

MEMORANDUM

To: James Reardon, Commissioner of Finance & Management

From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst

Date: July 7, 2008

Subject: JFO #2327

No Joint Fiscal Committee member has requested that the following item be held for review:

JFO #2327 — \$18,000 grant from the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education to the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. These grant funds will be used to improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted to the participants. [*JFO received 06/05/08*]

In accordance with 32 V.S.A. §5, the requisite 30 days having elapsed since this item was submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee, the Governor's approval may now be considered final. We ask that you inform the Secretary of Administration and your staff of this action.

cc: Linda Morse, Administrative Assistant Roger Allbee, Secretary



MEMORANDUM

To: Representative David Zuckerman

From: Nathan Lavery

Date: June 6, 2008

Subject: JFO #2327 (Occupational Spanish class for dairy farmers grant)

Representatives Michael Obuchowski and Shap Smith asked that I forward to you a copy of the enclosed request and cover memo. They are requesting you provide them with your observations regarding the enclosed item.

cc: Rep. Michael Obuchowski Rep. Shap Smith Stephen Klein



MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members

From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst

Date: June 6, 2008

Subject: Grant Request

Enclosed please find one (1) request which the Joint Fiscal Office recently received from the Administration:

JFO #2327 — \$18,000 grant from the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education to the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. These grant funds will be used to improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted to the participants. [*JFO received 06/05/08*]

The Joint Fiscal Office has reviewed this submission and determined that all appropriate forms bearing the necessary approvals are in order.

In accordance with the procedures for processing such requests, we ask you to review the enclosed and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at 802/828-1488; <u>nlavery@leg.state.vt.us</u> or Stephen Klein at 802/828-5769; <u>sklein@leg.state.vt.us</u>) if you have questions or would like this item held for Joint Fiscal Committee review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by <u>June 20</u> we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.

cc: James Reardon, Commissioner Linda Morse, Administrative Assistant Roger Allbee, Secretary

JFO #2327

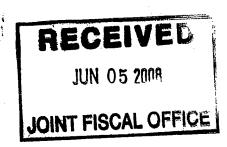
STATE OF VERMONT GRANT ACCEPTANCE FORM

GRANT SUMMARY:	Grant to increase basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding of Vermont dairy farmers that deal with Spanish speaking employees.
TITLE OF GRANT:	Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers—Risk Management Education
FEDERAL CATALOG No.:	N/A
GRANTOR / DONOR:	The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources 112 Townsend Hall Newark, Delaware 19716-2130
DATE:	5/22/08
DEPARTMENT:	Agriculture, Food and Markets
GRANT / DONATION:	This grant is focused on improving Spanish language skills of Vermont Farmers to help them communicate better with their Hispanic employees.
AMOUNT / VALUE:	\$18,000.00
POSITIONS REQUESTED:	None
GRANT PERIOD:	4/15/08 to 4/14/09

COMMENTS: There is an additional \$4,000.00 that will come from participating producers to help fund the project costs. The total cost of the project is \$22,000.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT: SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION SENT TO JOINT FISCAL OFFICE:

(INITIAL (INITIAL) <u>7/08</u> DATE:



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STATE OF VERMONT

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REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE

(use additional sheets as needed)

FORM AA-1 (Rev. 9-90)

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	Program: Occupational Sp Legal Title of Grant: Risk Manageme Federal Catalog No.: N/A Grantor and Office Address: The N Unive Colleg 112 T		ont Dairy Producers isk Management Education Natural Resources	
7.	Grant Period:	From:	07-01-2008	To: 06-30-2009
8.	Purpose of Grant: (Attach additiona To improve effective communication participants' basic Spanish language participants.	between Vermont daiı	y producers and their Spani erstanding through an Occu	ish speaking employees by increasing pational Spanish Class targeted for the
9.	Impact on Existing Programs if Grant	is not Accepted:		
	None			
10.	Budget Information: (1st S	tate FY) FY 2009	(2nd State FY) <u>FY 2010</u>	(3rd State FY) FY 2011
EXPEN	IDITURES: Personal Services Operating Expenses Grants	\$ 12,800.00 \$ 9,200.00 \$	\$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$
	TOTAL	\$ 22,000.00	\$	\$
REVEN	IUES: State Funds:			
	Cash	\$	\$	\$
	In-Kind	\$	\$	\$
	Federal Funds: (Direct Costs) (Statewide Indirect) (Department Indirect)	\$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$
	Other Funds:	·	·	·
` <u>Ce</u>	e) <u>University of Delaware – The Northea</u> nter for Risk Management Education	\$ 18,000.00	\$	\$
	ating Producers (will contribute towards ssroom costs and instructor fees)	\$ 4,000.00	\$	\$
	TOTAL	\$ 22,000.00	\$	\$
	will be allocated to these riation expenditure accounts	DEPTI	niation Nos. D 2200030000 21889 RAM TBD	<u>Amounts</u> \$ 22,000.00

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Form AA-1 Page 2 11. Will grant monies be spent by one or more personal service contracts? [X]YES []NO If YES, signature of appointing authority here indicates intent to follow current guidelines on bidding. (Date) 12a. Please list any requested Limited Service Positions: Titles Number of Positions TOTAL Equipment and space for these positions: 12b. Is presently available. ĒÌ Can be obtained with available funds 13. Signature of Appointing Authority 5/21/08 Roga Allber I certify that no funds have (Date) been expended or committed in (Signature) anticipation of Joint Fiscal Secretary: Agriculture, Food & Markets (Title) Committee approval of this grant. Action by Governor: 14. Approved 08 Rejected Signature) 15. Secretary of Administration: P Malnat Request to JFO 5/27/08 Ķ nda Information to JFO (Date) (Signature 16. Action by Joint Fiscal Committee: (Dates) Request to be placed on JFC agenda ſ 1 Approved (not placed on agenda in 30 days) Approved by JFC 1 1 1 Ľ Rejected by JFC Approved by Legislature []

(Signature)

(Date)

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Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers

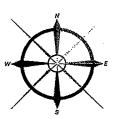
The participating producers will contribute \$4,000.00 towards project costs. This money will go towards paying for class room costs and instructor fees.



