
ESMC is a non-profit, member-based organization launching a national scale ecosystem services market program, Eco-Harvest, to reward agricultural producers for beneficial environmental outcomes from regenerative agriculture. Eco-Harvest is science- and outcomes-focused and not practice specific, meaning producers have autonomy to decide which practice changes are best suited to their operation based on a menu of specific practices/systems. Focusing first and foremost on farmers and ranchers, Eco-Harvest is designed to encourage regenerative agricultural production systems that create sound social, economic, and environmental outcomes that benefit producers, local communities, consumers, and society.

Each producer’s carbon, greenhouse gas, and water quality outcomes are quantified, and the credits generated can be stacked in our streamlined program. ESMC is committed to maximizing the value returned to producers while meeting multiple market needs of buyers. By generating credits that food and beverage companies seek, Eco-Harvest enables our members and society to meet high priority climate change and sustainability goals. Producers’ environmental stewardship of private land is recognized and rewarded for its public benefits.

Participating in an Eco-Harvest Market Project: The Steps

Producer outreach, engagement and technical assistance enable practice change; enrollment, soil sampling, data entry, credit quantification and verification, generation, and credit sale result in payments.

Eco-Harvest Market Project Producer Eligibility Information

Producers interested in Eco-Harvest market project enrollment need to be:

- **Producers who are interested in adopting soil health systems and new conservation practices** that benefit their agricultural operations while improving environmental impacts.
- **Producers interested in implementing improvements** that exceed minimum standards set by law.
- **Producers who can provide proof of land use rights**, including explicit authorization from the responsible agency for any rented fields on state or local-government owned land.
• Producers managing land that is not federally owned, has not been deforested or previously in natural areas in the past 10 years, and has not been converted from grassland to cropland in the past 10 years.

• Producers with fields that are not enrolled in another ecosystem service program that generates credits, offsets, or claims related to soil carbon sequestration and/or changes in GHGs.

• Producers operating within specific ESMC Program regions & production systems. Current Eco-Harvest program regions include the Midwest Corn and Soy Belt, Northern Great Plains, Southern Great Plains, and Great Lakes regions for corn, soy, wheat, alfalfa, and oats cropping systems.

• Producers who are newly implementing at least one of the following practice changes on a given crop: cover cropping, tillage reduction, and nutrient management. Producers are encouraged to enroll fields that are also eligible for federal, state, and local cost-share programs that incentivize conservation practice implementation. Check with your local NRCS office to see if there are incentives available in your area that can provide up-front financing to lower costs and increase returns.

*For Producers operating on newly acquired land who are not aware of prior land practices, remote sensing can be used to ensure cover crops or reduced tillage have not been used in the past 10 years.

Edge of field practice changes are eligible for the ESMC program when they are implemented within or adjacent to a cropland field enrolled with one or more of the required practice changes above.

**Eco-Harvest Market Project Enrollment**

• There are no minimum or maximum acreage enrollment limits. Producers are not required to enroll all their acreage either at sign-up or at any time.

• Producers can phase in more acres and/or practices over time as they see fit.

• Producers are not required to relinquish data ownership or purchase new inputs, subscriptions, etc.

• Producers pay no fees and do not have to purchase inputs to participate in Eco-Harvest.

• Producers enroll in 5-year contracts with Eco-Harvest. With 2022 launch, producers can enroll for the 2023 reporting year.

**Learn More**

Learn more about the Eco-Harvest program at [www.ecosystemservicesmarket.org/eco-harvest](http://www.ecosystemservicesmarket.org/eco-harvest).