



YOLO-SOLANO AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT LOW-DUST HARVESTER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Program Overview

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD) is home to a diverse agricultural community with more than 74,000 acres of almond and walnut orchards. During harvest, highly visible and concentrated particulate emissions impact neighboring communities, including migrant camps and low-income communities, nearby roads and highways. New equipment has been developed that reduces dust from harvest activities, however like other equipment, harvesting equipment is frequently in service for twenty or more years due to the seasonal nature of use, lower cost of maintenance and cost of accelerated turnover of equipment.

This program offers grant funding for the purchase of new low-dust harvesters that can effectively reduce particulate emissions. It builds upon successful grant programs, such as FARMER, and used the San Joaquin Valley AQMD's program as a model for this pilot program.

Eligibility

Applicants must replace existing equipment with low dust harvesting equipment achieving at least 40% reduction in particulate matter emissions as demonstrated by peer-reviewed information. A list of eligible equipment is attached for reference.

A maximum of two (2) applications can be submitted per person, company, or operation. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.

Applicants must operate eligible equipment within the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's portion of the Sacramento Federal Nonattainment Area.

Existing Equipment

Existing equipment must be a pull behind or self-propelled off-road agricultural nut harvester that is not a low dust verified model. If the old nut harvester is self-propelled, it must have a compression-ignition (CI) engine greater than or equal to 25 horsepower. Equipment must have been owned and operated by the applicant for the previous two (2) years and be in operable condition at the time of application submission. The existing equipment must be destroyed or rendered permanently inoperable after the new equipment is placed into operation and confirmed by the District through an inspection.

New Equipment

- If the new low dust nut harvester is self-propelled it must have an engine meeting the most recent Model Year California emission standard.
 - The certification emission standard and/or Tier designation for the engine must be determined from the Executive Order or United States Environmental Protection Agency Certificate of Conformity (for federally preempted engines) issued for that engine. ARB Executive Orders for off-road engines may be found at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/cert/cert.php>
- The new pull behind or the self-propelled low dust harvester must not have been previously owned and be indicated as new by the dealer at the time of purchase. Used equipment is not eligible for funding as replacement equipment.

- Self-propelled equipment must have less than 250 hours on the engine at the time of sale.
- Serve the same function and perform the same work equivalent to the old equipment (i.e. replacement of a PTO nut harvester with another PTO low dust nut harvester).
- Have only the minimum attachments normally sold with the original equipment as determined by YSAQMD staff. Only eligible items will be considered for funding.
 - Implements or attachments on the new replacement equipment may be eligible for funding if the existing equipment was also similarly equipped, and the replacement equipment requires such implements or attachments to perform the same activities as the existing equipment.
- If self-propelled have an operating hour meter to record annual usage in hours.

Equipment/Engines Ineligible for funding:

- Equipment currently receiving funding to be replaced under any other local, state or federal programs including the NRCS EQIP Program.
- New replacement equipment engines that are compression ignition (CI) or diesel engines that:
 - Are participating in the averaging, banking, and trading program that are certified to family emission limits higher than the applicable emission standards, as designated on the ARB Executive Order.
 - Are participating in the “Tier 4 Early Introduction Incentive for Engine Manufacturers” program. The ARB executive order for these engines reference that the engines are certified under this citation.
- Warranty, setup, document preparation fees, and freight costs.
- Maintenance or repair costs. The participant is solely responsible for ensuring that the equipment is in operational condition throughout the agreement period.

Application

- Complete the application form, do not leave any fields blank. All fields are required unless otherwise indicated. Write in “N/A” if it does not apply to you.
- Provide copies of all required attachments.

Review and Selection

- Applications that are received will be reviewed in compliance with the District’s Carl Moyer Program Policies and Procedures.
- Project selection will be drawn at random from the eligible applications received.

Project Management and Monitoring

- Projects will be managed pursuant to the District’s FARMER Program Policies and Procedures.
- No work (including orders) shall take place prior to the contract execution.
- Annual Reports will be due each year through the term of the agreement.

Funding

Maximum funding of approximately 60% up to \$161,000 per unit for self-propelled or \$49,000 for pull-behind units.