AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAM

Program Policy: Supporting the Sector to strengthen its capacity, improve its productivity and accelerate the commercialization of products with new and improved attributes, to increase overall competitiveness, productivity and profitability.

CAP Outcome: Increase competitiveness, productivity and profitability.
CAP Priority Area: Science, Research and Innovation

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Agriculture Research and Innovation Program will support farm-level research, innovation and adoption projects that are designed to increase the competitiveness, productivity and profitability of the Prince Edward Island agriculture industry.

Information Sharing and Knowledge Transfer
Note: All projects approved for funding through the Agriculture Research and Innovation Program must include an information sharing or knowledge transfer component.

Leasing Equipment
Note: If equipment is planned to be leased, rather than purchased, additional funding guidelines will apply. Please discuss with program administrator before submitting an application.

The Agriculture Research and Innovation Program is composed of four sub-programs:

I. The **Applied Research Sub-Program** will support the undertaking of short-term applied research that will yield economic benefits to the PEI agriculture industry. Research funded under this sub-program will provide data to develop new production methods, fill information gaps as well as to provide support to emerging commodities with high potential.

II. The **Innovative Technologies Sub-Program** will support implementation of technologies, which are leading edge, potentially high-risk and first of their kind to the province or region, including on-farm crop and livestock diversification.

III. The **Industry Research Coordination Sub-Program** will support commodity groups and industry organizations to implement activities related to the coordination of research for their sector.

IV. The **Technology and Science Adoption Sub-Program** will support the adoption and/or implementation of best practices, new technologies, and processes that will improve efficiency and profit margins. **NOTE:** Maximum contribution is $5,000 per project; maximum annual contribution is $10,000 per farm; and over the life of the CAP Framework Agreement (2018-2023), the maximum contribution is $25,000.

I. **APPLIED RESEARCH SUB-PROGRAM**

Eligible Applicants
- Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations;
- Agricultural producers;
- Agriculture industry organizations, clubs, and associations;
- Public, private and academic institutions;
- Provincial and territorial governments; and
- Small to medium-sized agri-businesses.

Eligible Activities
- Variety and/or crop research trials that can include yield evaluations, climatic suitability analysis, pest resistance, and improvements in pollination;
Crop and livestock development research that will lead to on-farm diversification;
Crop and livestock research that will support commercialization of new agri-based products;
Pest management research to quantify the extent of specific pest problems and/or evaluation control measures and reduce pesticide risk;
Crop and livestock research which has the potential to address challenges associated with climate change;
Short-to-medium term projects which address gaps in scientific knowledge and/or target new clean technology opportunities; and
Information sharing and/or knowledge transfer activities.

Eligible Expenses

Salaries;
Consulting fees;
Equipment rental;
Monitoring equipment;
Project-related travel (i.e. plot visits);
Materials and supplies;
Analytical laboratory fees; and
Administration costs.

Ineligible Expenses

Non-arms-length transactions; and
Academic institution overhead fees.

Funding

Agriculture Industry Associations
75-100% of assistance up to $60,000 for one-year projects and $80,000 for multi-year projects is available for eligible program expenses.

Agricultural Producers
50% of assistance up to $30,000 for one-year projects and $40,000 for multi-year projects is available for eligible program expenses.

Public, Academic Institutions and Agribusinesses
25% of assistance up to $30,000 for one-year projects and $40,000 for multi-year projects is available for eligible expenses.

II. INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES SUB-PROGRAM

Eligible Applicants

Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations;
Agricultural producers;
Agriculture industry organizations, clubs, and associations;
Groups of agricultural producers;
Provincial and territorial governments; and
Small to medium-sized agri-businesses.

Eligible Activities

Innovative projects which lead to on-farm diversification including crops, livestock and alternative uses for agricultural products;
Purchase and development of new equipment or other technologies which are innovative and not considered to be equipment/technology which are part of regular operations;
Adapting existing equipment or technologies in a new and innovative manner for use on Prince Edward Island;
• Demonstration and evaluation of new technologies; and
• Information sharing and/or knowledge transfer activities.

Ineligible Expenses
• Salaries and consulting fees;
• Market studies;
• Feasibility studies;
• Business plans;
• Travel;
• In-kind materials or labour; and
• Overhead and administration costs.

Funding
• 50% of assistance up to $20,000 per project is available for eligible on-farm diversification expenses; and
• 35% of assistance up to $30,000 per project is available for eligible demonstration and evaluation of innovative technologies' expenses.

III. INDUSTRY RESEARCH COORDINATION SUB-PROGRAM

Eligible Applicants
• Agriculture industry organizations, clubs, and associations; and
• Provincial and territorial governments

Eligible Activities
• Prioritization, coordination, and implementation of research at an industry level;
• Creation of commodity-specific knowledge transfer and/or online dissemination portals;
• Board governance training (i.e. board development, effective meetings); and
• Information sharing and/or knowledge transfer events and activities.

Ineligible Expenses
• Office or meeting room rental fees.

