
The Other Side of the Fence by Steve Harris



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Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program – Cost Share Program

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program will be conducted again in 2018-2019 with an October 1-15 sign up period! Cost share opportunities include: cattle genetics, goats/sheep genetics, livestock equipment, livestock working facility cover (cattle, goat and sheep producers), hay storage (cattle, goat, sheep and hay producers), livestock solutions (cattle, goat, sheep and swine producers), grain storage (grain bins, portable bagging system, grain vacuum and transport auger) and producer diversification.

Producers may apply for cost share funds to purchase eligible bred beef replacement heifers through the genetics section of the Agricultural Enhancement Program. Also, if the bull you purchase through the program has genomic enhanced EPD's you can get up to \$1600 in reimbursement. Obtain a 2018 Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program Application for more details on this program. We have applications available at our UT-TSU Extension Office – Coffee County.

Producers may apply for TAEP Cost Share Funds online! Go www.tngov/taep during the application period of October 1-15 to complete your application. Instructions for completing your online application are found on page 19-20 of the application. Genetics, Livestock Equipment, Hay Storage, Livestock Feed Storage and Grain Storage cost share requests will be approved based on applicant determined priority levels. A maximum reimbursement amount per square foot has been established for hay barns. See the application for details.

We have the new applications for the 2018-2019 cost share program in our UT-TSU Extension office. The application has also distributed at agribusinesses throughout the county! The application has detailed information on these programs. Visit our office to get your application. Applications can also be obtained from the website www.TN.gov/agriculture/enhancement. Be sure to read the application carefully and follow the directions when you apply for cost share funds. Applications will be accepted October 1 thru October 15, 2018. Obtain your application, complete the online application beginning October 1 or return your paper application to our U.T. Extension-Coffee County by September 28 or mail it to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture between October 1 and October 15, the sooner the better. The deadline for applications is October 15.

Producers can call 1-800-342-8206 and follow prompts to get updates on specific cost share programs as well as direct contact information for the individual program. I would like to encourage all Coffee County cattle, dairy, sheep, goat, swine and grain producers who qualify to apply for these cost share funds this year.

Remember, you must have a current B.Q.A certification to apply for Agricultural Enhancement Cost Share Programs related to beef cattle production! Beef Quality Assurance expires after 3 years. Check your card to make sure your B.Q.A. Certification has not expired. If it has, you will need to get re-certified. If you need more information on the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program, call our UT-TSU Extension Office at 931-723-5141.