



African Growers And Producers Alliance

Contact Information

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Disparities in Farming in MN

Farming in Minnesota

- Black, Indigenous, People of Color(BIPOC) Farmers are disproportionately affected
 - 99% farms - White
 - 1% farms - BIPOC
- Farming Disparity Within BIPOC Farmers
 - Black Farmers are disproportionately affected
 - Only 0.03% yet we are 6.8 % of population.

Race	*Percent of MN Population	*Percent Farmers in MN	**Number of Farms 68,822 (2017)
White	84.10%	99.16	68,544
Hispanic	5.5%	.58%	583
Asian	5.1%	0.36%	336
American Indian	1.4%	0.16%	357
African American/Black	6.8%	0.03%	55
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.10%	0.02%	36

**Number of farms: Race/Ethnicity/Gender Profile. Census of Agriculture, Minnesota 2017

*Emerging Farmers Working Group 2021 Legislative Report

Barriers

Start up costs

- Equipment
- Bore holes/Water/irrigation
- Fencing
- Education/training costs
- Greenhouses

Challenges

- Access to stable affordable land
- Access to loans and stringent Regulations
- Distance to land - Gas expenses
- Drought, Deers
- Lack of Representation and Advocacy for Black Farmers









Benefits

- We grow culturally responsive produce
- Farms improve our access to healthy foods that are healing to our bodies
- Increase food security and equity
- Less dependence on food assistance
- Adds to the food system
- Source of income



The Who?



- We are an alliance of emerging farmer groups
- African Growers and Producers Alliance and African American urban agriculture initiatives that will address fresh food access and food deserts in African American communities.
- Committed to sustainable farming by tapping into our traditional cultural knowledge and wisdom, and modern research to grow, to produce, to feed our families and communities while preserving the environment

OUR MISSION

To build an African-led network of farmers in food systems, that stewards cultural food systems and education, and creates space for healing and joy.

OUR VISION

Creating food sovereignty, expanding farming spaces built on cooperation and interconnectedness with the environment and the community, and passing our knowledge and creativity to future generations.

The Why?

- Culturally relevant technical assistance
- Education and community outreach
- Financial assistance in form of grants to assist with startup costs
- Increase access to farming

On Behalf of African and African American Farmers in MN, AGAPA's ASK!



Please Support Bill HF4106 / SF3841

APPROPRIATION; AFRICAN GROWERS AND PRODUCERS ALLIANCE.

\$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of agriculture to provide grants to the African Growers and Producers Alliance and African American urban agriculture initiatives that will address fresh food access and food deserts in African American communities. This is a one time appropriation. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, unencumbered balances under this subdivision do not cancel until June 30, 2026.

Thank You!