Funding
• 85% of assistance up to a maximum of $65,000 per year for up to three years is available for emerging and/or developing sectors; and
• 50% of assistance up to a maximum of $40,000 per year for up to three years is available for mature and/or established sectors.

Please note: Some projects may be eligible to apply for an extension after the third year of the original project.

IV. TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE ADOPTION SUB-PROGRAM

Eligible Applicants
• Mi’kmaw First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations;
• Agricultural producers;
• Agriculture industry organizations, clubs, and associations;
• Small to medium sized agri-processors;
• Groups of agriculture producers;
• Provincial and territorial governments; and
• Others may be considered upon request.

Eligible Activities
• Efficiency and automation assessments;
• Adoption and/or evaluation of process improvements identified as leading edge technology to reduce costs, add value, improve efficiencies, improve product quality or food safety, or increase market access;
• Installation of monitoring and sensing technology; and
• Information sharing and/or knowledge transfer activities.

Ineligible Activities
• Crop/land management and improvement activities;
• Training courses; and
• Construction of buildings or other facilities.

Ineligible Expenses
• Labour, in-kind and meal expenses;
• Non-arms-length transactions; and
• Administration and overhead costs.

Funding
• 50% of assistance up to a maximum of $5,000 is available for eligible consultancy fees for assessments;
• 35% of assistance up to a maximum of $5,000 is available for eligible process improvement expenses; and
• 70% of assistance up to a maximum of $2,500 is available for eligible sensors and monitoring tool expenses.

Note: Maximum contribution is $5,000 per project; maximum annual contribution is $10,000 per farm; and over the life of the CAP Framework Agreement (2018-2023), the maximum contribution per farm is $25,000.

CAP INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES
• Business Risk Management-type activities (e.g. activities which are covered by AgriStability, AgrinInvest, Agrilnsurance, AgriRecovery and AgriRisk);
• Purchase and/or implementation of items which are considered normal or on-going farm operating expenses, except as otherwise specified;
• Purchase of common items that can be used for multiple purposes (e.g. digital cameras, GPS, smartphones, etc.), except as otherwise specified;
• Activities which do not provide a direct benefit to the Sector (e.g. demonstration of new technologies which are unrelated to agriculture and/or agribusiness);
• Activities related to aquaponics food production, and to aquaculture, seaweed, fish and seafood production and processing;
• Tax credits or rebates; and
• Development and/or enforcement of regulations;

PUBLIC TRUST
Projects approved for funding under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership which have demonstrable links to increasing public trust may be eligible for additional project funding.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION
Projects that are assessed to demonstrate benefits and impacts to more than one Atlantic province may be eligible for funding on a regional basis.
EVALUATION AND CONTROL
A complete evaluation of this program is planned to ensure that the objectives and results are achieved and to assess the relevance of its renewal. Program metrics are collected and reported on an on-going basis.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE
CAP programs are available to all Canadians who are eligible to participate in those programs. Wherever possible, the needs of under-represented groups, including Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and persons with disabilities, were considered during program development.

HOW TO APPLY
Completed applications may be submitted to the attention of the Agriculture Research and Innovation Program Officer via regular mail or email.

E-Mail Applications:
Applications may be submitted via email at ARIP@gov.pe.ca
Please include the program name in the subject line.

Regular Mail Applications:
Applications may be submitted via regular mail at:
PEI Department of Agriculture and Land
11 Kent Street
PO Box 2000
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 7N8
(902) 368-4880 (telephone)
(902) 368-4857 (facsimile)

DEFINITIONS
Adaptive Research
A transfer of an adaptation of pre-existing research results to provide the basis for a potential market opportunity (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Adoption
The implementation of a product, process or practice by a commercial enterprise/firm (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Applied Research
An original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge. It is directed primarily towards a specific practical aim or objective (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Assessment
The process of gathering data or other information and conducting analysis (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).
Competitiveness
The ability of an enterprise to offer products and services that meet the quality standards of the desired market at prices that are competitive and provide adequate returns on the resources employed or consumed in producing them (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Demonstration
Field trials to spread awareness of new ideas, technologies, processes, etc. (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Early Adopters
A person who uses a new product or technology before it becomes widely known or used (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Feasibility Study
An analysis and evaluation of a proposed project to determine if it is technically feasible, is feasible within the estimated cost, and will be profitable (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Knowledge Transfer
The transformation of knowledge into use through synthesis, exchange, dissemination, dialogue, collaboration and brokering among researchers and research users (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Priority Areas
The six broad agriculture and agri-food priority areas set out in the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Multilateral Framework Agreement.

Productivity
A measure of the efficiency of a person, machine, factory, system, etc., in converting inputs into useful outputs. Productivity is a critical determinant of cost efficiency (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).

Technology Transfer
The process of skill transferring, knowledge, technologies, methods of manufacturing, samples of manufacturing and facilities among governments or universities and other institutions to ensure that scientific and technological developments are accessible to a wider range of users who can then further develop and exploit the technology into new products, processes, applications, materials or services (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group).