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The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education

Dr. H. Don Tilmon, Director Laurie Wolinski, Associate Director Susan Olson, Program Coordinator 112 Townsend Hall College of Agriculture and Natural Resources University of Delaware Newark, Delaware 19716-2130 Phone: 302-831-6540 FAX: 302-831-0857 www.necrme.org

April 24, 2008

Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets 116 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620

Dear Louise,

I am pleased to provide formal notification that your Risk Management Education proposal entitled, "Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers" has been approved for funding in the amount of \$18,000. The grant will begin July 1, 2008, pending release of funds by USDA, and will end June 30, 2009. Our Contract and Grant Administrator at the University of Delaware will be in contact with you regarding the sub-contracting details.

Enclosed please find two copies of a Letter of Commitment outlining your responsibilities, which we ask each Project Director to sign. Please review the letter, sign it, and return one copy to us in the envelope provided so that it may be included with your subcontract.

All reporting will be conducted online, and is entered through the Risk Management Education Results Verification System – the same system utilized for Pre-Proposals and Full Applications. Instructions for reporting and a link to the Verification System are available on our website (<u>www.necrme.org</u>), under "Grants". We encourage you to keep your reporting activity current. The information you provide will be used to generate reports for Congress, in an effort to ensure the continued flow of educational funds for the Extension Risk Management Education Program.

Again, congratulations on your award. We look forward to working with you over the period of this project, and encourage you to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

H. Don Tilmon, Director



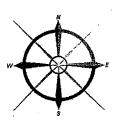
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service



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The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education

Dr. H. Don Tilmon, Director Laurie Wolinski, Associate Director Susan Olson, Program Coordinator 112 Townsend Hall College of Agriculture and Natural Resources University of Delaware Newark, Delaware 19716-2130 Phone: 302-831-6540 FAX: 302-831-0857 <u>www.necrme.org</u>

Grantee Letter of Commitment

Project: Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers

Organization: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Project Director: Louise Waterman

In accepting the funds awarded for this project, I commit to:

- Attend the annual Orientation Workshop for NECRME Project Directors, scheduled for October 2, 2008. The meeting will be held at a hotel near the Philadelphia International Airport. If more than one Project Director is involved with the project, only one need attend. (Travel expenses will be reimbursed for one person per project.)
- Submit online Progress Reports by the following dates: November 1, 2008; February 1, 2009; and May 1, 2009
- Submit a Final Report upon completion of the project (please note that final payment or up to 15% of allocated funds may be withheld until all reporting requirements are met). The Final Report for each project is a public document and will ultimately be available for viewing online in the Ag Risk Education Library.
- Send NECRME copies of educational curriculum, promotional brochures and other workshop
 materials developed through the project. In conjunction with your reporting activities, you will also
 be asked to upload or provide links to both promotional and educational materials.
- Include a statement on all printed materials produced for the project, which acknowledges the funding received from NECRME and utilizes both the Center's logo and the CSREES logo (details and the logos are available on the NECRME website – <u>necrme.org</u> – under "Grants").
- Send brief thank you letters to members of your Congressional delegation (for making this funding possible). You will be notified at the appropriate time, and sample letters will be provided.

I agree to meet these requirements, as stated by the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education.

Signature of Project Director:

Date: 4-28-0

(Please sign and return one copy in the enclosed envelope. Thank you.)





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	2. DATE SUBN		Applicant Identifier: 2	
APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	4/21/08	* .	EDERAL ASSIST	<u></u> ;
SF 424 (R&R)	3. DATE RECE	IVED BY STATE	State Application Identifier	
1. * TYPE OF SUBMISSION				
Pre-application Pre-application Changed/Corrected Application	4. Federal			
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION		* Organizational DI	UNS: 809376718	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
* Legal Name: Vermont Agency of Agri	culture, Food	& Markets		·
Department: Administration	Division: A	dministration	· · ·	
* Street1: 116 State Street	Street2:		· · ·	
	ounty: Washir	aton	* State: VT * ZIP Code:	05620-24
* Country: USA			······	
Person to be contacted on matters involving this appli Prefix: * First Name:	cation Middle Name:	* ias	t Name:	Suffix:
Prefix: * First Name: LOUISE			terman	
* Phone Number: 802-828-6900	Fax Number: 8(Email: Louise.Watermar	
6. * EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION (EIN) or (TIN):		7.* TYPE OF APPLICANT:	·····	
03-6000264		A		
8. * TYPE OF APPLICATION: New		Other (Specify):		
Resubmission Renewal Continuation	Revision	Smal	Il Business Organization Type	ally Disadvantaged
If Revision, mark appropriate box(es).		9. * NAME OF FEDERAL AGE	ENCY:	
A. increase Award B. Decrease Award C. I	ncrease Duration	USDA CSREES	·	
D. Decrease Duration D. E. Other (specify):			DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMB	ER:
* Is this application being submitted to other agencies	? Yes No	10.500		
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Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Produce	rs	·	······································	
12.* AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (cities, cour Vermont - State wide	ities, states, etc.)		· .	
13. PROPOSED PROJECT:		14. CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICTS OF:	
* Start Date * Ending Date		a. * Applicant	b. * Project	
July 1, 2008 June 30, 2009	·	Vermont	Vermont	
15. PROJECT DIRECTOR/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGAT				
Prefix: * First Name:	Middle Name:		st Name: aterman	Suffix:
	* Orana in a			
Position/Title: Education Coordinator	* Organizat		ency of Aariculture, Fo	
Department:	Division:	Administratio		1
* street1: 116 State Street	Street2:			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	^{county:} Washi	ngton	* State: VT * ZIP Cod	^{ie:} 05620-24
* Country: USA	Fax Number 100	0 000 2024	* Email: Louise.Waterma	an @ state with
* Phone Number: 802-828-6900		20-828-3831	Louise.waterina	

OMB Number: 4040-0001 Expiration Date: 04/30/2008

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SF 424 (R&R)	APPLICATION FOR	FEDERAL ASSI	STANCE	*** R8 **		···F Pag	je 2
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b. * Total Federal & Non-Federal F				ESS FOR REVIEW O			
c. * Estimated Program Income			DATE:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
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* The list of certifications and ass	urances, or an Internet site	e where you may obtai	n this list, is contained i	n the announcement or a	gency specific i	nstructions.	
19. Authorized Representativ	'e .						
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	RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET	- SECTION A & B, BUDGET PERIOD 1		L A & B, BUDGE
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7.				0
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B. Other Personnel * Number of Personnel			Cal. Acad. Sum. *Requested Months Months Salary (\$)	* Fringe Benefits (\$) * Funds Requested (\$)
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	RESEARCH & RELATED BUDGET - SECTION C, D, & E, BUDGET PERIOD 1	
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Materials and Supplies						
Publication Costs				9500		
Consultant Services						
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Alterations and Renovations						
Postage for direct mail ad	vertising					
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Indirect Cost	C Phone Number)	Rate (%)	Base (\$)	Funds Requested (\$) 18000		
Indirect Cost	C Phone Number)	Rate (%)	Base (\$)	Funds Requested (\$) 18000		

