

## **MORINGA TREE PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST**

## **Introduction and Project Overview**

HUSBANDRY, based in Tyler, Texas, is dedicated to sustainable ecological solutions. Our latest initiative focuses on cultivating Moringa Oleifera, known as "The Miracle Tree," due to its exceptional nutritional and environmental benefits. This project aims to establish a Moringa farm in Smith County, Texas, leveraging its potential to combat malnutrition, promote health, and reduce CO2 emissions.

The initiative will involve acquiring land, setting up necessary infrastructure, and procuring equipment such as a commercial conveyor oven, grinder, bagging machine, and pelletizing machine. By securing USDA grants and first-time farmer loans, we aim to create a robust and sustainable operation that enriches the community and supports environmental conservation.

# **Objectives and Goals**

The primary objective of the Moringa Tree project is to establish a sustainable agricultural operation in Tyler, Texas, that leverages the nutritional and environmental benefits of Moringa oleifera. By planting 1,000 trees on 25 to 50 acres, we aim to:

**Enhance Nutritional Access:** Moringa is currently imported into the United States, predominantly from India and the Philippines, as the U.S. is the leading global consumer. Growing Moringa locally offers numerous advantages, including reducing transportation costs and emissions, ensuring fresher and more nutritious products, supporting local economies, and decreasing dependency on international supply chains. Additionally, we will carve out a niche by becoming the first to produce Moringa feed for livestock worldwide, catering to cattle, horses, chickens, goats, pigs, dogs, cats, and more. This initiative will provide a natural, nutrient-rich food source to combat malnutrition and promote health in the community.

**Reduce CO2 Emissions:** Each mature Moringa tree absorbs approximately 176 pounds of CO2 annually. Planting 1,000 trees will result in a total CO2 abatement of 176,000 pounds per year (approximately 88 tons), significantly contributing to local CO2 reduction efforts.

**Promote Economic Growth:** Create job opportunities and support local businesses through the production and sale of Moringa products.

**Empower Communities:** Focus on employing and educating youth, veterans, and the homeless, providing them with valuable skills and contributing to social and economic development.

Secure Funding: Utilize USDA grants, first-time farmer loans, and potential EPA grants to finance the project and ensure its sustainability.

# **Nutritional and Health Benefits of Moringa**

Moringa oleifera, often referred to as "The Miracle Tree," is renowned for its exceptional nutritional profile and health-promoting properties. It is a powerhouse of essential nutrients, making it an invaluable addition to diets worldwide. Here are some of the key benefits:

**Rich in Vitamins and Minerals:** Moringa leaves are an excellent source of essential vitamins and minerals, often surpassing common food sources:

**Vitamin A:** Contains four times more Vitamin A than carrots, which is crucial for vision and immune function.

**Vitamin C:** Provides seven times more Vitamin C than oranges, supporting immune health and skin vitality.

**Calcium:** Offers four times more calcium than milk, essential for bone health.

**Potassium:** Contains three times more potassium than bananas, vital for heart and muscle function.

**Iron:** Provides three times more iron than spinach, important for blood health and energy levels.

**Protein:** Contains twice the protein of yogurt, supporting muscle growth and repair.

**High Protein Content:** Moringa contains all nine essential amino acids, making it a complete protein source. The amino acids found in Moringa and their specific amounts per 100 grams of dried leaves include:

This comprehensive amino acid profile is particularly beneficial for vegetarians and vegans seeking plant-based protein options.

Leucine: 1,950 ma Isoleucine: 825 ma 1,060 mg Valine: 1,325 mg Lysine: Phenylalanine: 1,385 mg 1,190 mg Threonine: Tryptophan: 425 mg **Methionine:** 350 mg **Histidine:** 613 mg

**Antioxidant Properties:** The leaves are rich in antioxidants, which help combat oxidative stress and reduce inflammation. This contributes to overall health and may lower the risk of chronic diseases.

