

Climate Smart Farming Program

Cornell University's Climate Smart Farming (CSF) program is a new, voluntary initiative to help farmers in the Northeastern US with climate change adaptation and mitigation. It is based on the three pillars of climate smart agriculture, aiming to:

- Increase agricultural productivity and farming incomes sustainably
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural production through adoption of best management practices, increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy
- Increase farm resiliency to extreme weather and climate variability through adoption of best management practices for climate change adaptation.

Climate Smart Farming Opportunities:

- Identify on-farm vulnerabilities to extreme weather and variability; inventory energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on the farm; set goals and plan for adaptation and mitigation changes
- Increase on-farm adaptation through best management practices, including cropping systems, IPM, land-use planning, and water resource management
- Upgrade infrastructure, such as cooling, irrigation, drainage, and waste management systems for increased resiliency
- Improve farm energy efficiency and install renewable energy systems on the farm, which can contribute to cost savings
- Adopt best management practices to reduce GHG emissions and sequester carbon through Cornell-recommended practices (e.g. soil health, cover crops, low-till practices)
- Improve on-farm recycling, solid waste disposal, and nutrient management practices
- Utilize new climate smart agricultural decision support tools with Cornell University
- Support local food and climate smart initiatives in the surrounding community
- Inform and inspire other farmers to be leaders and innovators through peer-to-peer information exchange and recognition

The Cornell Institute for Climate Change and Agriculture (CICCA) delivers trusted, research-based climate information and decision-making tools to farmers, resource managers, and public policy makers. For more information, visit us at http://climatesmartfarming.org.

