

**2022 NOMINATION FORM**  
**TENNESSEE SMALL FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

*All information reported and received is confidential. The award committee may ask to verify income if necessary. Please check the appropriate nomination categories:*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>ALTERNATIVE ENTERPRISES</b>              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>INNOVATIVE MARKETING</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MOST IMPROVED BEGINNING SMALL FARMER</b> |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres in farming operation: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Rented: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Farming Enterprise: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Produce: \_\_\_\_\_

County where farm is located: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the program supporters/agencies that have worked with the nominee:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| TSU/UT Extension Service               | Rural Development                  |
| Farm Service Agency                    | Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service | TSU/UT Research or Teaching Staff  |
| Tennessee Department of Agriculture    | Other (please specify) _____       |
| Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation       |                                    |

Signature of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

*This award program is open to all small farmers without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or family status*

### **Suggested Supplemental Materials**

Supplemental materials are not required but are strongly encouraged and may lend strength to the application. Consider supplemental materials such as:

1. photos or videos of the operation, products, and/or practices implemented;
2. advertising or other marketing documentation;
3. newspaper articles or other mass media coverage;
4. letters of support or other testimonies from cooperators.

### **Category Specific Considerations:**

#### **1. Best Management Practices**

- List environmental and conservation practices implemented, and acreage involved (e.g. field borders, riparian forest buffers, exclusion of livestock from water sources, rotational grazing, etc.).
- Include any documentation of benefits derived from practices (on-farm and off-farm benefits).
- Describe any involvement in research/applied research/demonstration on the farm.
- Did the nominee overcome any obstacles to implement BMPs?
- Has the nominee participated in a watershed conservation effort?

#### **2. Innovative Marketing**

- Describe marketing efforts (internet, direct ads, newspaper, TV, etc).
- Has the nominee developed his/her own product line?
- How has the farm operation impacted the local economy?
- What is the estimated income growth due to marketing strategy (%)?
- How has customer satisfaction and/or consumer feedback affected the nominee's marketing strategy?

#### **3. Alternative Enterprises**

- How many types of non-traditional items are produced/ marketed, and has the nominee done this through need (e.g. lost tobacco base) or to fill a foreseen niche (e.g. freshwater Prawns)?
- Describe the alternative enterprise(s) and how long the nominee has been involved (growing/producing, processing, packaging, distribution, etc).
- What type of consumer feedback system (if any) is implemented?

#### **4. Most Improved Beginning Small Farmer**

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Must have less than 10 years of Agricultural Experience.
- Describe improvement in production or farm management practices.
- Provide potential reasons for the improvement in the operation.

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