**Antimicrobial and Antibacterial Properties:** Moringa exhibits properties that can help fight against various bacterial and microbial infections, enhancing immune response.

**Anti-inflammatory Effects:** Moringa has been shown to reduce inflammation, which can be beneficial for conditions such as arthritis and other inflammatory diseases.

**Potential Anti-cancer Properties:** Some studies suggest that Moringa contains compounds that may help in preventing or slowing the growth of cancer cells.

**Antiparasitic and Antifungal Properties:** Moringa has been used traditionally to treat parasitic infections and has shown efficacy against certain fungi, supporting its role in overall health maintenance.

**Supports Digestive Health:** Moringa's high fiber content aids in digestion and helps maintain a healthy gut, contributing to improved nutrient absorption and digestive regularity.

**Potential to Combat Malnutrition:** Due to its dense nutrient profile, Moringa is used in various regions to address malnutrition and improve dietary quality, particularly in vulnerable populations.

By growing Moringa locally, HUSBANDRY aims to harness these nutritional and health benefits not only for human consumption but also to develop innovative livestock feed products. This dual approach will enhance health outcomes for both people and animals, reinforcing the project's commitment to community well-being and sustainability.

## **Environmental Impact**

The Moringa Tree project by HUSBANDRY is not only a venture into sustainable agriculture but also a significant contributor to environmental conservation efforts. Here's how the project will make an impact:

**CO2 Reduction:** Each mature Moringa tree absorbs approximately 176 pounds of CO2 annually. By planting 1,000 trees, the project will achieve a total CO2 abatement of 176,000 pounds per year (approximately 88 tons), playing a crucial role in local and global efforts to combat climate change.

**Soil Health and Erosion Control:** Moringa trees are known for their deep root systems, which help in stabilizing soil and preventing erosion. This contributes to improved soil health and fertility, promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

**Water Conservation:** Moringa trees are drought-resistant and require minimal water compared to other crops. This makes them an ideal choice for regions with water scarcity, aiding in water conservation efforts.

**Biodiversity Enhancement:** The introduction of Moringa cultivation supports biodiversity by providing habitat and food for various pollinators and wildlife. This fosters a balanced ecosystem and enhances local biodiversity.

**Sustainable Livestock Feed and Human Supplements:** Moringa is a powerhouse of nutrition, rich in vitamins, minerals, and essential amino acids. By developing Moringa-based feed for livestock, the project reduces reliance on conventional feed sources, which often have higher environmental footprints.

Additionally, Moringa leaves can be processed into high-nutritional-value supplements for human consumption, offering a nutrient-rich option that supports health and wellness. The versatility of Moringa as both a livestock feed and human supplement underscores its value in sustainable agriculture and its potential to enhance dietary quality.

Frequent Harvesting and Fast Growth: Moringa trees are fast-growing, reaching up to 18 feet in less than six months. They can be harvested up to three times a year, providing a continuous supply of leaves for both feed and supplements. This frequent harvesting capability, coupled with the tree's rapid growth rate, enhances productivity and ensures a steady flow of resources for consumption and sale.

**Local Economic and Social Benefits:** Beyond environmental impacts, the project empowers communities by creating jobs and educational opportunities for youth, veterans, and the homeless. This fosters social cohesion and economic sustainability, reinforcing the project's holistic approach to community development.

By integrating these environmental strategies, the Moringa Tree project not only addresses ecological challenges but also promotes a sustainable future for the community and beyond.

### **Project Implementation Plan**

The successful establishment of the Moringa Tree project requires a well-structured implementation plan that encompasses all aspects of cultivation, processing, and distribution. Here's how HUSBANDRY plans to execute this initiative:

### **Site Acquisition and Preparation:**

**Land Acquisition:** Secure 25 to 50 acres of land in Tyler, Texas, suitable for Moringa cultivation.

**Soil Testing and Preparation:** Conduct soil tests to ensure optimal growing conditions and prepare the land by clearing, plowing, and enriching the soil as needed.

