aspects of Applications and Awards

When an application results in an award, it becomes a part of NIFA transaction records, which are available to the public. Information that the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be confidential, privileged, or proprietary in nature will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by law. Therefore, applicants should clearly mark any information within the application they wish to have considered as confidential, privileged, or proprietary. NIFA will retain a copy of an application that does not result in an award for three years. Such an application will be released only with the consent of the applicant or to the extent required by law. An applicant may withdraw at any time prior to the final action.

C. Regulatory Information

This program is not subject to the provisions of [Executive Order 12372](#), which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials. Under the provisions of the [Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 \(44 U.S.C. Chapter 35\)](#), the collection of information requirements contained in this notice have been approved under [OMB Document No. 0524-0039](#).

APPENDIX I: AGENCY CONTACTS

Programmatic Contacts

| Name | Email | Telephone |
|---------------|--|--------------|
| Ganesh Bora | Ganesh.Bora@usda.gov | 816-489-0944 |
| Andres Cibils | Andres.Cibils@usda.gov | N/A |
| Vijay Nandula | Vijay.Nandula@usda.gov | 816-894-7229 |

For administrative questions related to

- Grants.gov, see Part IV of this RFA
- Other RFA or application questions, please email policy@usda.gov
- Awards under this RFA, please email awards@usda.gov

U.S. Postal Mailing Address:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 419205, MS 10000
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

Courier/Package Delivery Address:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
2312 East Bannister Road, MS 10000

APPENDIX II: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

| Name | Acronyms |
|--|-----------------|
| Artificial Intelligence | AI |
| Authorized Representative | AR |
| Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance | CFDA |
| Data Management Plan | DMP |
| Indirect Cost | IDC |
| National Program Leader | NPL |
| National Institute of Food and Agriculture | NIFA |
| Portable Document Format | PDF |
| Project Director | PD |
| Project Summary | PS |
| Project Narrative | PN |
| Request for Application | RFA |
| Research, Education, and Economics | REE |
| Total Federal Funds Awarded | TFFA |
| Unmanned Aerial Systems | UAS |
| United States Department of Agriculture | USDA |

APPENDIX III: DEFINITIONS

Refer to 7 CFR 3430 [Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-formula Federal Assistance Programs – General Award Administrative Provisions](#) for additional definitions.

| Terms | Definitions |
|---------------------|---|
| Matching | The process through which a grant recipient match awarded USDA funds with cash and in-kind contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The matching funds must derive from non-Federal sources. |
| New Application | An application not previously submitted to a program. |
| Renewal Application | A project application that seeks additional funding for a project beyond the period that was approved in an original or amended award. |