RESEARCH & RELATED Budget (F-K) (Funds Requested)

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OMB Number: 4040-0001 Expiration Date: 04/30/2008

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Bud	get Narrative
	ect Number: RME-DZK02524
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A.	Salaries and Wages – includes salary for 0.05 FTE Project Leader @\$2,500
В.	Fringe Benefits - Includes fringe at 32% of \$2,500 salary for Project Leader for a total of \$800.00
C.	Total Salaries and Fringe Benefits - \$3300.00
D.	Nonexpendable Equipment – None Requested
	Materials/Supplies/student books – \$2,200
. E.	Travel None Requested
F.	Publications Costs – None Requested
G. (Computer Costs – None Requested
H. S	Student Assistance – None Requested
	All Other Direct Costs – Room Cost for 30 classes (6 classes in 5 different locations across the state) = \$3,000. Instructor/Trainer Fees for 44 students in 5 locations statewide = \$9,500 Total Other Direct Costs = \$12,500.00
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	Total Direct Costs - $3,300 + 14,700 = 18,000.00$
K. *	*Participating Producers will contribute \$4,000 towards the project costs.
: 	
L.'	Total Amount Requested = \$18,000.00

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NATIONAL AG RISK EDUCAT LIBRARY	에는 제품 방법 전문에 있는 것을 알려서 있는 것을 알려서 있는 것을 알려야 했다. (March 1996) 이 가슴을 알려야 한다. (March 19 (March 1996) 이 가슴을 알려야 한다. (March 1996) 이 가	Risk Management Educatio lanagement Education	7
\mathbf{X}	Grant Proposal		
Project Name:	Occupational Spanish Class for Vern	nont Dairy Producers	
Project Number:	RME-DZK02524		···· •• ··· .
Submitted:	2/27/2008 10:22:28 AM Central Tim	le	
Project Director:	Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Phone: 802-828-6900 E-mail: Louise.Waterman@state		
Contact Person:	Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Phone: 802-828-6900 E-mail: Louise.Waterman@state		
Mailing Address:	116 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2901 FAX: 802-828-3831		

Project Summary:

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Human resource risk for Vermont dairy businesses can be managed through improved communication skills. One labor management issue for Vermont dairy producers is communicating with a Hispanic workforce. This project will improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted for the participants. Participants will learn a limited number of practical expressions within a short period of time- a total of 24 hours of instruction. The class will follow the Command Spanish® philosophy of teaching highly specific phrases developed for particular occupations and industries. This will not be a traditional Spanish class project. We anticipate 44 Vermont dairy producers will attend the Occupational Spanish class. We will hold the class with certified Command Spanish instructors in 5 different regions across the state to make it convenient for producers to attend class.

Producer Impact:

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Our project's targeted results fall within the Human/Personal Risk Management Area. By learning key Spanish phrases and improved cultural understanding, our project participants will improve employee recruitment, management and retention. Improved communications is a key to managing this risk area. Although this project doesn't directly reduce risk such as purchasing crop insurance would, it is an indicator that participants are taking proactive steps to manage this risk area.

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Page 2

One of the greatest risks facing Vermont producers today is the growing and chronic shortage of American labor. The American workforce is getting older, shrinking and more educated. In 1960 one-half of American men dropped out of school. Today that number is 10%. The more educated American generally is not interested in farm labor. Vermont dairy farmers find it increasingly difficult to recruit and hire individuals to fill. dairy related positions, especially milker positions.

Out of necessity to get work done on dairy farms, producers began hiring Hispanic workers. This trend began almost a decade ago and has steadily increased. Based on a survey done several years ago, it was estimated one-third of dairy farms in Vermont hire Hispanic workers. The number continues to grow. These workers contribute to over one-half of all milk produced in the state and work on both small and large farms. Hispanic workers have become an essential part of Vermont's dairy industry and are important to the industries future in Vermont. Without this workforce many farms would be forced out of business.

Ta	argets - What Participants Will Learn, Achiev	ve. Apply ats . W	 Han aya	an a	
	Target(s) that will happen by end of project	When Measured		How Will You Verify	
1	Participants will more fully understand cultural differences within a diverse workforce.	March, 2009	40	end of class evaluation	
2	Participants will see an increase in their Hispanic employee's productivity due to the participant's increased communications skills. Work will get done more efficiently and and safely on the participants farm.	March, 2009	30	end of class evaluation	
3	Participants will see an increase in their ability to communicate with their Hispanic employees	March, 2009	40	pre and post class evaluation	
4	Participants will have an increase ability to speak the Spanish langauge - in particular phrases used within a dairy operation	March	40	Pre and post student evaluation	
5	Participants will learn a limited number of practical and useful expressions in Spanish within a short period of time.	March, 2009	40	pre and post student evaluation	
	Target(s) that will happen after project	When Measured	Est. Number	How Will You Verify	
1	Participants will continue to use their new skills and gain even greater communications skills with their Hispanic employees	September 2009	32	survey	•
2	Participants will continue learning new phrases from the book on their own after class completion	September 2009	18	survey	
3	Participants that show a decrease in employer/ employee conflict due to improved communications	September 2009	23	survey	

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Describe Participant(s):

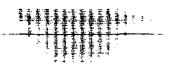
There are approximately 1100 dairy producers in Vermont. The dairy industry in Vermont generates 80-85% of our agricultural revenue. Hispanic workers have become an essential part of Vermont's dairy industry and are important to the industries future in Vermont. A survey of Vermont's dairy producers indicates that one-third of all full-time employees on these farms are Hispanic. This number continues to grow. It's not just large farms that have Hispanic workforces; many small farms are starting to utilize this workforce. Producers are utilizing this workforce resource in an attempt to alleviate the labor shortage crisis in the Vermont dairy industry.

