



## For Immediate Release

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July 12, 2024

### **DAIRY PRODUCERS INVITED TO FREE WEBINAR ON JULY 26 TO LEARN ABOUT CLIMATE-SMART GRANT FUNDING**

*The Free Webinar Will Take Place on Friday, July 26 at 8 a.m.*

**Harrisburg, Pa.** – Pennsylvania dairy producers are invited to a free webinar on Friday, July 26 at 8 a.m. titled “The Nuts and Bolts of Climate-Smart Grants.” Hosted by the Center for Dairy Excellence and Penn State University, dairy producers will learn how Climate-Smart Grants can benefit their operation through the CARAT Project conducted by Penn State University and partners. During the webinar, attendees will hear from multiple panelists, including a Perry County dairy producer who has recently received the grant and developed a climate-smart plan. Panelists will help dairy producers better understand the Climate-Smart Grants, the benefits of working with a technical service provider to develop climate-smart plans for their operation, and how to apply for funding.

“This webinar will help break down this program and show the true value and potential it has for Pennsylvania dairy producers who are accepted into the grant program,” said Melissa Anderson, Programs and Operations Manager at the Center for Dairy Excellence. “We’re looking forward to hearing from Jeff Trout of Trout Brothers Dairy. They have received the grant and worked with a technical service provider to develop a climate-smart plan for their farm. Now, they are in the process of deciding on implementation. Jeff plans to share his thoughts and insight during the webinar about how the grant and climate-smart plan have worked for his team so far.”

Pennsylvania dairy farms with 35 lactating cows or more or custom dairy heifer facilities with 100 or more dairy heifers that have a 1) Ag E&S or conservation plan and 2) manure management or nutrient management plan in place (two total plans) are eligible to apply for the grants. CARAT stands for climate-smart agriculture that is profitable, regenerative, actionable, and trustworthy (CARAT).

Learn more about the webinar on July 26 and how to join:

- **Date:** Friday, July 26, 2024 at 8 a.m.
- **Panelists:**
  - Matt Royer, Penn State University

- Jayne Sebright, Center for Dairy Excellence
  - Peter Hughes, Red Barn Consulting
  - Jeff Trout, Trout Brothers Dairy, Perry County, PA
- **How to Connect:** Visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/carat-webinar](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/carat-webinar) to join the webinar live via Zoom on July 26.

To connect via conference call:

Dial +1 309-205-3325

Meeting ID: 893 0475 9982

Passcode: 062152

The CARAT Project will provide funding for Pennsylvania dairy producers to identify and implement climate-smart practices that will benefit their dairy operation. CARAT stands for climate-smart agriculture that is profitable, regenerative, actionable, and trustworthy (CARAT). The project is conducted by Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) and partners with funding from the program Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities, an initiative of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Visit [www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/climate-smart-grants](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/climate-smart-grants) to learn more about the grant program. Contact Melissa Anderson at [manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org](mailto:manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org) or call 717-788-0296 with questions.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more at [centerfordairyexcellence.org](http://centerfordairyexcellence.org).

**Center for Dairy Excellence ▼ 2301 North Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA 17110 ▼ 717-346-0849 ▼  
[www.centerfordairyexcellence.org](http://www.centerfordairyexcellence.org)**