# **Infrastructure Development:**

**Irrigation Systems and Water Wells:** Install efficient irrigation systems and dig water wells to ensure a reliable water supply for Moringa's growth, especially in dry conditions.

**Power Supply:** Run phase 3 power from the road to the site for necessary operations. Additionally, install solar power generation systems to reduce dependency on the grid and promote sustainable energy use.

**Facility Construction:** Construct a comprehensive plant, production, and warehouse facility that includes a wood shop and metal shop. These shops will be used for fabrication, maintenance, and repairs as needed. The facility will also have designated areas for storing tractors, harvesters, and other essential equipment.

## **Procurement of Equipment:**

Acquire essential equipment, including a commercial conveyor oven for drying leaves, a grinder for processing them into powder, and bagging machines for packaging both powder and pellets for livestock feed.

**Tractor:** \$50,000

**Miscellaneous Equipment:** \$30,000 for additional tools and equipment necessary for operations.

## **Planting and Cultivation:**

**Seeds/Seedlings and Planting:** \$10,000 for high-quality seeds/seedlings and planting operations.

**Maintenance and Care:** \$20,000 for ongoing care, including watering, pruning, and pest management.

# **Harvesting and Processing:**

**Frequent Harvesting:** Utilize Moringa's fast growth to harvest leaves up to three times a year, ensuring a consistent supply.

**Processing and Packaging:** Process harvested leaves into powder and pellets using the acquired equipment, and package them for distribution.

## **Marketing and Distribution:**

**Local and National Marketing:** Develop marketing strategies to promote Moringa products, emphasizing their nutritional and environmental benefits.

**Distribution Channels:** Establish partnerships with local and national distributors to ensure widespread availability of Moringa products.

### **Community Engagement and Education:**

**Employment Opportunities:** Hire and train youth, veterans, and the homeless, providing them with valuable skills and contributing to community development.

**Educational Programs:** Implement educational initiatives to raise awareness about the benefits of Moringa and the importance of sustainable agriculture.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

**Performance Metrics:** Establish metrics to monitor the project's progress, including yield, sales, and community impact.

Continuous Improvement: Regularly assess project outcomes and make necessary adjustments to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

By following this comprehensive implementation plan, HUSBANDRY aims to establish a successful and sustainable Moringa Tree project that benefits both the environment and the community.

# **Marketing and Distribution Strategy**

**Wholesale Strategy:** Build Strong Relationships with Retailers and Distributors: HUSBANDRY aims to establish and maintain strong, mutually beneficial relationships with both retailers and distributors. This involves regular communication, understanding their needs, and offering tailored solutions to ensure seamless collaboration and distribution.

**Leverage Technology:** HUSBANDRY plans to implement warehouse inventory management software to streamline operations and ensure efficient stock management. This helps in maintaining optimal inventory levels and meeting retailer and distributor demands promptly.

**Offer Incentives:** HUSBANDRY will provide attractive buying incentives such as bulk discounts, flexible payment terms, and promotional offers to encourage larger orders and foster loyalty among retailers and distributors.

**Positioning and Branding:** HUSBANDRY will position the brand as a leader in sustainable and nutritious products. By emphasizing the unique benefits of Moringa and its environmental impact, HUSBANDRY aims to differentiate from competitors.

**Networking and Partnerships:** HUSBANDRY intends to attend trade shows and industry events to network with potential wholesale partners. Establishing partnerships with distributors who have a strong presence in target markets is a priority.

## **Retail Strategy:**

**Omnichannel Presence:** HUSBANDRY will establish a strong online and offline presence. Utilizing e-commerce platforms to reach a broader audience and setting up pop-up shops or retail partnerships for physical presence are key strategies.

**Customer Engagement:** Engaging customers through social media, email marketing, and content marketing is crucial. HUSBANDRY will share educational content about the benefits of Moringa, recipes, and success stories to build a community around the brand.

