

CRAFT Program Rules Cycle IV

Eligibility Requirements for CRAFT growers

1. You must be a commercial grower located in the state of Florida.
2. The CRAFT applicant/participant must be the grower/entity listed by the county property appraiser as owner of the intended CRAFT project property or be able to provide a lease and/or letter of agreement from the grove owner allowing participation in CRAFT.
3. Grower must have grove land prepared and a certified/contracted tree delivery date for finished planting between **October 1, 2023 and June 30, 2025**.
4. Applicant must apply online through USDA data portal with receipt by CRAFT by **5:00 p.m. November 30, 2023**.
5. Grower is responsible, with assistance from the CRAFT Technical Working Group, for working out a six-year field demonstration project.
6. Grower must agree to execute a contract with terms and conditions that include a project approved by the CRAFT Board of Directors.

Eligibility of Grove Property for CRAFT Project

7. Property must be at least 20 contiguous acres improved for grove and maximum of 100 acres. Applications for Solid Set Plantings featuring Expedited Propagation Materials must be between 20 and 50 contiguous acres. For smaller growers, less than 20 acres will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All citrus production regions of Florida are eligible.
8. Project area may not be enrolled in a previous/existing CRAFT program.
9. Property must be enrolled in Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Best Management Practices (water quality) or Notice of Intent issued. (For assistance in enrollment call 850-688-6859 or state program number.)
10. Your grove must have a taxpayer parcel I.D. number(s) from the Florida county property appraiser (supply a sketch of intended project area within the tax I.D. parcel(s) where the CRAFT project will be located.)
11. Projects can include any commercially-available variety and may be placed on one of two type grove properties:
 - a) a) Solid set plantings with new trees fully planted between **October 1, 2023 and June 30, 2025**; b) Mature groves with space for reset plantings to meet at least 10% (or more) of tree count when fully planted between **October 1, 2023 and June 30, 2025**.

Design and Approval of CRAFT Project and Mandatory Production Practices

12. It is the grower's obligation to design the CRAFT project and is advisable to use the CRAFT Scientific Coordinator and/or assigned Technical Working Group, Group Leader in the area of interest submitted in the application (i.e. nutrition, rootstock/scion etc.) for assistance. The Scientific Coordinator and Group Leaders will present the project at a meeting of the Technical Working Group for recommendation to the Board of Directors.
13. Growers must be responsive to the CRAFT Scientific Coordinator and TWG Group Leader in a timely manner in order to obtain committee and Board approvals. Since the process is subject to deadlines, projects can be declined for slow and no response by growers.

Grower Data Entry Obligations

14. Quarterly, Growers are required to enter certain information on cultivation and grove inputs by subplot being used on the project. These are detailed on the contract document. All data entry will be through the USDA portal on a quarterly basis. Growers must download Survey 123 field application onto their computers, tablets, or mobile device for data entry. Assistance is available on a fee for service basis.
15. Growers must annually supply cost information on all inputs used on project grove.
16. Once grove produces fruit in commercial quantities, fruit production by subplot supported by trip tickets must be reported following protocols published by CRAFT and available online. This information will use commercial documents such as cannery and packing house reports, including fruit quality.

Access to grove property by CRAFT data partners; ownership of data and images

17. By agreeing to participate in the CRAFT program, the grower must grant reasonable access to the grove project for inspection, audit and data collection (including drone images to map and track annual growth and biomass). It is expected that all entry by CRAFT vendors will be prearranged with the grower and the grower is expected to cooperate.
18. All data and images collected from project are owned by CRAFT and are public record. Under the laws of the state of Florida such data and images will be publicly available in a data library through the USDA data management tool. CRAFT will also use the data in analysis and educational media.

Prerequisites to Receiving Payment

19. To be eligible for the initial payment, the grower must submit an executed tree contract from a certified nursery showing payment of initial deposit.
20. Subsequent payments will be made to grower at scheduled intervals in amounts as indicated in the executed grower contract. Every claim for payment must be signed and the claim form (attached to the contract) submitted.
21. Claims will not be paid unless data has been entered and quarterly reports are up to date.
22. Check will be payable to the participant of record and sent via U.S. mail.