



SOUTHERN PIEDMONT

**CLIMATE-SMART
PROJECT**

led by:

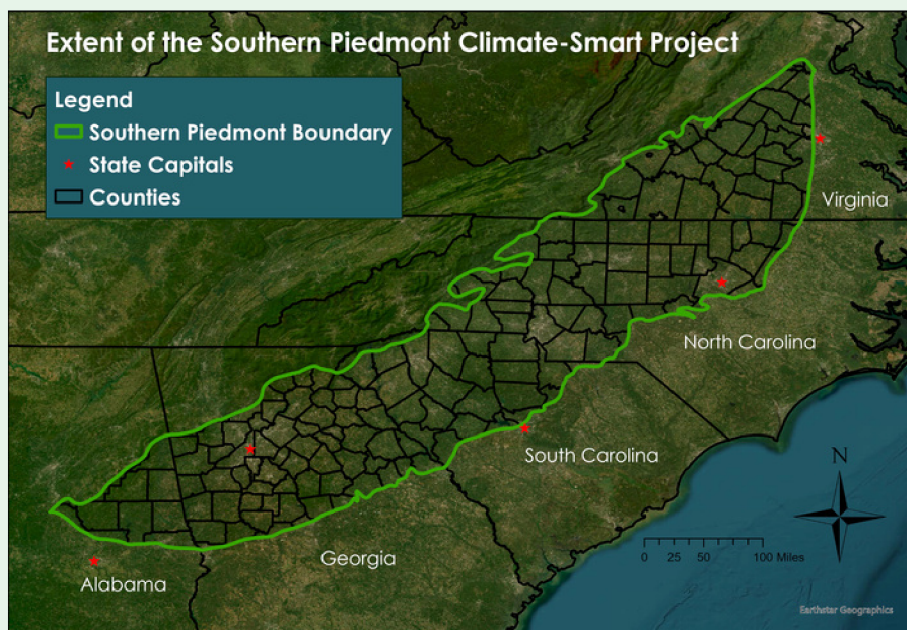


Farmer Information Sheet

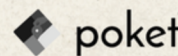
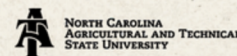
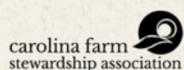
The Southern Piedmont Climate-Smart Project, led by Rodale Institute, is growing regenerative agriculture in the southeast. This \$25 million project has over \$6 million in cash and non-cash incentives for diversified vegetable farmers participating in the project and located in the Southern Piedmont. This project will focus recruitment efforts on farmers in underserved communities to provide financial benefits to those most in need.

Southern Piedmont Climate-Smart Farmer Participation Requirements:

- Diverse vegetable farmer in the southern Piedmont with or willing to get a USDA Farm Service Agency number
- Acreage may not be enrolled in other NRCS cost-share programs for cover crops, no- or reduced till
- Willing to enroll 1-10 already in production acres in the project for 4 years
- Follow project planting and cover crop termination method described below
- Utilize free technical assistance provided by the project
- Participation in related practice training
- Allow project team scheduled access to enrolled acres for data collection



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Farmers participating in the study will:

- Plant all enrolled acreage with a mix of oats, winter pea, and daikon radish in the fall and terminate 1/2 enrolled acreage with a roller crimper; on the other 1/2 of enrolled acreage mow the cover crops, incorporate and then use plastic. Both rolled and plastic acreage will grow the same suite of cash crops listed below:
 - Grow the following cash crops on both rolled acreage and again in the plastic acreage: slicer tomatoes, leeks, cabbage, and winter squash
- Input data about rolled and plastic production via phone application
- Select farms will host 2 Eddy covariance towers on their enrolled acreage
- Select farmers will participate in yearly focus groups to discuss their experiences with using these techniques

Cash Incentives

Non-Cash Incentives

- | | |
|--|--|
| • \$1500/acre/year | • Cash crop plugs/year for all enrolled acreage |
| • Up to \$1100/year for input reimbursement on enrolled acreage | • Cover crop seed/year for all enrolled acreage |
| • \$150/year to complete survey questions | • Project specific equipment to be shared: No-till drill, no-till planter, roller crimper, mulch layer |
| • \$100/year to participate in farmer focus groups | • Free technical assistance for all enrolled acreage for the length of the project |
| • \$50/year to complete Farm2Facts | • Farm2Facts subscription for the length of the project |
| • \$500 to host a Farmer Field Day at your farm | • Free attendance to annual project specific field days |
| • \$50 (20 miles or less) or \$100 (21+ miles) to assist moving project equipment to your farm as needed | • Annual soil health data collected from your farm |
| • \$500/year/tower for farms housing two Eddy Covariance Towers on their property | |

**For more information and to
find the application scan here:**



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