**Loyalty Programs:** HUSBANDRY plans to implement customer loyalty programs to reward repeat purchases and encourage referrals. Offering exclusive discounts and early access to new products for loyal customers is part of this strategy.

**Retail Partnerships:** Collaborating with health and wellness stores, organic markets, and supermarkets will help expand retail distribution. HUSBANDRY will ensure product placement in high-visibility areas to attract attention.

**Promotional Campaigns:** HUSBANDRY will run targeted promotional campaigns, including in-store tastings, online contests, and influencer collaborations, to raise brand awareness and drive sales.

By integrating these strategies, HUSBANDRY aims to create a comprehensive marketing and distribution plan that effectively reaches both wholesale and retail markets, ensuring the widespread availability and success of Moringa products.

## **Budget and Financials**

## **Land Acquisition and Preparation:**

**Cost:** Approximately \$8,670 per acre. For 25 to 50 acres, the total cost ranges from \$216,750 to \$433,500.

**Preparation:** Includes soil testing, clearing, and enrichment, estimated at \$10,000.

## **Infrastructure Development:**

**Irrigation Systems and Water Wells:** \$50,000 for installation and well digging.

**Power Supply:** \$30,000 for phase 3 power setup and solar power generation systems.

**Facility Construction:** \$150,000 for building the plant, production, and warehouse facility, including wood and metal shops and equipment storage areas.

# **Equipment Procurement:**

**Commercial Conveyor Oven:** \$20,000

**Grinder:** \$15,000

**Bagging Machines:** \$25,000

**Pelletizing Machine:** \$30,000

**Tractor:** \$50,000

Miscellaneous Equipment: \$30,000 for additional tools and equipment

necessary for operations.

## **Planting and Cultivation:**

**Seeds/Seedlings and Planting:** \$10,000 for high-quality seeds/seedlings and planting operations.

**Maintenance and Care:** \$20,000 for ongoing care, including watering, pruning, and pest management.

## **Marketing and Distribution:**

**Marketing Campaigns:** \$25,000 for local and national marketing strategies.

**Distribution Partnerships:** \$15,000 for establishing and maintaining distribution channels.

## **Community Engagement and Education:**

**Employment and Training:** \$20,000 for hiring and training youth, veterans, and the homeless.

**Educational Programs:** \$10,000 for implementing awareness and educational initiatives.

## **Operational Costs:**

**Ongoing Expenses:** \$110,000 for utilities, labor, and other operational costs.

### **Contingency Fund:**

**Reserve:** \$50,000 to cover unforeseen expenses and ensure project resilience.

## **Funding Sources:**

**Donations:** Seeking contributions from individuals and organizations passionate about sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation.

**USDA and EPA Grants:** Targeting specific grants for sustainable agriculture, first-time farmer initiatives, and CO2 reduction efforts. Private Investments and Partnerships: Engaging with potential investors and partners to secure additional funding and support. By carefully managing these financial components, HUSBANDRY aims to establish a financially sustainable Moringa Tree project that delivers long-term benefits to the community and the environment.

#### Conclusion and Call to Action

The Moringa Tree project by HUSBANDRY is a visionary initiative aimed at advancing sustainable agriculture, environmental conservation, and community development. By cultivating Moringa oleifera, we aim to reduce CO2 emissions, enhance biodiversity, and provide significant nutritional benefits to both humans and livestock. This project will also create job opportunities and educational programs for youth, veterans, and the homeless, fostering economic growth and social empowerment.

#### Call to Action

We respectfully request the support of Individual Investors and the USDA through grant funding to bring this transformative project to fruition. Your investment will enable us to acquire the necessary land, infrastructure, and equipment to establish a thriving Moringa cultivation and processing operation. With your support, HUSBANDRY can deliver long-term benefits to the environment and the community.

We invite you to partner with us in making a meaningful impact. For further details or to discuss this proposal, please contact us at [contact information]. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with you in creating a sustainable future.

Thank you for considering our request.

Respectfully submitted,

## Larry Beard

Founder, CEO

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