We believe we will be successful in getting 48 dairy producers and dairy industry professional to participate in this project because we have worked and will continue to work with many producers with Hispanic employees on other projects such as offering milker training and calf-care workshops in Spanish for Hispanic employees. We have built business relationships and identified needs. These producers have indicated day-to-day on-farm communication and cross-cultural understanding with Spanish speaking employees are two challenges they face with this work force. Cultural and communication issues hamper productivity - impacting farm profitability.

We did a pilot project last winter in Addison and Franklin Counties in Vermont where we developed an Occupation Dairy Spanish course book (with specific input from Vermont dairy producers) with the support of Command Spanish® and then offered an occupational Spanish class to dairy producers. We had 30 producers sign up and begin the class and 27 producers finished the 24 hours of class instruction. 100% of those participants indicated they would recommend a similar class to other producers and 88 % said they were interested in a follow-up class for themselves. We also have interest from producers who heard about the project but did not participate in the pilot project. The success of that pilot project is a driving force behind developing this project proposal. Dairy producers are interested in improving their Spanish language skills to make human resource management easier. We will have success in meeting the challenge of drawing in participants.

A key to the success of this project is working with Vermont dairy producers who are committed to the success of their businesses. Project participants will be producers who are motivated to move forward with improving employee management practices and giving them specific guidance and follow-up to implement changed practices.

Page 4



Project Steps

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		What Project Team Does	What Participants Do	When Measured	Est. Number	<u>How Will You Verify</u>	
	1	Set up Spanish class dates and locations with collaborators and determine class instructors for each location	Not applicable	August, 2008	4	participation in planning meetings	
	2	Curricula development with instructors using Command Spanish Occupational Dairy	Not Applicable	November, 2008	8	class syllabus	
		book as the guideline and class book.				· · · · · .	
	3	Project leader will make farm visits to potencial project participants	Commit to attending a class and promoting the class to other producers	December 2008	40	one-on-one survey	
	4	Order class books and prepare class materials	Not Applicable	December, 2008	44	material ready for class	
:	5	Certify two additional instructors in Command Spanish instruction	Not Applicable	December, 2008	2	certification through Command Spanish	
•	6	Set up and advertise classes through flyers in producer newsletters and several press releases in Agriview which is mailed to $\sim 75\%$ of dairy producers in VT.	Not Applicable	January, 2009	•	flyer + registration	
	7	Inform collaborators and other ag industry leaders on the project details + dates/locations for class. Ask them to promote it to their client base.	Not Applicable	January, 2009	75	email list	
	8	Make presentations to the two activie young dairy farmer discussion groups in VT. Describe the project and ask for participation.	Register for workshop/webinar	January, 2009	50	discussion groups meeting attendance	
	9	Collect participant registration	Participants will pay for the entire class tuition up front and commit to attending 80% of the classes to be eligible for the scholarship reimbursement.	January, 2009		registration and class payment	

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 Pr	oject Steps		Madalandh y er ol dat a comune logatha o batta logat			······································	a, 1 . ang
	What Project Team Does	What Participants Do	When Measured	<u>Est. Nur</u>	<u>nber</u>	How Will You Verify	
10	Instructors will begin class	Participants will 'weigh in' on what chapters/phrases in the book they would like covered during class. This will increase participant buy-in plus there will not be time during class to cover the entire book	February/March, 2009 after first class		44	survey	
 11	Instrutors will teach class	Participants will commit to- doing the homework between classes.	January/February, 2009 after first class			in-class feedback	
. 12	Instructors will teach	Participants will practice the new skills by communicating with their Hispanic employees between classes. This is considered the class homework	April, 2009	-	36	in-class feedback + end of class evaluations	
13	Instructors will teach 24 hours of classroom time over a 6 to 8 week period	Participants will attend a minimum of 80% of the classroom hours and be eligible for the scholarship. The scholarship will pay 70% of the tuition cost.	April/May, 2009		38	number of scholarships awarded	
14	Assess participants language skill development.	Participate in an individual language assessment survey during the first class and again at the end	April/May, 2009		44	assessments and evaluations	

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Risk Categories: Human

Investor Target Area(s):

Improved:

Employee recruitment, management and retention

class and again at the end

of the classes.

Project Description

This project will offer Dairy Occupational Spanish Class to increase producer ability to speak the Spanish language (in particular phrases used within a dairy operation) and increase cross-cultural understanding between producers and Hispanic workers. Cultural and communication issues hamper safety, labor efficiency and productivity - impacting farm profitability.

This course will focus on basic communication skills designed specifically for Vermont Dairy Farmers. Our class will follow the Command Spanish® philosophy of teaching highly specific phrases developed for particular occupations and industries. The basis for this language instruction program is to first define the particular words and phrases needed by Vermont dairy producers - and then to focus on learning that essential Spanish in class. The class goal will be to learn a limited number of practical and useful expressions within a short period of time. This is an action-oriented program-targeted to helping get-work done efficiently and safely on the farm - it is not a traditional Spanish class.

This project will be similar to a Spanish language immersion program, where language learning does not stop when you leave the classroom. Since the participants have Hispanic employees on their farms, they will be using Spanish every day! The only way to really learn a new language is to practice it. The participants will have plenty of time and countless opportunities to practice their Spanish language skills. Though challenging at first, in no time participants will quickly acquire the Spanish language skills needed to meet the project targets.

The book and CD that were developed for a pilot project last winter, specifically for Vermont dairy producers, with the help of Command Spanish and the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at UVM, will be used for this project as well.

Classes will be offered in 5 locations across Vermont. Multiple locations will allow us to keep the classes small and at convenient locations for producers.

Classes will run once or twice a week for 4 hours per class for a total of 24 hours of instruction over a 6 to 8 week period. This will allow participants to 'practice' their new skills between class periods.

The student/producer numbers for each class will be small so there will be ample one-on-one guidance to keep the process of human resource risk management moving forward.

Participant scholarship reimbursement will be after the classes are completed to encourage regular attendance.

Tools, curriculum, presenters:

We did a pilot project in Vermont last winter where we developed an Occupational Dairy Spanish course book and CD with specific input from Vermont dairy producers and with the support of Command Spanish®. The book and CD that were developed last year specifically for Vermont dairy producers, with the help of Command Spanish and the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at UVM, will be used for this project.

