

DATCP Announces Details for \$50 Million Wisconsin Farm Support Program: Producers must enroll between June 15—29 at <https://revenue.wi.gov>

Following extensive discussions with agricultural stakeholders, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is announcing the timeline and eligibility requirements of the Wisconsin Farm Support Program, which will provide \$50 million in direct aid payments to Wisconsin farmers who have experienced losses due to COVID-19.

Applications for this funding, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, will be accepted **starting June 15**. Individual payments will range from \$1,000-\$3,500 and will be issued after the application period **closes on June 29**. Wisconsin farmers with gross income between \$35,000 and \$5,000,000 in 2019 may be eligible to receive a payment. Farmers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible on or after June 15 to leave time for resolving any potential issues in their application.

Eligible farmers should apply online through the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR): <https://revenue.wi.gov>. The application link will be live on June 15. Farmers who cannot apply online may request assistance by calling 608-266-2772. Spanish- and Hmong-speaking farmers should call DOR at 608-266-2772 for assistance.

COVID-19 has presented a wide variety of new challenges to the agriculture industry. Since the initial onset of the pandemic, Governor Tony Evers has repeatedly committed to using funding from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for direct payments to agricultural producers. In late May, the Governor announced plans to provide \$50 million in direct aid as requested by Wisconsin agricultural groups, as well as \$15 million in support for food banks, pantries, and other food businesses that have faced hurdles in adjusting to the pandemic.

Extension offers crop update webinars throughout growing season

Agronomists, crop consultants and farmers can get timely crop updates from University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension experts by joining bi-weekly **Badger Crop**

Connect webinars beginning May 20.

Topics and speakers for the first webinar are early season weed control considerations for corn and soybeans, and GDD and emergence – assessing and evaluating corn stands. Extension weed specialist Rodrigo Werle and Joe Lauer, Extension corn specialist will present 15-20 minutes on each topic with time for questions.

Each webinar will also feature a county agent/educator with a brief update on local agronomic conditions. This new webinar series, hosted by Extension Crops and Soils educators, will be held every other Wednesday from 12:30 – 1:15 pm beginning May 20 through September. CCA credits are available for each webinar. There is no fee for these webinars, but registration is required. Please register at <https://go.wisc.edu/jn9z00>.

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