



MIFFS

Michigan Food & Farming Systems

Supporting the Many Faces of Farming

JANUARY 2025

WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter



Greetings Subscriber!

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed a restful and peaceful holiday season.

Please consider making a donation to MIFFS to support food for the conference which is an essential component of the day that keeps participants nourished and energized, and is sourced from local farmers and vendors. Due to a change in the food service options at the venue, we are anticipating a significant increase in food costs for the upcoming 2025 MI Family Farms Conference.

You can become a conference sponsor [here](#), or simply make a donation [here](#) by selecting General Fund and typing "MFFC Food" in the donation note.

For access to our database of other resources please visit our [website](#) and follow our social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

With Energy, the MIFFS Team

Highlight This Month!

USDA ANNOUNCES GRANT FOR SPECIALTY CROP PRODUCERS

Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) Grant due Jan. 8, 2025

The USDA recently announced a funding opportunity for specialty crop producers, for-profit or non-profit!!

The window for applying is very short but the application is straightforward, especially for producers who are already registered with the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Read the [Fact Sheet](#). Apply [here](#).

Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) Program

What is Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops?
USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is providing \$2 billion in funding through the Marketing Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) program. Sign-up dates: Dec. 10, 2024 - Jan. 8, 2025.

MASC is designed to help specialty crop producers expand domestic markets, develop new markets, and tackle the challenges of higher input costs. Eligible specialty crops include dry beans and peas, fruits (fresh, dried, vegetables (including dry edible beans and peas), nuts, honey, maple syrup, maple taffy, maple taffy, maple syrup, Christmas trees, floriculture, honey, hops, maple sap, tea, turpentine, grass seed, and culinary and medicinal herbs and spices.

More Information
For information on eligibility and to submit an application, contact FSA at your local USDA Service Center, follow the QR code to learn more or visit fsa.usda.gov/marketing-assistance-specialty-crops.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Educational Opportunities

WEBINARS, TRAININGS & CONFERENCES

EDUCATION



Funding Opportunities

**GRANTS, LOANS &
RESOURCES**

FUNDING



Employment Opportunities

**JOBs, INTERNSHIPS &
FELLOWSHIPS**

EMPLOYMENT

Contribute recipes and sustainable food tips to the A²ZERO Community Cookbook!



The City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations is compiling a community cookbook!

Do you enjoy cooking from scratch with local, seasonal ingredients, have creative ways of using up food scraps, or have a tasty plant-based recipe you love? Contribute recipes and sustainable food tips to the A²ZERO Community Cookbook!

The A²ZERO Community Cookbook will be a free and approachable resource for climate-friendly eating in the Ann Arbor area featuring sustainable recipes and food tips, alongside stories of local leaders at the forefront of our community's sustainable food movement. Through this cookbook, we hope to celebrate Ann Arbor's diverse and vibrant local food cultures while highlighting how our food choices can contribute to a more sustainable future.

The deadline for submissions is February 1st, 2025. Learn more and submit your recipe [here](#).

Support Our Mission

Connecting beginning and historically underserved farmers to each other and resource opportunities; ensuring social justice, environmental stewardship, and profitability.

[DONATE](#)

Follow us on social media!



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