### bowls,cheeses,cottage cheese,dairy products,dining,food groups,households,housewares,ice cream,ice creams,milk,Photographs,pitchersGrant Programs and Financial Options

### for Farmers & Food Entrepreneurs

# ***Are you looking for ways to develop your***

# ***innovative agricultural business?***

Join us for a workshop designed to help you identify which grants or other financial options might be right for you. This workshop will discuss ways to plan your project and strengthen your application. Specific grant programs to be covered include:

* **USDA’s Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)** program provides planning and working capital funds to farmers and farmer-based enterprises to develop and implement value-added ventures.



* **USDA’s Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)** grant program funds research, marketing and demonstration projects.
* **USDA’s Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG)** program funds endeavors that enhance the competitiveness of Wisconsin Specialty Crops
* **Wisconsin** **DATCP’s Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin (BLBW)** grant program funds projects that increase the demand for and supply of locally produced foods in Wisconsin.

**Dates and Locations**

**Thursday, September 17th – Western WI - Hixton**

Club 95, 101 Sand Prairie Road N., Hixton, WI 54635

to register contact: Trisha Wagner at trisha.wagner@ces.uwex.edu or

Jackson County UW Extension at (715) 284-4257

**Friday, September 18th – Northern WI - Merrill**

Lincoln County Service Center Room 255, 801 N. Sales Street, Merrill, WI 54452

To register contact: Dan Marzu at daniel.marzu@ces.uwex.edu or (715) 539-1072

**Wednesday, September 23rd – Southeastern WI – West Bend**

Wellspring Conference Center Lower Level, 4382 Hickory Rd, West Bend, WI 53090

To register contact: Mary Ann Ihm at wellspring@hnet.net or (262) 675 -6755

**Wednesday, September 30th – Southwestern WI - Platteville**

UW-Platteville Markee Pioneer Student Center, University North room, University Plaza 1, Platteville, WI 53818

To register contact: Amy Seeboth at seebotha@uwplatt.edu or (608) 342-7244

**registration fee of $15 will cover the cost of lunch and materials**

If you are interested in attending but need translation assistance,

please inquire with the local registration contact at each location.

**Successfully Applying to Agricultural Grant Programs**

*2015 Workshop Agenda*

This workshop is designed to give farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs information, tools, and hands-on training to strengthen grant and loan applications. This workshop will help you create a competitive application and get the financial resources you need to fuel your business.

9:00 AM Registration

9:30 AM Welcome and Introductions

 Participants are invited to give a brief introduction to their projects

 Andrew Bernhardt, UW-Extension/SARE

10:00 AM Designing a sound project, identifying funding sources and grant-writing basics

 Margaret Krome, Michael Fields Agricultural Institute

12:00 PM Lunch

12:30 PM Lunch Program – Perspective from a grant recipient:

 “How I applied for and used a grant in my agriculture business”

1:15 PM Grant Programs Highlight Panel

* + - * WI DATCP Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin – Teresa Engel
			* USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant – Juli Spek
			* USDA Value Added Producer Grant – Mike Daniels
			* USDA SAREFarmer and Rancher Grant – Andrew Bernhardt

2:00 PM Hands-on Grant Proposal Evaluation & Development

* Review and evaluate an actual proposal in groups.

Andrew Bernhardt, UW-Extension/SARE

3:00 PM Additional Financial Options Panel

* Farm Service Agency – Farm Loans & Micro-loan Program
* Natural Resources Conservation Service – Cost Share Programs
* Farm Credit System Bank – Loan Program

3:45 PM Networking and one-on-one Q&A with presenters

4:00 PM Adjourn

**Partners:**

Michael Fields Agricultural Institute ⦁ USDA, Rural Development ⦁ USDA, SARE ⦁ UW-Cooperative Extension ⦁

WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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