

**In This Issue:**

- [USDA Announces Grants for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#)
- [Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend February Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#)
- [Agricultural Financial, Tax and Asset Protection \(AgFTAP.org\)](#)
- [Census of Agriculture - February 6th Deadline](#)
- [USDA Offers Resources for Indiana Maple Producers](#)
- [Cover Crop Premium Discount Program Available in White River Region Counties](#)

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**USDA Announces Grants for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production**



***Apply by March 27, 2023***

USDA is making available up to \$7.5 million for grants through its Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP). The competitive grants will support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects through two categories, Planning Projects and Implementation Projects.

**Learn More:** [USDA Announces Grants for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production](#)

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## Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend February Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

*Meeting will take place Feb. 23, 3:30-6pm ET*

USDA encourages urban producers, innovative producers, and other stakeholders to virtually attend the second public meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production on Feb. 23 from 3:30-6pm ET. This Committee will discuss recommendations it intends to submit to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to remove barriers to urban and innovative producers and increase access of urban and innovative producers to USDA programs and services.



**Learn more, submit a comment, or register to attend:** [Urban Producers, Public Invited to Attend February Meeting of Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/urban-producers-public-invited-to-attend-february-meeting-of-federal-advisory-committee-for-urban-agriculture-and-innovative-production).

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## Agricultural Financial, Tax and Asset Protection (AgFTAP.org)

The [AgFTAP.org](https://www.agftap.org) portal is an electronic repository of resources for farmers, educators, and agricultural stakeholders to enhance farmer ability to understand and navigate the farm business tax and asset protection business decisions for their operations.

AgFTAP's national web portal serves as a one-stop entry point for farmers and educators to understand the AgFTAP program and gain access to the program's tools and resources.

The portal also seeks to highlight state-level contacts, connecting a national network of collaborators including program representatives from every state and territory served by USDA. Educational components of the portal include targeted engagements with tax professionals, attorneys, land-grant extension educators, community-based organizations, agricultural stakeholders, and farmers across all states and territories.

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## Census of Agriculture - February 6th Deadline



Indiana farmers now have the opportunity to be represented in the nation's only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county and territory. USDA mailed the 2022 Census of Agriculture to all known agriculture producers across the nation and Puerto Rico. Producers have the option to respond securely and conveniently online at [agcounts.usda.gov](https://agcounts.usda.gov) or by mail. The deadline for response is Feb. 6, 2023.

Responding to the Census of Agriculture is required by law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113. The same law requires NASS to keep personally-identifiable information confidential, to use the data only for statistical purposes, and only publish in

aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation. NASS will release the results of the ag census in 2024.

To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit [nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus) or call 800-727-9540. On the website, producers and other data users can access past ag census data, [partner tools](#) to help spread the word about the upcoming ag census, special study information, and more. For highlights of these and the latest information on the upcoming Census of Agriculture, follow USDA NASS on twitter [@usda\\_nass](#).

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## USDA Offers Resources for Indiana Maple Producers



***Are you a maple producer? We're here to support your operation!***

The U.S. Department of Agriculture offers technical expertise and financial assistance to help Indiana maple producers fund their operations, conserve natural resources, and recover from natural disasters.

Maple producers are encouraged to contact their local USDA Service Center to learn about resources to support their

operations both during the harvest season and throughout the year.

View the [Indiana fact sheet](#) or [watch this short video](#) to learn more about USDA resources to help fund your operation, conserve natural resources, and support recovery after natural disasters.

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## Cover Crop Premium Discount Program Available in White River Region Counties

The [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#), [The Nature Conservancy](#) and the [United States Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency](#) have joined forces to implement the Cover Crop Premium Discount Program for the third year in a row.

This program rewards farmers who plant cover crops by providing a reduced premium on their crop insurance. The discount program was designed to promote planting additional acres of cover crops that are not covered by other state or federal incentives.

Over the last year, this program has had great success with 55 farmers participating, translating to more than 15,000 acres of cover crops on Indiana farmland in the watershed.

This program will provide farmers with a unique opportunity to receive financial incentives for implementing cover crops on their operation. Farmers who plant cover crops on owned or rented acres will receive a \$5 per acre crop insurance premium discount. Farmers who planted cover crops in the fall of 2022 are eligible to apply.

Qualifying counties in the White River area include Bartholomew, Boone, Brown, Clark, Crawford, Daviess, Dearborn, Decatur, Delaware, Floyd, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Henry, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Johnson, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Orange, Randolph, Ripley, Scott, Shelby, Switzerland, Tipton and Washington.

Applications are due March 15, 2023. Learn more and apply [here](#) or visit [isda.in.gov](https://isda.in.gov).

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### **Indiana FSA State Committee**

Travis Nolcox, Gibson County - Chairman  
Amanda Berenda, Newton County  
Joe Pearson, Grant County  
Beth Tharp, Putnam County  
Emily Wilson, Decatur County

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