

## Roadmap

- Who is the Nebraska Strategic Ag Coalition (NSAC)?
- The Needs/ Challenges That Brought Us Together
- Our Flagship Program A Website for Nebraska's Producers
- Progress To Date & Strategies for Stakeholder Engagement
- Tangential Developments & The Value of Collaboration
- Future Vision and Aspirations





#### NEBRASKA

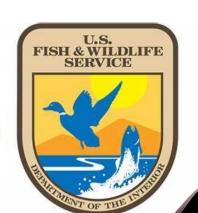
**DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES** 







Natural Resources Conservation Service













Protecting Lives • Protecting Property • Protecting the Future



JOINT VENTURE

RAINWATER

BASIN



Good Life. Great Resources.

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY** 



AGRONOMY AND HORTICULTURE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

#### Resilient Soils & Water Quality Act

Protect and Improve Soil and
Water Quality
Enhance Ag Productivity
Encourage Peer-Peer
Support On-farm Research

#### **Climate Smart**

Create A Clearinghouse For Programs

Offer Resources on Emerging Concepts

Connecting Advisors

PD Opportunities



Rainwater Basin Joint Venture

Conservation Toolbox Site
Showcase NE Conservation
Opportunities
Offer Filterable List of
Programs
Offer Educational
Resources

## A Union Of Overlapping Efforts



ABOUT THE COALITION

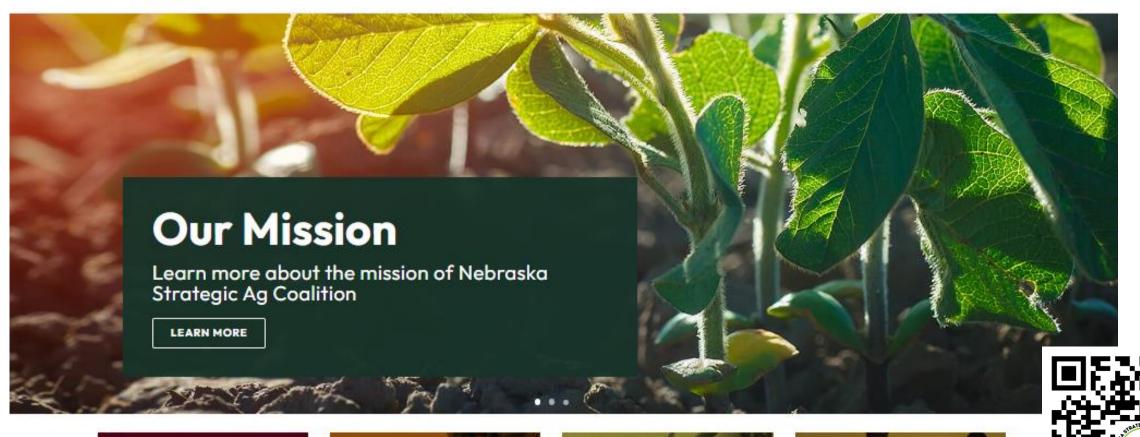
TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES** 

COST SHARE

**EVENTS** 

GRANTS



**Technical Support** 

Educational Resources

**Upcoming Events** 

**Producer Networks** 



SUBMIT WEBSITE CONTENT

ABOUT THE COALITION

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES** 

OST SHARE

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## **Program Search**

Click the buttons below to view the Program Search Database or the Nebraska Program Summary Series Videos.

PROGRAM SEARCH DATABASE

**NEBRASKA PROGRAM SUMMARY SERIES VIDEOS** 

#### Nebraska Program Summary Series Videos

#### **Nebraska Program Summary Series**

In this new video series, we will explore multiple Nebraska producer programs to learn more about incentives and cost shares.