We will also develop class hand-outs that can be laminated and posted at the participant's barn. We certified two instructors in Vermont through Command Spanish® last winter and they are instructors/collaborators for this project. Their additional qualifications are within the collaborator qualification part of this grant proposal. We have also budgeted to certify two more instructors for this project.

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Project Team

Team leader and members:

Louise Waterman, Education Coordinator Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us

Project collaborators:

*Vermont Dairy Producers, project participants

*David Chappelle, Outreach Professional, UVMEXT, dchappel@uvm.edu, Certified Command Spanish instructor

ind artist -

*Olga Saldarriaga, Cold Hollow Carrer Center, osaldarriaga@enosburgk12.net, Certified Command Spanish instructor

*Cheryl Mitchell, Addison County Migrant Worker Coalition member, Cheryl.Mitchell@uvm.edu, assist with promoting the project

*Tim Buskey, Vermont Farm Bureau administrator, TBuskey@gmavt.net, assist with promoting the project

Describe your team's capacity to deliver this project:

History of Service. Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM) has a long history of delivering programs and services to Vermont producers. They have earned the respect of the farmers they serve. This goodwill among farmers in the state will be a critical factor in ensuring that producers will respond to invitations to participate in this project. VDAFM has a successful track record working with RME on other risk management partnerships.

Knowledge of Vermont Agriculture. The range of activities operated by VAAFM puts them in a unique position of knowing the farm characteristics, crops, and trends in agriculture within the state.

Access to Unique Producer Information. VAAFM already has access to extensive data on the production characteristics of farms in the state. They can draw on much of this information to design an effective risk management education project.

Louise Waterman (team leader and AAFM employee) has been working with farmers for a number of years. She is the project coordinator for one RME on-going farm labor management project and several past RME projects, works with producers on farm transfer planning, facilitates a dairy management team, as well as supporting the coordination of the existing Farm Viability Enhancement Program and working with a young farmer discussion group. As such, she is experienced in building business relationships with farmers and other agricultural professionals, coordinating with other service providers, assigning tasks, delegating and follow-through.

Other team capacity information included in 'requested documents'.

Project Review

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We reviewed three projects in the Ag Risk Education Library: *A training Program on Human Risk Management for Producers Using Latino Labor Force *Human Resourc Risks and Contingency Planning *Labor Risk Management Study Circles

We will enhance our Spanish for Dairy Producer class curriculum with resource material from these projects. For example we will use 'Tips for Farm Employer/Employee Relationships' from 'Labor Risk Management Study Circles' for class discussion and a class hand-out.



MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members

From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst

Date: June 6, 2008

Subject: Grant Request

Enclosed please find one (1) request which the Joint Fiscal Office recently received from the Administration:

JFO #2327 — \$18,000 grant from the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education to the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. These grant funds will be used to improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted to the participants. [*JFO received 06/05/08*]

The Joint Fiscal Office has reviewed this submission and determined that all appropriate forms bearing the necessary approvals are in order.

In accordance with the procedures for processing such requests, we ask you to review the enclosed and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at 802/828-1488; <u>nlavery@leg.state.vt.us</u> or Stephen Klein at 802/828-5769; <u>sklein@leg.state.vt.us</u>) if you have questions or would like this item held for Joint Fiscal Committee review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by <u>June 20</u> we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.

cc: James Reardon, Commissioner Linda Morse, Administrative Assistant Roger Allbee, Secretary

JFO #2327

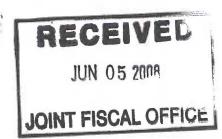
STATE OF VERMONT GRANT ACCEPTANCE FORM

GRANT SUMMARY:	Grant to increase basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding of Vermont dairy farmers that deal with Spanish speaking employees.
TITLE OF GRANT:	Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers—Risk Management Education
FEDERAL CATALOG No.:	N/A
GRANTOR / DONOR:	The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources 112 Townsend Hall Newark, Delaware 19716-2130
DATE:	5/22/08
DEPARTMENT:	Agriculture, Food and Markets
GRANT / DONATION:	This grant is focused on improving Spanish language skills of Vermont Farmers to help them communicate better with their Hispanic employees.
AMOUNT / VALUE:	\$18,000.00
POSITIONS REQUESTED:	None
GRANT PERIOD:	4/15/08 to 4/14/09
COMMENTS: There is an additional \$4,000.00 that will come from participating producers to help fund the project costs. The total cost of the	

project is \$22,000.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT: SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION SENT TO JOINT FISCAL OFFICE:

108 (INITIAL) (INITIAL) 7/08 DATE:



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE

1.14

(use additional sheets as needed)

FORM AA-1 (Rev. 9-90)

1. Agency: 2. Department: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets 3. Program: Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers Legal Title of Grant: Risk Management Education 4. 5. Federal Catalog No.: N/A 6. Grantor and Office Address: The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources 112 Townsend Hall Newark, Delaware 19716-2130 7. Grant Period: 07-01-2008 To: 06-30-2009 From: 8. Purpose of Grant: (Attach additional Sheets if needed) To improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted for the participants. 9. Impact on Existing Programs if Grant is not Accepted: None 10. (1st State FY) (2nd State FY) **Budget Information:** (3rd State FY) FY 2009 FY 2010 FY 2011 **EXPENDITURES: Personal Services** \$ 12,800.00 \$ \$ **Operating Expenses** \$ 9,200.00 \$ \$ \$ \$ Grants \$ TOTAL \$ 22,000.00 \$ \$ **REVENUES:** State Funds: Cash \$ \$ \$ In-Kind \$ \$ \$ Federal Funds: (Direct Costs) \$ \$ \$ (Statewide Indirect) \$ \$ \$ (Department Indirect) \$ \$ \$ Other Funds: (source) University of Delaware - The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education \$ 18,000.00 \$ \$ Participating Producers (will contribute towards 4,000.00 \$ classroom costs and instructor fees) \$ \$ TOTAL 22,000.00 \$ \$ \$ Grants will be allocated to these Appropriation Nos. Amounts appropriation expenditure accounts DEPTID 2200030000 \$ 22,000.00 FUND 21889 **PROGRAM TBD**

Page 1

Form AA-1

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Page 2

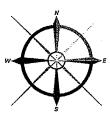
11. Will grant monies be spent by one or more personal service contracts? [X]YES []NO If YES, signature of appointing authority here indicates intent to follow current guidelines on bidding. (Date) 12a. Please list any requested Limited Service Positions: Titles Number of Positions TOTAL 12b. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available.] [] Can be obtained with available funds 13. Signature of Appointing Authority (Date) 5/21/08 Roga Allber I certify that no funds have been expended or committed in (Signature) anticipation of Joint Fiscal Secretary: Agriculture, Food & Markets Committee approval of this grant. (Title) 14. Action by Governor: Approved 08 [] Rejected (Signature) 15. Secretary of Administration: P Marint Ķ Request to JFO 5/27/08 Information to JFO (Signature) (Date) 16. Action by Joint Fiscal Committee: (Dates) Request to be placed on JFC agenda [] Approved (not placed on agenda in 30 days) [] [] [] Approved by JFC Rejected by JFC Approved by Legislature

(Signature)

(Date)

Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers

The participating producers will contribute \$4,000.00 towards project costs. This money will go towards paying for class room costs and instructor fees.



