**Grow your F.A.R.M. *(Financial, Advertising, Resources, Management)***

AgCarolina Farm Credit is dedicated to the future of agriculture and the next generation of agricultural leaders. For generations, AgCarolina Farm Credit has served as a stable source of credit to farmers and individuals living in eastern North Carolina.

As part of AgCarolina Farm Credit’s commitment to young, beginning, and small farmers, we offer a *“Grow your Farm”* Program to support agricultural educational opportunities. Annually, new and existing young, beginning, or small farmers/agri-business owners can apply for funds to assist them in covering the cost to attend educational programs to advance their agricultural knowledge and business skills. This can include educational opportunities provided by any credible agricultural partner. *Examples include opportunities focused on financial planning, advertising or marketing development, and resources such as business planning, economic outlook forums or management classes.*

The *“Grow your Farm”* program is available to individuals that:

* Reside in the counties served by AgCarolina Farm Credit
* Are 35 years old or less in age
* Have been involved in farming/agri-business for 10 years or less, in your own operation
* Have less than $250,000 in annual gross farm, or agri-business, sales
* Demonstrate that farming/agri-business is the applicants’ part-time or full-time occupation
* Is a current member of AgCarolina Farm Credit

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| **PERSONAL INFORMATION** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Middle Initial:  |
| Address (Street, City, State, Zip): |
| Phone Number: | Email Address: |
| County of operation: | Birthdate: |

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| **FARM INFORMATION** |
| Year began farming or in an agri-business operation: |
| Annual Gross Farming/Agri-Business Related Income: |
| Which AgCarolina Farm Credit branch serves you? |
| Please list your Loan Officer’s name: |

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| **“GROW YOUR FARM” PROGRAM INFORMATION** |

Program levels are as follows:

* Beginning ,Young, or Small Farmers/Agri-Business Owners, who are AgCarolina Farm Credit customers with a total principal balance of $50,000 or more, can receive up to $1,500 in grant funding.
* Beginning, Young, or Small Farmers/Agri-Business Owners, who are AgCarolina Farm Credit customers with a total principal balance of $50,000 or less, can receive up to $500 in grant funding.

*Distributed funds cannot be used to pay operating expenses or for purchase of equipment. These funds are intended to further your agricultural knowledge and business skills to apply to your operation. Applicant must not have received funding in the previous three years to be eligible.*

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| Dollar amount requested: $ |
| How do you intend to use the funds? |
| How will the use of funds help your farm and/or ag-related business? |
| At this time, are any of your expenses being paid by another third-party source, such as a scholarship, grant or donation? Yes No |
| If yes, please elaborate on the source, dollar amount and any additional information: |

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| **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** |
| Please share anything about your farming/agri-business that would help AgCarolina Farm Credit make a funding decision (i.e., livestock or crops raised, acreage in production, future plans for the operation, etc.): |
| How did you hear about this program? |

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| Applicant’s Signature Date |