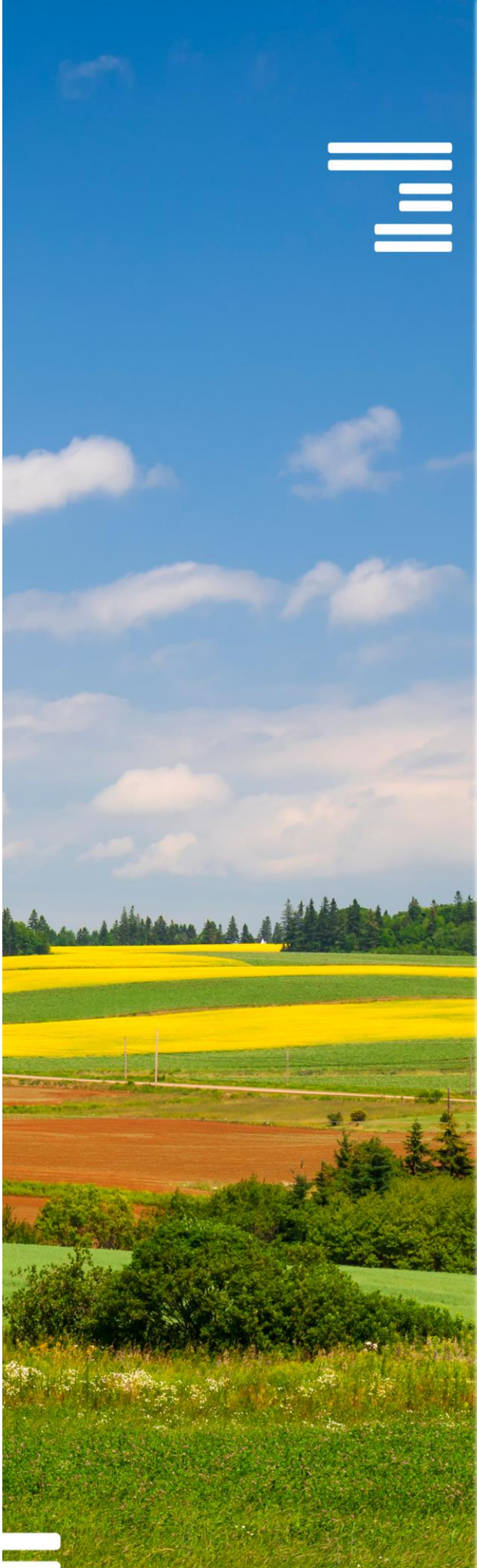




 **CANADIAN
AGRICULTURAL
PARTNERSHIP**
Innovate. Grow. Prosper.

PERENNIAL CROP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PROGRAM GUIDELINES



Agriculture
and Land



PERENNIAL CROP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Program Policy: *Supporting clean growth in the Sector and progress towards environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation which will increase overall environmental sustainability.*

CAP Outcome: Increase environmental sustainability

CAP Priority Area: Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Perennial Crop Development Program is designed increase environmental sustainability in PEI's agriculture sector. Perennial crops are often considered to have both substantial ecological and economic benefits compared to annual crop species. Perennial crops can increase carbon levels in the soil and reduce contamination of watercourses and wet lands through erosion control, water-use efficiency, and nutrient cycling efficiency. The Program will support high value perennial crop production and production systems. Emphasis will be placed on establishment of new and expanding perennial crop enterprises. Additionally, the Program will support projects focused on technologies designed to improve efficiencies, reducing costs, adding value, improving production value and increasing market access.

Note: Applications and Assessment

Applications will be assessed for a project's ability to have both ecological and economic benefits. Applicants are reminded to include detailed descriptions of the attributes and anticipated outcomes of the proposed project.

Note: Support for Site Assessment and Development

Applicants are encouraged to contact the PEI Department of Agriculture and Land for support required for site assessment and development. Please contact perennialcrop@gov.pe.ca or (902) 368-4880.

Note: Land Ownership and Leasing

The applicant must be the current owner of the land where the orchard/vineyard/perennial crop planting will be established and provide proof of ownership, or must provide evidence of a long-term lease agreement or partnership agreement with landowner.

Note: Leasing Equipment

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

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations;
- Agricultural Producers;
- Small to medium-sized agri-businesses; and
- Others may be considered upon request.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Establishment of perennial crops including but not limited to purchasing and installing plants, trellises, irrigation, weed control barriers, mulch, seed for orchard/vineyard ground cover, etc.
- Activities leading to more efficient or technologically advanced perennial crop production systems including but not limited to trellising, irrigation, weed control, etc.
- Storage systems and/or related storage technology for perennial crops

- Adoption and/or evaluation of perennial crop process improvements identified as leading edge technology to reduce costs, add value, improve efficiencies, improve product quality or increase market access.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Capital equipment purchases
- All costs associated with perennial crop establishment
- Only new perennial crops and support systems or expansions, installed in the current funding year that meet all quality requirements will be eligible.

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Expenses related to forage/fodder crops, land clearing, drainage and low bush blueberry production
- Meal expenses (including hospitality and hosting of events);
- In-kind services (including wages);
- Overhead and/or administration costs; and
- On-going business costs, including replacing perennial plants lost to disease, storm damage, winterkill (program is designed to support new perennial crop farms, and farm expansions – not maintenance)
- Expenses incurred prior to project application

CAP INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Business Risk Management-type activities (e.g. activities which are covered by AgriStability, AgriInvest, AgriInsurance, AgriRecovery and AgriRisk);
- Purchase and/or implementation of items which are considered normal or on-going operating expenses incurred by recipients, 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. costs associated with freight);
- Activities related to aquaponics food production, and to aquaculture, seaweed, fish and seafood production and processing;
- Tax credits or rebates;
- Development and/or enforcement of regulations.

FUNDING

- Up to 50% of assistance is available for eligible expenses up to a maximum of \$40,000 per project.
- In the event that the Perennial Crop Development Program receives more eligible applications than available funds, the Department reserves the right to pro-rate funding.

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.

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 Perennial Crop Development Program Officer via regular mail or email.

E-Mail Applications:

Applications may be submitted via email at perennialcrop@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

Evaluation

The systematic collection and analysis of evidence on the outcomes of policies and programs to make judgments about their relevance, performance and alternative ways to deliver programs or to achieve the same results (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group, 2017).

Forage Crops

Forage and fodder crops are crops that are cultivated primarily for animal feed.

Perennial Crop

Perennial crops are crops which are alive year-round and are harvested multiple times before dying. This includes crops such as strawberries, apples, high bush, blueberries, and grapes.

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, 2017).

Sector

The agriculture, agri-food, and agri-based products sector (CAP Finance and Performance Measurement Working Group, 2017)