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PROGRAM SEARCH DATABASE

**NEBRASKA PROGRAM SUMMARY SERIES VIDEOS** 

## Program Search Database Table

1. Describe your cu Select the applicable type(s)	•				
Livestock (dairy, beef, pork, poultry Row Crop (corn, soy, wheat, small g Specialty Crops (fruit, vegetables, f					
2. Practices you're interested in using.  Select which type(s) of practices you're planning to use.					
See All Available Programs  Agroforestry / Forestry Forestry Planting and Management Wildlife Habitat Planting	Grazing and Pasture Pasture And Hay Planting Prescribed Grazing In-Field Management				
Wildlife Habitat Planting Windbreaks  Edge-of-Field Management Buffer Strips Denitrifying Bioreactor	Conservation Cover Cover Crops Crop Rotation Reduced- or No-Till				
Drainage Water Management     Grassed Waterway	Manure Management  Nutrient Management  Wetlands				

## 1. Describe your current operation. Select the applicable type(s) of operation for your farm. Livestock (dairy, beef, pork, poultry, eggs) Row Crop (corn, soy, wheat, small grains) Specialty Crops (fruit, vegetables, forestry / agroforestry, perennial crops)

2. Practices you're interested in using.  Select which type(s) of practices you're planning to use.					
See All Available Programs  Agroforestry / Forestry Forestry Planting and Management Wildlife Habitat Planting Windbreaks  Edge-of-Field Management Buffer Strips Denitrifying Bioreactor	☐ Grazing and Pasture ☐ Pasture And Hay Planting ☑ Prescribed Grazing ☐ In-Field Management ☐ Conservation Cover ☐ Cover Crops ☐ Crop Rotation ☐ Reduced- or No-Till				
Drainage Water Management Grassed Waterway	Irrigation  Manure Management  Nutrient Management  Wetlands				

PROGRAM NAME	OVERVIEW	PRACTICE(S)	
A Greener World	This project will expand markets for commodities produced using Climate-Smart regenerative practices, with a focus on increasing accessibility to regenerative farming practices and markets for small and/or underserved producers	Access Control, Agroforestry / Forestry, Alley Cropping, Buffer Strips, Conservation Cover, Conservation Crop Rotation, Contour Buffer Strips, Cover Crops, Critical Area Planting, Crop Rotation, Edge-of-Field Management, Field Borders, Filter Strips, Forest Stand Improvement, Forestry Planting and Management, Grassed Waterway, Grazing and Pasture, Hedgerow Planting, Herbaceous Wind Barriers, In-Field Management, Irrigation Water Management, Nutrient Management, Pasture And Hay Planting, Pollinator Habitat, Prescribed Grazing, Range Planting, Reduced- or No-Till, Riparian Forest Buffer, Riparian Herbaceous Cover, Silvopasture, Tree/Shrub Establishment, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Vegetative Barriers, Wetland Restoration,	Learn More
ADM re:generations	ADM's Re:generations programs provide payment for farmers currently using or adopting regenerative agricultural practices.	Cover Crops, In-Field Management, Living Roots Year-Round, Nutrient Management, Reduced- or No-Till	Learn More
	Agoro Carbon is a company helping to make the carbon	Cover Crops, Grazing and Pasture, In-Field Management, Increased Biodiversity, Nutrient	

#### Soil Program Details



#### **lowa Soybean Association**

The Program will develop and expand markets for climate-smart commodities and their resulting environmental benefits: 1) the market for CO2e insets associated with the production of commodities used in key food and fuel supply chains; 2) the market for water quality improvements generated by the introduction of climate smart practices; 3) the market for verified climate-smart corn, soy, sugar beet and wheat commodities; 4) the market for biofuel inputs using commodities produced with climate-smart practices

