

## Request For Proposal Growing Acres Farm

RFP Number	GAFARM 01
RFP Name	GAFARM Scale Project
Date Issued	May 24, 2024
Contact Person	Alex Forsbach, Growing Acres Farm
Contact Information	a.forsbach@growingacres.com
Bids Accepted Until	June 7, 2024

### **Purpose of RFP**

The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to solicit bids for Growing Acres Farm (GA) to obtain and install a truck scale on a leveled site.

### **Project Goals and Objectives**

- Growing Acres would like to obtain and install a digital Truck Scale to make weighing grain a more seamless process.

### **Project Background and Summary**

Growing Acres (GA) has established a strong grain sorghum agronomic program. GA has conducted field trials leading to the selection of a region-appropriate sorghum variety for the region. This knowledge has been transferred to neighboring farmers via education and plans for crop production, market security, and harvesting settings. GA's success has led to a significant storage deficit. Thus, there is a critical need to establish a regional storage facility. To address this glaring need, GA would like to construct a grain sorghum facility that will have a significant economic, environmental, and social impact on Hardin and McNairy County communities as well as the broader region. Specifically, said facility will 1) enhance regional infrastructure, 2) improve market access for farmers by providing a reliable/ competitive outlet for their grain sorghum, 3) contribute to crop diversification leading to improved soil health and water resource management, and 4) strengthen community engagement by fostering skill development and training in modern agricultural practices/ management. GA's due diligence focuses on infrastructure, equipment, and logistics as well as what is the specific market need to be addressed.

The estimation of production process efficiency is grounded in the enhancements introduced by the project, specifically related to streamlined transport and convenient access to a well-equipped regional grain storage facility. With the project's improvements, such as providing

efficient and ample access to transport and grain storage, farmers can seamlessly coordinate their harvests without the unnecessary burden of intense focus on grain logistics.

### Scope of Work

- The bids for this RFP should include the cost of materials, labor, and associated costs with construction to build/install the following:
  - (1) Truck Scale. Fairbanks Talon HV Steel Deck Truck Scale 70'x11' or equivalent electric truck scale with digital indicators and approaches with RFID technology
- Growing Acres will provide an already leveled site.
- Ideally, this project would be completed by August 30, 2024, but Growing Acres understands that this may not be possible due to time constraints. Please include a timeline in your proposal.
- The resulting contract will be for up to a year from the contract signing date. Growing Acres may amend or extend this contract beyond the initial year to accommodate the terms and conditions of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's (TDA) FARM Cost Share award.

### Evaluation Metrics and Criteria

Please provide the following in a single document emailed to [a.forsbach@growingacres.com](mailto:a.forsbach@growingacres.com) with the subject line 'GAFARM 01 Proposal' prior to the deadline:

- Technical Response
  - Include the business's name and information, any previous work done for Growing Acres Farm, your proposed approach, materials, and timeline. No costs should be included here. We will review this section to help us evaluate the Contractor's ability to complete the project, their experience, and their preferred materials. Include as much or as little information to help us evaluate this as possible.
- Cost Proposal
  - Include a cost proposal for all materials, labor, and other costs associated with the project in your terms.

The following matrix will be used to evaluate the bids submitted during this process:

Factor	Points Available
Price of Eligible Products and Services	40
Prior Experience	30
Timeline and Availability	30
Total	100

- Price of Eligible Products and Services: The heaviest weighted category will be the bid's total price. The proposal should include every cost broken down as well as the total cost of all items.
- Prior Experience: Demonstrated experience in building or constructing the components listed in the scope of work is preferred for this project. Please include examples of past projects or references in your proposal, if applicable. While this is a weighted category, it is not a requirement to place your bid to this proposal. We encourage vendors of all kinds who are interested in the opportunity to submit a bid.
- Timeline and Availability: The project's preferred completion date is August 30, 2024 in order to be useful for the 2024 Harvest. This will be taken into account when the bid timelines are reviewed.

### **Submission Requirements**

Please submit all bids for this project via email to [a.forsbach@growingacres.com](mailto:a.forsbach@growingacres.com) with all pricing, plans, and timeline attached by June 7, 2024 to be considered.

Should you need accommodations due to a handicap or disability, you may contact the Contact Person listed on the first page of this RFP to request such reasonable accommodation.

Should you have any questions, inquiries, or need clarification on any of this RFP's contents, you may contact the Contact Person listed on the first page of this RFP.

No proposals will be read or evaluated prior to the deadline listed on the first page of this RFP. Should you have any questions or inquiries related to specifics of your proposal, this may only be done via emailed questions, not a review of the draft.

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of a Contract pursuant to this RFP or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by federal, Tennessee State constitutional, or statutory law. The Contractor pursuant to this RFP shall, upon request, show proof of such nondiscrimination and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.