The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education

Dr. H. Don Tilmon, Director Laurie Wolinski, Associate Director Susan Olson, Program Coordinator 112 Townsend Hali College of Agriculture and Natural Resources University of Delaware Newark, Delaware 19716-2130 Phone: 302-831-6540 FAX: 302-831-0857 www.necrme.org

April 24, 2008

Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets 116 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620

Dear Louise,

I am pleased to provide formal notification that your Risk Management Education proposal entitled, "Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers" has been approved for funding in the amount of \$18,000. The grant will begin July 1, 2008, pending release of funds by USDA, and will end June 30, 2009. Our Contract and Grant Administrator at the University of Delaware will be in contact with you regarding the sub-contracting details.

Enclosed please find two copies of a Letter of Commitment outlining your responsibilities, which we ask each Project Director to sign. Please review the letter, sign it, and return one copy to us in the envelope provided so that it may be included with your subcontract.

All reporting will be conducted online, and is entered through the Risk Management Education Results Verification System – the same system utilized for Pre-Proposals and Full Applications. Instructions for reporting and a link to the Verification System are available on our website (<u>www.necrme.org</u>), under "Grants". We encourage you to keep your reporting activity current. The information you provide will be used to generate reports for Congress, in an effort to ensure the continued flow of educational funds for the Extension Risk Management Education Program.

Again, congratulations on your award. We look forward to working with you over the period of this project, and encourage you to contact us with any questions or concerns.

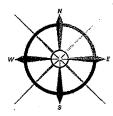
Sincerely yours,

H. Don Tilmon, Director



Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service





The Northeast Center for Risk Management Education

Dr. H. Don Tilmon, Director Laurie Wolinski, Associate Director Susan Olson, Program Coordinator 112 Townsend Hall College of Agriculture and Natural Resources University of Delaware Newark, Delaware 19716-2130 Phone: 302-831-6540 FAX: 302-831-0857 www.necrme.org

Grantee Letter of Commitment

Project: Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers

Organization: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Project Director: Louise Waterman

In accepting the funds awarded for this project, I commit to:

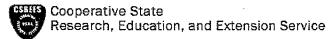
- Attend the annual Orientation Workshop for NECRME Project Directors, scheduled for October 2, 2008. The meeting will be held at a hotel near the Philadelphia International Airport. If more than one Project Director is involved with the project, only one need attend. (Travel expenses will be reimbursed for one person per project.)
- Submit online Progress Reports by the following dates: November 1, 2008; February 1, 2009; and May 1, 2009
- Submit a Final Report upon completion of the project (please note that final payment or up to 15% of allocated funds may be withheld until all reporting requirements are met). The Final Report for each project is a public document and will ultimately be available for viewing online in the Ag Risk Education Library.
- Send NECRME copies of educational curriculum, promotional brochures and other workshop materials developed through the project. In conjunction with your reporting activities, you will also be asked to upload or provide links to both promotional and educational materials.
- Include a statement on all printed materials produced for the project, which acknowledges the funding received from NECRME and utilizes both the Center's logo and the CSREES logo (details and the logos are available on the NECRME website – <u>necrme.org</u> – under "Grants").
- Send brief thank you letters to members of your Congressional delegation (for making this funding possible). You will be notified at the appropriate time, and sample letters will be provided.

I agree to meet these requirements, as stated by the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education.

Signature of Project Director: _

Date:

(Please sign and return one copy in the enclosed envelope. Thank you.)





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		2. DATE SUBM	ITTED	Applicant Identifier: ' TESUBWITES		
	APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	4/21/08	· ·	C-1CERAL ASSISTA		
	SF 424 (R&R)	3. DATE RECE	VED BY STATE	State Application Identifier		
. []	1. * TYPE OF SUBMISSION	4. Federal				
1	Pre-application Changed/Corrected Application					
-			* Organizational DI	лиs: 809376718		
	5. APPLICANT INFORMATION * Legal Name: Vermont Agency of Agricu	ulturo Egge		009370710		
	Department: Administration		dministration			
	* street1: 116 State Street	Street2:				
		nty: Washin	aton	* State: VT * ZIP Code: 05620-2		
	* Country: USA		gion			
	Person to be contacted on matters involving this applicat	lon				
···· ·	energy and a second method and an and a second method and an analysis. The second of a second second second second	Middle Name:	- * Las	t Name: Suffix:		
	Louise		Wa	terman		
	* Phone Number: 802-828-6900 Fa	x Number: 80	2-828-3831 E	Email: Louise.Waterman@state.vi		
6	6. * EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION (EIN) or (TIN):		7. * TYPE OF APPLICANT:			
	03-6000264		A	·		
	8. * TYPE OF APPLICATION: New		Other (Specify):			
	Resubmission Renewal Continuation	levision	Smal	I Business Organization Type		
	If Revision, mark appropriate box(es).		9. * NAME OF FEDERAL AGE	NCY:		
· .		rease Duration	USDA CSREES	·····		
	D. Decrease Duration [] E. Other (specify):			DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:		
*	* Is this application being submitted to other agencies?	Yes No 7	10.500			
· · · ·	What other Agencies?			ES		
	11. * DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJEC		en a sur a construction de la const			
	Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers					
	12. * AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (cities, countie	s, states, etc.)				
	Vermont - State wide		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-		
	13. PROPOSED PROJECT:		14. CONGRESSIONAL DIST			
	* Start Date * Ending Date July 1, 2008 June 30, 2009		a. * Applicant Vermont	b. * Project Vermont		
	15. PROJECT DIRECTOR/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Prefix: * First Name:	Middle Name:		st Name: Suffix:		
	Louise	· · · ·	Wa	iterman		
F	Position/Title: Education Coordinator	* Organizatio	n Name: Vermont Ade	ncy of Agriculture. Food & Marke		
· [[Department:	Division:	Administratio	n		
	* Street1: 116 State Street	Street2:				
1		^{nty:} Washir	igton	* State: VT * ZIP Code: 05620-2		
+	* Country: USA	••				
			0-828-3831	Email: Louise.Waterman@state.v		