Visit Website

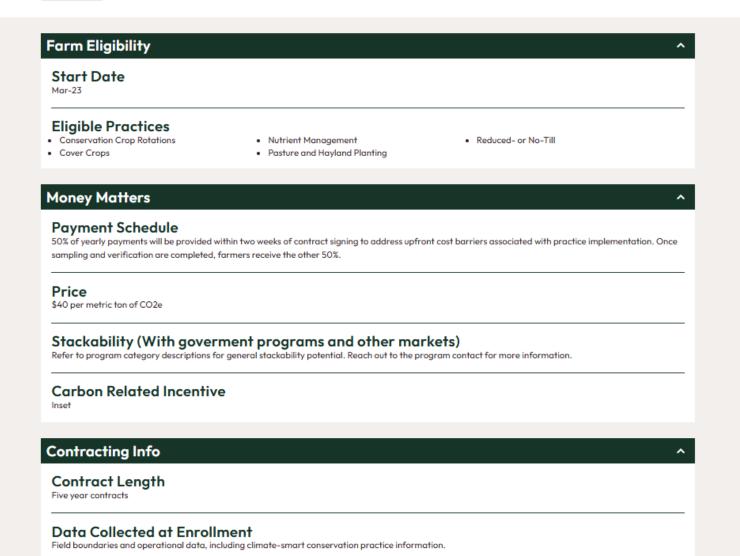




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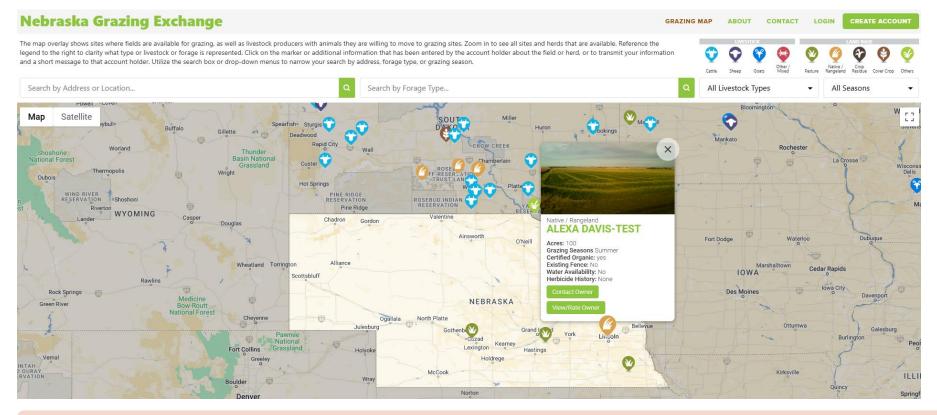






## Submit Program Content!

## Nebraska Grazing Exchange







Connecting livestock producers and those with available cropland or forage to graze by utilizing a FREE interactive map!



Integrating livestock onto cropland and proper grassland management are key steps in increasing overall soil health and productivity.

Phase One			Phase Two				
February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Invite content submissions education res producer net	(cost-share, sources,	Host pilot sessions (producers)	Invite submissions for summer calendar events	NeDNR Field Days  (minimum of 6 statewide)  • Showcase practices  • Peer-peer opportunities  • Website engagement		Host interactive booth at Husker Harvest Days	
Finalize content submission platform	Optimize submission process	Fine tune look & feel of website	Launch events calendar	s and producer feedback			
	Optimize filtering tool		Build out technical support directory with intent to launch prior to Husker Harvest Days				

= Stakeholder Outreach = Web Development

## The Value NSAC Brings

Coalition
Development &
Interaction

Increased collaboration across agencies/orgs

Heightened visibility for industry, NRDs, state & federal initiatives Infrastructure to funnel program information to intended audiences

of producers interacting w/ voluntary programs

#### **Website Development**

- Allowing producers to easily compare options
- Digital library for agronomy and conservation staff

A clearer picture of statewide program reach & involvement

#### 2024 NRCS Soil Health & Sustainability Training for Field Staff







#### **Producer Networks**

### Are you looking for ways to get involved in your community or meet other peers?

Check out the organizations below to learn more or get involved!



#### Nebraska Grazing Exchange

The Nebraska Strategic Ag Coalition group has funded an online interface that connects land owners who do not have grazing animals to livestock owners who can provide grazing management services. To create a free account, click here! Create a pin by entering your information about either your animals or your land.

Finally, make a match and connect with others in your area!

If you have questions, please contact Alexa Davis: alexa.davis@nebraska.gov | 402.471.3948



#### Testing AG Performance Solutions (TAPS)

Get involved in TAPS!

