

Tedesco Farm Application

The Tedesco farm is a 13-acre farm located near Granger, Iowa. In 2016, Angela Tedesco gifted these acres to Practical Farmers of Iowa. We are seeking a new tenant for the 2024 growing season, with potential for a longer-term lease in 2025.

- 11 acres of land for production
- Well water
- Barn to store large equipment
- Market stand shed
- Heated soft-sided greenhouse
- Working cooler
- Zoned for agriculture
- Annual rent of \$5,400

What we're looking for:

- Is a member of PFI – but we'll give preference to beginning and historically underserved farmers
- Has previous farming experience
- Can express clear goals and visions for their business, has a plan to achieve those goals and can show evidence they can carry out that vision
- Has the entrepreneurial ability to create budget and cashflow their business

Things to consider:

- Organizations and those involved with collaborative farming models are welcome to apply, with one person serving as the applicant, point of contact and responsible party.
- The lease includes agricultural practice guidelines. This includes only limited use of synthetic chemicals. The farm is zoned for agriculture and has been certified organic for the past 20-plus years. It was not certified in 2023, but will be eligible for organic certification in 2024. Applicants must be prepared to maintain the entire farm, practicing sound conservation and minimizing weeds. The complete list of agricultural practice guidelines can be found on the application page on PFI's website or at our office in Ames, Iowa.
- A tenant must carry at least 1 million dollars in farm liability insurance. This type of policy typically costs less than \$500 a year.
- The tenant will assume all responsibility for maintenance and repair of the equipment.
- Multiyear leases and perennial plantings will be considered after a successful initial growing season.

An Excerpt From Angela Tedesco's Farm Legacy Letter:

"The number one goal for my farmland is to keep the farm as a farm for someone to continue using it in a sustainable manner, preferably organic. The farm is on the edge of the town of Granger and selling it to anyone without those goals would very likely mean it would become a housing development. The farm went from being a conventional one to an organic one that is a diverse reservoir of wildlife, insects and soil life that took years to develop. How the land is used could certainly vary from the use of the farm by one family, to joint ownership by several or numerous families, to use as an educational "opportunity" by a nonprofit. Depending upon its use, it could also serve as a model of urban agriculture, showing ways that land can be preserved even with development."

Read Angela's full farm legacy letter at
practicalfarmers.org/keep-the-farm-as-a-farm-the-legacy-of-angela-tedesco

The Application Process

- Applications open July 25
- Applications due Sept. 15
- Selection will be made by November

Written or video responses will be accepted. Video submissions must be limited to 10 minutes. If you would like assistance providing written responses, PFI's farmland access navigators are available to help. Contact Martha for English, martha.mcfarland@practicalfarmers.org, or Valeria for Spanish, valeria.cano.camacho@practicalfarmers.org, or call us at (515) 232-5661. Written applications should be submitted to the PFI office: **1615 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 101 Ames IA 50010.**

A round of interviews will follow the initial application. A committee of PFI members with diverse experiences in farming and farmland access will select which candidates move to the interview round. This committee will sit in on interviews and select the next tenant for this parcel of land.

A business plan is not required but may be attached to this application.

Applications will be printed off, only use the space provided.

Application

Name of Applicant: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Landline: _____

Email: _____

Are you a member of PFI?

Yes No

Land Management Experience

1. How long have you been farming?
2. How many acres do you currently farm? How many acres do you want to farm?
3. Describe your current and previous farming experience.
 - What type of crops are you growing?
 - What kinds of production practices do you use?
 - What equipment do you use?
4. If you won't be farming all 11 acres next season, what is your plan to manage the non-producing acres?

Your Vision for This Land

5. What's your long-term vision for this land? Please include the people who will be involved and what kinds of conservation or organic practices you would incorporate.

- What will you grow?
- Who will your market be?
- What will the size of the operation be?

6. Describe your plans for the farm next year and your plan to reach your long-term vision.

Business Plan

7. Who will be buying your product? How did you decide where to sell it?

8. Do you want to grow this business over time? If so, what changes will you make and how will you finance changes or expansion? If not, how will your current business model and size work at the Tedesco farm?

Why is the Tedesco land a good fit for you?

Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

Practical Farmers of Iowa Support & Experience

Are you enrolled in or graduated from the following PFI programs:

Savings Incentive Program Yes No

Labor4Learning Yes No

Business Coaching Yes No

Farmland Access

Will you inherit or have the opportunity to purchase farmland from a family member?

Yes No

Demographic Information of Applicant and Additional Members

This information is not required, but preference points will be given to historically underserved farmers. Please attach additional information to the application if needed.

Applicant Name		Farm Partner #2		Farm Partner #3	
Race/Ethnicity		Race/Ethnicity		Race/Ethnicity	
Gender		Gender		Gender	
Sexual Orientation		Sexual Orientation		Sexual Orientation	

Please list your references here

Reference 3

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Reference 2

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Reference 3

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____