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OMB Number: 4040-0001 Expiration Date: 04/30/2008

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SF 424	(R&R) APPL	ICATION FOR F	EDERAL ASS	ISTANCE	E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E		- · · CPF	Page 2
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RESEARCH & RELATED Budget (A-B) (Funds Requested)

OMB Number: 4040-0001 Expiration Date: 04/30/2008

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	Northeast Center for Risk Mr. Egement Education ION 2008 Unrestricted Risk Management Education Grant Proposal
Project Name:	Occupational Spanish Class for Vermont Dairy Producers
Project Number:	RME-DZK02524
Submitted:	2/27/2008 10:22:28 AM Central Time
Project Director:	Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets Phone: 802-828-6900 E-mail: Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us
Contact Person:	Louise Waterman Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets Phone: 802-828-6900 E-mail: Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us
Mailing Address:	116 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2901 FAX: 802-828-3831

Project Summary:

in.

Human resource risk for Vermont dairy businesses can be managed through improved communication skills. One labor management issue for Vermont dairy producers is communicating with a Hispanic workforce. This project will improve effective communication between Vermont dairy producers and their Spanish speaking employees by increasing participants' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding through an Occupational Spanish Class targeted for the participants. Participants will learn a limited number of practical expressions within a short period of time- a total of 24 hours of instruction. The class will follow the Command Spanish® philosophy of teaching highly specific phrases developed for particular occupations and industries. This will not be a traditional Spanish class project. We anticipate 44 Vermont dairy producers will attend the Occupational Spanish class. We will hold the class with certified Command Spanish instructors in 5 different regions across the state to make it convenient for producers to attend class.

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Producer Impact:

Our project's targeted results fall within the Human/Personal Risk Management Area. By learning key Spanish phrases and improved cultural understanding, our project participants will improve employee recruitment, management and retention. Improved communications is a key to managing this risk area. Although this project doesn't directly reduce risk such as purchasing crop insurance would, it is an indicator that participants are taking proactive steps to manage this risk area.

One of the greatest risks facing Vermont producers today is the growing and chronic shortage of American labor. The American workforce is getting older, shrinking and more educated. In 1960 one-half of American men dropped out of school. Today that number is 10%. The more educated American generally is not interested in farm labor. Vermont dairy farmers find it increasingly difficult to recruit and hire individuals to fill dairy related positions, especially milker positions.

Out of necessity to get work done on dairy farms, producers began hiring Hispanic workers. This trend began almost a decade ago and has steadily increased. Based on a survey done several years ago, it was estimated one-third of dairy farms in Vermont hire Hispanic workers. The number continues to grow. These workers contribute to over one-half of all milk produced in the state and work on both small and large farms. Hispanic workers have become an essential part of Vermont's dairy industry and are important to the industries future in Vermont. Without this workforce many farms would be forced out of business.

Page 2

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Гг	argets - What Participants Will Learn, Achiev	ve, Apply cets · I	V'- -	λατοπολογικό το
	Target(s) that will happen by end of project	When Measured	<u>Est. Number</u>	How Will You Verify
l	Participants will more fully understand cultural differences within a diverse workforce.	March, 2009	40	end of class evaluation
2	Participants will see an increase in their Hispanic employee's productivity due to the participant's increased communications skills. Work will get done more efficiently and and safely on the participants farm.	March, 2009	30	end of class evaluation
} 	Participants will see an increase in their ability to communicate with their Hispanic employees	March, 2009	40	pre and post class evaluation
1	Participants will have an increase ability to speak the Spanish langauge - in particular phrases used within a dairy operation	March	40	Pre and post student evaluation
5	Participants will learn a limited number of practical and useful expressions in Spanish within a short period of time.	March, 2009	40	pre and post student evaluation
	Target(s) that will happen after project	When Measured	Est. Number	<u>How Will You Verify</u>
	Participants will continue to use their new skills and gain even greater communications skills with their Hispanic employees	September 2009	32	survey
	Participants will continue learning new phrases from the book on their own after class completion	September 2009	18	survey
3	Participants that show a decrease in employer/ employee conflict due to improved communications	September 2009	23	survey

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Describe Participant(s):

There are approximately 1100 dairy producers in Vermont. The dairy industry in Vermont generates 80-85% of our agricultural revenue. Hispanic workers have become an essential part of Vermont's dairy industry and are important to the industries future in Vermont. A survey of Vermont's dairy producers indicates that one-third of all full-time employees on these farms are Hispanic. This number continues to grow. It's not just large farms that have Hispanic workforces; many small farms are starting to utilize this workforce. Producers are utilizing this workforce resource in an attempt to alleviate the labor shortage crisis in the Vermont dairy industry.

We believe we will be successful in getting 48 dairy producers and dairy industry professional to participate in this project because we have worked and will continue to work with many producers with Hispanic employees on other projects such as offering milker training and calf care workshops in Spanish for Hispanic employees. We have built business relationships and identified needs. These producers have indicated day-to-day on-farm communication and cross-cultural understanding with Spanish speaking employees are two challenges they face with this work force. Cultural and communication issues hamper productivity - impacting farm profitability.

We did a pilot project last winter in Addison and Franklin Counties in Vermont where we developed an Occupation Dairy Spanish course book (with specific input from Vermont dairy producers) with the support of Command Spanish® and then offered an occupational Spanish class to dairy producers. We had 30 producers sign up and begin the class and 27 producers finished the 24 hours of class instruction. 100% of those participants indicated they would recommend a similar class to other producers and 88 % said they were interested in a follow-up class for themselves. We also have interest from producers who heard about the project but did not participate in the pilot project. The success of that pilot project is a driving force behind developing this project proposal. Dairy producers are interested in improving their Spanish language skills to make human resource management easier. We will have success in meeting the challenge of drawing in participants.

