

FODDER PRODUCTION SYSTEMS GRANT PROGRAM

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kera Birkeland

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses environmental improvement projects.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ expands the environmental improvement projects for which grants may be awarded.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

4-18-108, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 79

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **4-18-108** is amended to read:

4-18-108. Grants for environmental improvement projects -- Criteria for award

-- Duties of commission.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Fodder" means food for livestock.



28 (b) "Hydroponic" means a technique for growing plants without soil.

29 (2) The commission may make a grant from the Agriculture Resource Development
30 Fund, or from funds appropriated by the federal government, Legislature, or another entity, to
31 an eligible entity, as defined by the department by rule made in accordance with Title 63G,
32 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, for:

33 (a) control or eradication of noxious weeds and invasive plant species in cooperation
34 and coordination with a local weed board;

35 (b) the costs of plans or projects to improve manure management, control surface water
36 runoff, or address other environmental issues on a farm or ranch operation, including the costs
37 of preparing or implementing a nutrient management plan;

38 (c) the improvement of water quality;

39 (d) the development of watershed plans;

40 (e) hydroponic fodder production; or

41 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) a program to address other environmental issues.

42 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) (a) In awarding a grant, the commission shall consider the following criteria:

43 (i) the ability of the grantee to pay for the costs of proposed plans or projects;

44 (ii) the availability of:

45 (A) matching funds provided by the grantee or another source; or

46 (B) material, labor, or other items of value provided in lieu of money by the grantee or
47 another source; and

48 (iii) the benefits that accrue to the general public by the awarding of a grant.

49 (b) The commission may establish by rule additional criteria for the awarding of a
50 grant.

51 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) The commission shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,
52 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to implement this section.

53 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) The commission may appoint an advisory board to:

54 (a) assist with the grant process;

55 (b) make recommendations to the commission regarding grants; and

56 (c) establish policies and procedures for awarding loans or grants.