



Fund Your Orchard Stewardship Activities with Blue Diamond's USDA Climate-Smart Grant (CSG)

In 2023, Blue Diamond was awarded a grant from the USDA for \$45 million over the course of 5 years to support growers implementing climate-smart farming activities. This voluntary program allows Blue Diamond member growers or those who farm on a Blue Diamond orchard to be eligible to receive an incentive payment and no cost plants/seeds when implementing one or more of the following activities after program launch **May 1–June 30**:

ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

Cover Crops



Conservation Cover, "Bee Pasture"



Hedgerows



MATERIAL COSTS

No cost, seeds provided by Project *Apis m.*

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No cost, plants provided by Pollinator Partnership

IMPLEMENTATION INCENTIVE *

Up to \$35/acre *

Up to \$50/acre *

Up to \$8/linear foot *

IMPLEMENTATION INCENTIVE EXAMPLES

Cover crops planted on at least every other row of a 100-acre orchard: ≤ \$3,500

Conservation cover planted on 4% of 100 acres (primarily on idle or fallow land outside of orchards): ≤ \$200

Hedgerows planted around an orchard in a 300 foot row: ≤ \$2,400

What is required?

1. Participation in Blue Diamond's Orchard Stewardship Incentive Program (OSIP) for the 2023 crop year bluediamondgrowers.com/forms/
2. Registration of your farm and orchards with the USDA Farm Service Agency offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ca&agency=fsa
3. A completed application, all requested materials, and approval from Blue Diamond (**note**: you will be notified when we receive your application and when review is complete)
4. Proof of implementation to show you have completed the activity
5. Adherence to all practice program requirements and rules (see link to guide on the right)

Where do I learn more and how do I sign up?

- More information can be found on the Blue Diamond Growers webpage under *Grower Resources* > USDA Climate-Smart Grant, or bluediamondgrowers.com/usda-climate-smart-grant
- The application link is located at bit.ly/bdg-csg
- Email jbains@bdgrowsers.com or contact your Regional Manager with additional questions. bluediamondgrowers.com/meet-your-partners/