

## Frequently Asked Questions:

# 2024 Land O'Lakes Dairy Soils Carbon Program – powered by Truterra

### **What is the 2024 Land O'Lakes dairy soils carbon program – powered by Truterra?**

The goal of the 2024 LOL dairy soils carbon program is to reward eligible member-owners for the impact resulting from their transition to conservation agronomy practices on their feedstock acres.

### **Where is this program available?**

This program is available to pre-qualified LOL member-owners in the Upper Midwest milkshed, which is within the states of MN, WI, IA, ND, and SD.

### **What is the payment for eligible member-owners participating in this program?**

Eligible member-owners may be paid \$15/acre for eligible fields enrolled in the program.

### **What crops are eligible for the LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Corn (grain or silage), alfalfa, sorghum, or wheat (grain or silage) present in crop years 2023-2024. Member-owners must attest that 100% of the crop grown is used on-farm as dairy feed for the crop to be eligible in this program.

### **What crops are ineligible for the LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Any crop that is not listed above is ineligible for the program for that year of eligibility. Popcorn, soybeans, sweet corn, sugar beets, kidney beans, and pumpkins are all examples of ineligible crops for this program. Crops not used on-farm as dairy feed are also ineligible.

### **What practice(s) are required to be eligible for the LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Eligible practices include strip/no-till and/or use of cover crops on eligible crops in 2023-2024. For this program, strip/no-till is defined as no tillage at all, **or** 1 pass of seedbed prep (not exceeding a depth of 3”), strip-tillage, or post-planting tillage which disturbs no more than 1/3 of surface residue.

### **How does injecting manure or fertilizer impact eligibility?**

If strip/no-till and/or use of cover crops is in place, injecting manure or fertilizer will not impact eligibility.

### **Does the initial practice change date impact eligibility?**

No, the initial practice change year does not impact eligibility. However, member-owners participating in this program are only eligible for contracting in 2023 and 2024.

**Is an eligible crop required to be planted in all seasons to be eligible for payment?**

A field must meet all eligibility requirements in crop year 2024 to enroll and be paid in this program. If the field meets all eligibility requirements in crop year 2023, that year will also be contracted.

Example:

Crop Year	Crop Type	Contracted? <i>Fields must meet all program eligibility criteria in 2024 to be eligible for payment.</i>
2024	Corn silage	Yes
2023	Soybeans	No

In the example above, crop year 2023 lists an ineligible crop, so the field is not contracted on that year.

**Is a field still eligible if 100% of the crop was NOT used as on-farm dairy feed across all program years?**

Fields must meet all eligibility requirements in CY2024, including 100% on-farm feed usage, to enroll in the program. Fields will only be contracted in eligible crop years where all eligibility requirements were met. If a field does not meet the feed use requirement in crop year 2023, the field will be contracted for crop year 2024 only.

Example:

Crop Year	Crop	100% of crop used on-farm as dairy feed?	Contracted? <i>Fields must meet all program eligibility criteria in CY2024 to be eligible for payment.</i>
2024	Corn	Yes	Yes
2023	Alfalfa - 1 <sup>st</sup> cutting	Yes	No
	Alfalfa - 2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting	Yes	
	Alfalfa - 3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting	No	
	Alfalfa - 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	No	

In the example above, a portion of the 2023 crop was NOT used on-farm as dairy feed, so the field is not contracted in that year.

**Why is there an on-farm feed use requirement for eligible crops in this program?**

This program aims to measure the GHG impact of feed production connected directly to the Land O'Lakes milk supply. To ensure that the emissions being calculated are within LOL's supply chain, the program is only available to acres which are 100% allocated for dairy feed.

### **What are the timelines for this program?**

- Enrollment will open August 1, 2024 and close Nov 1, 2024 or when the program acreage target is achieved.
- Data collection is due December 1, 2024
- Data validation is due December 31, 2024
- Member-owner payments are scheduled to be completed by Q2 of 2025.

Program timelines are subject to change.

### **What are the eligible payment years for this program?**

Eligible member-owners may receive one payment of \$15 per acre upon contracting so long as all eligibility requirements are met in crop year 2024. If crop year 2023 also meets all eligibility requirements, then crop year 2023 will be contracted but the total payment remains \$15 per acre.

