

# VT GRASS FARMERS ASSOCIATION 2015 MEMBER INNOVATION MINI-GRANT

Closing date: March 31, 2015 (postmarked)

The VGFA would like to encourage and support innovative practices to increase the sustainability and vitality of grass-based farming in our region. We are soliciting proposals from members interested in trying new practices to increase profitability, reduce environmental degradation, or test new techniques.



Possible ideas include but are not limited to:

- Extension of the grazing season,
- Innovative grazing practices or infrastructure,
- New forage varieties or cropping systems,
- Evaluation of new or competing products, etc.

## Project Requirements

A committee will rank proposals on the following criteria:

- Innovation - the project will bring new ideas to the VGFA community
  - General feasibility - the practices will be replicable on other farms
  - Measurable outcome - results will be assessed and interpreted
  - Accessibility & documentation- results will be presented to VGFA membership.
- Possibilities include: pasture walks, posters at the Annual VT Grazing & Livestock Conference, photos or newsletter reports

The program is also open to non-members. If you are not a current member of VGFA, please enclose an application fee of \$40 with your proposal, which includes a one year membership to the organization.

Send completed application to: VGFA, PO Box 142, Randolph Center VT 05061

## Questions?

Jenn Colby (802) 656-0858 or [jcolby@uvm.edu](mailto:jcolby@uvm.edu)  
Or Kimberly Hagen 802-656-3834 [kimberly.hagen@uvm.edu](mailto:kimberly.hagen@uvm.edu)

-----

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(What do you want to call your proposed project?)

Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
(up to \$1000 per project)

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Farm Operations: (livestock types and numbers, acres grazed, etc.)

Project Summary: (What would you like to try? Attach a diagram, map or photo, if appropriate.)

Assessment: (How will results be measured and evaluated?)

Timeline: (When, approximately, will major project activities occur? No more than 2 years duration.)

Budget: (What will the mini-grant fund? No more than ½ toward management time.)

Information sharing: (How will results be reported to the VGFA membership? How will they be documented?)