

Sustainable Agriculture Grants

With the support of the North Central SARE, Iowa State University Extension is offering three mini-grant programs for research and travel related to sustainable agriculture.

- **Professional Research Mini-Grant;**
- **Professional Travel Mini-Grant; and**
- **Student Research Mini-Grant.**

The deadline for all applications is October 1, 2005. The funds may be used during 2005 and 2006. A focus of consideration will be whether the grant will benefit otherwise underserved audiences.

The Professional Research Mini-Grant will provide \$400 to aid research in sustainable agriculture by producers, ag-educators and extension staff. Each application must include:

- Project title;
- A brief description of the project;
- Intended audience or clients;
- A schedule for the project including a completion date;
- A statement outlining the goals of the project;
- A statement of relevance of the proposed project. For example how will the project advance economic and environmental sustainability of agriculture?

At the end of the project the grant recipients must submit a report indicating whether the project:

- Accomplished the goal(s) stated in the application and if not, why not?
- Will require follow-up and if so, what? and
- Included an outreach component and if so did it reach the intended audience?

The Professional Travel Mini-Grant will provide \$300 to offset travel costs to sustainable agriculture events by producers, ag-educators and extension staff. To be eligible all proposed events must support environmental stewardship, economic and social sustainability (e.g., support for families and communities). Examples of eligible activities include travel to:

- Conferences, workshops and field days;
- Sites to provide information regarding sustainable agriculture to otherwise underserved audiences; and
- Sites to assistance producer-processor network formation.

Each application must include:

- Title and location of the event;
- A brief description of the event;
- Dates of travel; and
- A statement of relevance of the event to agricultural sustainability. For example how will the event advance economic and environmental sustainability of agriculture?

After the event, the recipient must submit a report describing:

- Knowledge gained by attending the event;
- The general make-up of the attendees;
- The strengths and weaknesses of the event; and

- Improvements that would make the event more effective.

The Student Research Mini-Grant will provide \$250 to aid sustainable agriculture research by junior and senior high school students. Each application must include:

- The goal(s) of the research;
- The manner in which the funds provided will be utilized;
- How the project relates to sustainable agriculture; and
- How the recipient will utilize the knowledge.
- Who will assist or help guide the project
- Signature of parent/guardian for approval

At the end of the project the grant recipients must submit a report indicating whether the project:

- Accomplished the goal(s) stated in the application and if not, why not?
- Requires additional research; and
- Results will be presented in other forums.

All grant recipients must be willing to serve as a resource for future sustainable agriculture events sponsored by Iowa State University. Reimbursements will be issued by Iowa State University after the recipient provides the required report and valid documentation of eligible expenditures.

All proposals should be submitted electronically to:

jdewitt@iastate.edu

Or by mail to:

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