



A Year of Progress, Resilience, and Purpose

The year 2025 was one of both challenge and resolve for the 2020 Farmers Cooperative. Despite a shifting national funding landscape and the termination or pause of several anticipated funding streams, the Cooperative remained steadfast in its mission: to strengthen farmers, build shared ownership, and expand equitable opportunities across local, regional, and global markets.

Rather than retreat in the face of uncertainty, 2020 Farmers Co-Op leaned into its values—demonstrating adaptability, fiscal responsibility, and an unwavering commitment to farmer-led growth.

Strengthening Farmer Power & Cooperative Infrastructure

In 2025, the Cooperative continued to build the foundational systems necessary for long-term sustainability:

- Strengthened membership engagement and coordination, ensuring farmers remained informed, connected, and supported.
- Advanced governance and operational planning, positioning the Cooperative to operate efficiently even under constrained resources.
- Implemented strategic administrative and billing reforms to better align the Cooperative's operational calendar with the agricultural growing season and member needs.

These efforts reinforced the Cooperative's capacity to function as a trusted, farmer-owned institution—prepared not only for growth, but for endurance.

Education, Training & Knowledge Sharing

Education remained a cornerstone of our work in 2025. Through strategic partnerships and member-led initiatives, the Cooperative supported:

- Virtual and hybrid trainings focused on soil health, regenerative agriculture, livestock systems, and pasture-to-plate production.
- The development of reusable educational assets, ensuring long-term access to high-quality training materials for farmers, students, and community practitioners.
- Farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchange, emphasizing applied, field-tested practices rooted in real-world experience.

Even amid funding constraints, the Cooperative prioritized education as an investment in resilience, innovation, and self-determination.

Strategic Partnerships & Grant Development

Throughout 2025, 2020 Farmers Co-Op continued to cultivate meaningful partnerships with aligned organizations, demonstration farms, and national collaborators. Significant effort was dedicated to:

- Grant development and proposal writing focused on regenerative agriculture, soil health, food systems, and export readiness.
- Collaborative planning with partners to design scalable, farmer-centered projects—even when external funding timelines shifted.
- Maintaining strong compliance, documentation, and reporting standards to ensure readiness when funding opportunities re-emerge.

While several funding pathways were unexpectedly terminated or delayed, the Cooperative emerged with stronger proposals, clearer project scopes, and deeper collaborative relationships.

Fiscal Stewardship & Accountability

In a year marked by uncertainty, fiscal stewardship was paramount. The Cooperative took deliberate steps to:

- Scrutinize costs
- Protect member resources through disciplined budgeting and administrative controls.
- Prioritize investments that deliver lasting value to farmers and the Cooperative as a whole. This disciplined approach ensures that 2020 Farmers Co-Op remains financially responsible, credible, and prepared for future investment.

Resilience in a Changing Environment

The broader agricultural and nonprofit landscape in 2025 reminded us that funding cycles may fluctuate—but mission, community, and purpose endure.

What carried the Cooperative forward this year was not a single grant or program, but:

- The strength of its farmer members

- The integrity of its leadership

- The clarity of its mission

Even in lean times, 2020 Farmers Co-Op continued to show up—for farmers, for partners, and for the future of cooperative agriculture.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, the Cooperative enters the next year grounded, prepared, and optimistic. With strong systems in place, trusted partnerships, and a clear strategic direction, 2020 Farmers Co-Op stands ready to:

- Scale impact as funding opportunities return
- Deepen farmer ownership and leadership
- Expand training, market access, and innovation

2025 was not defined by what was lost—but by what was built, protected, and strengthened.

With Gratitude

We extend our sincere thanks to our farmer members, partners, collaborators, and supporters who stood with us through this year. Your trust, patience, and commitment are the foundation of everything we do.

Together, we continue to grow—not just crops, but cooperative power.

— Sharon Mallory
Executive Director
2020 Farmers Cooperative