
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Global natural farming is an agricultural
2 methodology developed and refined over the past fifty years by
3 Han Kyu Cho of the Republic of Korea. Cho's techniques have
4 been demonstrated world-wide in more than thirty countries as a
5 viable method of agricultural production without the use of
6 conventional and imported pesticides and fertilizers.

7 Cho's global natural farming is a distinctive approach to
8 organic farming that utilizes local natural farm resources and
9 indigenous microorganisms. It involves the propagation of
10 mycorrhizae along with protocols for adding specific nutritional
11 inputs during critical growth stages of plants. The inputs are
12 not only safe for the environment, but they actually
13 rehabilitate the ecology.

14 In addition to the promotion of environmental protection,
15 global natural farming has numerous, more tangible benefits.
16 There are currently six acres of land in Waianae, Oahu being
17 used for the natural farming of Vietnamese taro and Thai basil.
18 Since the natural farming project was commenced in June 2010,



1 product quality has been improved, product yields have
2 increased, and production costs and water consumption have been
3 reduced.

4 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
5 agriculture to establish a program to award grants to farmers
6 who implement natural farming.

7 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
8 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
9 as follows:

10 "CHAPTER

11 NATURAL FARMING GRANT PROGRAM

12 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

13 "Agricultural producer" has the same meaning as defined in
14 section 155-5.6.

15 "Cho global natural farming methodology" means organic
16 farming practices that utilize the propagation of local farm
17 resources and indigenous microorganisms without the use of
18 conventional or imported pesticides.

19 "Department" means the department of agriculture.

20 § -2 Natural farming grant program established. The
21 department shall establish a natural farming grant program,
22 under which the department shall award grants to qualified



1 agricultural producers who utilize the Cho global natural
2 farming methodology. The department shall accept applications,
3 on forms prescribed and prepared by the department, from
4 agricultural producers to qualify for receipt of the grants,
5 provided that:

- 6 (1) The applicant is an agricultural producer;
- 7 (2) The applicant has implemented or demonstrates to the
8 department's satisfaction that the applicant intends
9 to implement the Cho global natural farming
10 methodology;
- 11 (3) The grant shall not exceed per cent of the
12 applicant's total agricultural production costs or
13 exceed \$ in any year; and
- 14 (4) The department may request that an applicant provide
15 any information, including general excise and income
16 tax returns, that it deems necessary to verify the
17 agricultural production costs incurred by any
18 applicant in any year.

19 § -3 **Rules.** The department shall adopt rules, pursuant
20 to chapter 91, to implement this chapter.

21 § -4 **Exemption from chapter 42F.** The provisions of
22 chapter 42F shall not apply to the grants made pursuant to this



1 chapter, but all grants shall be made only in accordance with
2 standards and conditions specified in section -2."

3 SECTION 3. Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "[+]§42F-102[+] Applications for grants and subsidies.

6 [~~Requests~~] Except for grants awarded under chapter,
7 requests for grants and subsidies shall be submitted to the
8 appropriate standing committees of the legislature at the start
9 of each regular session of the legislature. Each request shall
10 state:

- 11 (1) The name of the requesting organization;
- 12 (2) The public purpose for the grant or subsidy;
- 13 (3) The services to be supported by the grant or subsidy;
- 14 (4) The target group; and
- 15 (5) The cost of the grant or subsidy and the budget."

16 SECTION 4. Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) [~~Grants~~] Except for grants awarded under chapter
19 , grants and subsidies shall be awarded only to individuals
20 who[7] and organizations that:

- 21 (1) Are licensed or accredited[7] in accordance with
22 federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or



- 1 ordinances [7] to conduct the activities or provide the
2 services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded;
- 3 (2) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws
4 prohibiting discrimination against any person on the
5 basis of race, color, national origin, religion,
6 creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
- 7 (3) Agree not to use state funds for entertainment or
8 lobbying activities; and
- 9 (4) Allow the state agency to which funds for the grant or
10 subsidy were appropriated for expenditure, legislative
11 committees and their staff, and the auditor full
12 access to their records, reports, files, and other
13 related documents and information for purposes of
14 monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring
15 the proper expenditure of the grant or subsidy."

16 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the
19 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
20 2012-2013 for the natural farming grant program established by
21 this Act.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

4



Report Title:

Agriculture; Natural Farming; Grants; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of agriculture to establish a program to award grants to agricultural producers who implement the Cho global natural farming method. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

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