The University of Nebraska Testing Ag Performance Solutions (UNL-TAPS) is a unique program by the University of Nebraska, combining real-life farm management competitions with interactive learning. It involves UNL experts, farmers, industry leaders, students, and government personnel in a network to improve profitability and efficiency in agriculture. Participants experiment with strategies and technologies in a low-risk setting and gain access to valuable data. Supported by various entities, including the University of Nebraska extension and industry leaders, UNL-TAPS fosters collaboration and innovation in agriculture.



**Master Irrigator Program** 

# Vision for the Website/ Aspirations for NSAC

#### For the Website

- Bringing All of Ag to the Table
- Finding a Long-term Steward
- Website Advisory
- Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach

#### For NSAC

- Capacity Building
- Space for Cross Collaboration

#### Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act

LB1368 2024

#### **LEGISLATIVE BILL 1368**

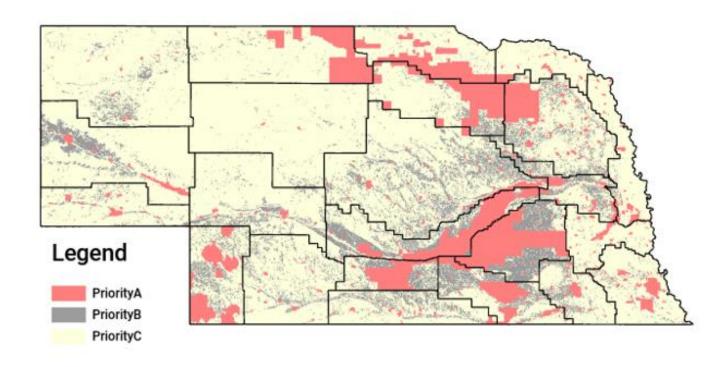
Approved by the Governor April 16, 2024

Introduced by Ibach, 44; Bostar, 29; Conrad, 46; Dorn, 30; Halloran, 33; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Meyer, 41; Murman, 38; Sanders, 45; Holdcroft, 36; Hardin, 48.

- A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to natural resources; to amend section 46-296, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 61-218, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; to adopt the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act; to repeal certain administrative fees relating to the Department of Natural Resources; to provide for a transfer from the Water Resources Cash Fund; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal section 33-105, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.
- Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
- Section 1. <u>Sections 1 to 7 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act.</u>
  - Sec. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:
  - Agriculture is Nebraska's number one industry;
  - (2) Water is Nebraska's most precious natural resource;
- (3) Nebraska farmers are leading the charge on sustainable agriculture initiatives that will make Nebraska a world-renowned leader and ensure protection of the land and water of Nebraska for generations to come; and
- (4) The Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act encourages farmers to adopt efficient and sustainable practices to help Nebraska protect these natural resources and positions Nebraska farmers to compete.
- Sec. 3. For purposes of the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act, commercial fertilizer has the same meaning as in section 81-2,162.02.
- Sec. 4. (1) The nitrogen reduction incentive program is created and shall be administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The department may collaborate with natural resources districts to administer the program.
  - (2) The purposes of the program are to:
  - (a) Provide incentive payments to farmers; and
- (b) Encourage farmers to (i) reduce the use of commercial fertilizer and (ii) incorporate innovative technology into farming practices, including the proper use of biological nitrogen products.
- (3) The program shall provide an annual per-acre incentive for any farmer who verifies through documentation that commercial fertilizer rates were reduced by the lesser of forty pounds per acre for nitrogen or fifteen percent by incorporating a qualifying product in the farmer's nutrient plans.
- (4) A commercial fertilizer rate reduction from historic baseline use shall be completed to qualify for the program.
- (5) The department shall review the required commercial fertilizer rate of reduction for the program on a biennial basis to determine if higher reduction targets are necessary.

## Initial Interest

Over 1,300 applications totaling a little less then to \$2 million



## Thank You For Listening

Questions?



**Soil & Water Conservation Coordinator** 

**NE Department of Natural Resources** 

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