### **How can a member-owner get involved in the LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

- If the member-owner doesn't already have a Truterra® MyPortal account, they should start by completing the pre-enrollment form at [\[link\]](#); member-owners will receive an email inviting them to create a Truterra® MyPortal account.
  - When completing the pre-enrollment form for the first time, be sure Land O'Lakes is selected as a farmer membership and a Land O'Lakes member ID is provided.
    - Selecting a Truterra network provider within the enrollment form will connect the member-owner to a local retailer who can support their Truterra program journey. If a network provider is not selected, Truterra will provide program support directly.
- If the member-owner already has a MyPortal account but did not enter their Land O'Lakes member ID, please contact a Truterra representative or customer support ([support@truterraag.com](mailto:support@truterraag.com)) to get the member ID added to their account.
- Enter field boundaries and field-level data within Truterra® MyPortal to determine if the fields are eligible for any of the current Truterra sustainability programs.
- Complete enrollment for qualifying fields within Truterra® MyPortal.
- Need assistance? Consult the Truterra® MyPortal [help guide](#).

### **When is program enrollment for the 2024 LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Program enrollment is from August 1 - November 1, 2024.

### **Does the LOL dairy soils carbon program account for emissions from enteric and manure sources?**

No, this program will quantify crop production-related emissions only.

### **How long is the commitment?**

There is a five-year reporting tail associated with this program, effective 5 years following the latest contracted year. After data has been collected and validated, the member-owner will be asked to sign a Vintage Year Enrollment Schedule (VYES) obligating them to provide services to Truterra for the years identified in the schedule and to provide data for the duration of the five-

year reporting tail. The VYES does not obligate a member-owner to provide services beyond the reporting tail or sell carbon benefits to Truterra in future years.

**Is a field eligible for contracting across all eligible crop years, even if this field has been enrolled in another sustainability program?**

No, fields can only be contracted in one commercial sustainability program per crop year. If a field was contracted in another program in crop year 2023, that field would only be eligible to contract crop year 2024 in the LOL dairy soils carbon program.

**What data is required for participation in the LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Eligible member-owners must provide crop and other initial data from 2018-2024. To successfully participate in this program, eligible member-owners will need to provide the following data points for each field enrolled, for each required data collection year:

Winter Crop (cover crop)	Tillage	Summer Crop (cash crop)	Fertilizer Applications
Crop type	Type (depth) of each pass	Crop type	Product & type
Planting date	Date of each pass	Planting date	Application date(s)
Harvest/termination date		Harvest/termination date	Rate (field average)
Yield (field average) if harvested		Yield (field average)	Total N, P, K applied
Termination method		Residue removal	Additives used

Additional data points collected may include: residue removal · conservation practices · pest management strategies · irrigation · drainage · grazing headcount/duration

**Is a member-owner that participates in the LOL dairy soils carbon program eligible for other Truterra programs?**

Depending on eligibility and program parameters, some fields may be enrolled in this program plus a publicly funded program, including the Truterra USDA-supported programs. Fields must meet eligibility and exclusivity requirements for each program they are enrolled in.

**Is a member-owner who signed a VYES for the 2023 Truterra® carbon program but who does not otherwise meet the eligibility requirements eligible to participate in this program?**

No, fields must meet all eligibility criteria for crop year 2024 to participate in this program, regardless of historical participation in the Truterra® carbon program.

**What tillage practices specifically are eligible for the 2024 LOL dairy soils carbon program?**

Strip/no-till and/or use of cover crops on eligible crops in 2023 and/or 2024. For this program, strip/no-till is defined as no tillage at all, **or** 1 pass of seedbed prep (not exceeding a depth of 3”), strip-tillage, or post-planting tillage which disturbs no more than 1/3 of surface residue. Contact your Truterra representative if you have additional questions on qualifying tillage practices.

**If the use of cover crops is the selected eligible practice, do member-owners need cover crops on the acre every year?**

Seasons eligible for contracting are 2023 and 2024. If cover crop is the only eligible practice, the member-owner will only be paid on a field where cover crops were planted in an eligible season.

Example:

Season	Cover Crop?	Eligible for payment?
2024	Yes	Yes
2023	No	No