A key to the success of this project is working with Vermont dairy producers who are committed to the success of their businesses. Project participants will be producers who are motivated to move forward with improving employee management practices and giving them specific guidance and follow-up to implement changed practices.

Page 4

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Project Steps

	What Project Team Does	What Participants Do	When Measured	Est. Number	How Will You Verify
1	Set up Spanish class dates and locations with collaborators and determine class instructors for each location	Not applicable	August, 2008	4	participation in planning meetings
 2	Curricula development with instructors using Command Spanish Occupational Dairy book as the guideline and	Not Applicable	November, 2008	8	class syllabus
	class book.		e Antonio de la	· · ·	· · ·
3	Project leader will make farm visits to potencial project participants	Commit to attending a class and promoting the class to other producers	December 2008	40	one-on-one survey
4	Order class books and prepare class materials	Not Applicable	December, 2008	44	material ready for class
5	Certify two additional instructors in Command Spanish instruction	Not Applicable	December, 2008	2	certification through Command Spanish
6	Set up and advertise classes through flyers in producer newsletters and several press releases in Agriview which is mailed to $\sim 75\%$ of dairy producers in VT.	Not Applicable	January, 2009		flyer + registration
7	Inform collaborators and other ag industry leaders on the project details + dates/locations for class. Ask them to promote it to their client base.	Not Applicable	January, 2009	75	email list
8	Make presentations to the two activie young dairy farmer discussion groups in VT. Describe the project and ask for participation.	Register for workshop/webinar	January, 2009	50	discussion groups meeting attendance
9	Collect participant registration	Participants will pay for the entire class tuition up front and commit to attending 80% of the classes to be eligible for the scholarship reimbursement.	January, 2009	44	registration and class payment

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	Pr	oject Steps					·•••
		What Project Team Does	What Participants Do	When Measured	Est. Number	How Will You Verify	
	10	Instructors will begin class	Participants will 'weigh in' on what chapters/phrases in the book they would like covered during class. This will increase participant buy-in plus there will not be time during class to cover the entire book	February/March, 2009 after first class	44	survey	
	-11-	Instrutors will teach class	Participants will commit to- doing the homework between classes.	January/February, 2009 after first class		in-class feedback	
	12	Instructors will teach	Participants will practice the new skills by communicating with their Hispanic employees between classes. This is considered the class homework	April, 2009	36	in-class feedback + end of class evaluations	
	13	Instructors will teach 24 hours of classroom time over a 6 to 8 week period	Participants will attend a minimum of 80% of the classroom hours and be eligible for the scholarship. The scholarship will pay 70% of the tuition cost.	April/May, 2009	38	number of scholarships awarded	
	14	Assess participants language skill development.	Participate in an individual language assessment survey during the first class and again at the end of the classes.	April/May, 2009	44	assessments and evaluations	

Risk Categories: Human

Investor Target Area(s):

Improved:

Employee recruitment, management and retention

Project Description

1

This project will offer Dairy Occupational Spanish Class to increase producer ability to speak the Spanish language (in particular phrases used within a dairy operation) and increase cross-cultural understanding between producers and Hispanic workers. Cultural and communication issues hamper safety, labor efficiency and productivity - impacting farm profitability.

This course will focus on basic communication skills designed specifically for Vermont Dairy Farmers. Our class will follow the Command Spanish® philosophy of teaching highly specific phrases developed for particular occupations and industries. The basis for this language instruction program is to first define the particular words and phrases needed by Vermont dairy producers - and then to focus on learning that essential Spanish in class. The class goal will be to learn a limited number of practical and useful expressions within a short period of time. This is an action-oriented program targeted to helping get work done efficiently and safely on the farm - it is not a traditional Spanish class.

This project will be similar to a Spanish language immersion program, where language learning does not stop when you leave the classroom. Since the participants have Hispanic employees on their farms, they will be using Spanish every day! The only way to really learn a new language is to practice it. The participants will have plenty of time and countless opportunities to practice their Spanish language skills. Though challenging at first, in no time participants will quickly acquire the Spanish language skills needed to meet the project targets.

The book and CD that were developed for a pilot project last winter, specifically for Vermont dairy producers, with the help of Command Spanish and the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at UVM, will be used for this project as well.

Classes will be offered in 5 locations across Vermont. Multiple locations will allow us to keep the classes small and at convenient locations for producers.

Classes will run once or twice a week for 4 hours per class for a total of 24 hours of instruction over a 6 to 8 week period. This will allow participants to 'practice' their new skills between class periods.

The student/producer numbers for each class will be small so there will be ample one-on-one guidance to keep the process of human resource risk management moving forward.

Participant scholarship reimbursement will be after the classes are completed to encourage regular attendance.

Tools, curriculum, presenters:

We did a pilot project in Vermont last winter where we developed an Occupational Dairy Spanish course book and CD with specific input from Vermont dairy producers and with the support of Command Spanish®. The book and CD that were developed last year specifically for Vermont dairy producers, with the help of Command Spanish and the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at UVM, will be used for this project.

We will also develop class hand-outs that can be laminated and posted at the participant's barn. We certified two instructors in Vermont through Command Spanish® last winter and they are instructors/collaborators for this project. Their additional qualifications are within the collaborator qualification part of this grant proposal. We have also budgeted to certify two more instructors for this project.

Project Description

This project will offer Dairy Occupational Spanish Class to increase producer ability to speak the Spanish language (in particular phrases used within a dairy operation) and increase cross-cultural understanding between producers and Hispanic workers. Cultural and communication issues hamper safety, labor efficiency and productivity - impacting farm profitability.

This course will focus on basic communication skills designed specifically for Vermont Dairy Farmers. Our class will follow the Command Spanish® philosophy of teaching highly specific phrases developed for particular occupations and industries. The basis for this language instruction program is to first define the particular words and phrases needed by Vermont dairy producers - and then to focus on learning that essential Spanish in class. The class goal will be to learn a limited number of practical and useful expressions within a short period of time. This is an action-oriented program targeted to helping get work done efficiently and safely on the farm - it is not a traditional Spanish class.

This project will be similar to a Spanish language immersion program, where language learning does not stop when you leave the classroom. Since the participants have Hispanic employees on their farms, they will be using Spanish every day! The only way to really learn a new language is to practice it. The participants will have plenty of time and countless opportunities to practice their Spanish language skills. Though challenging at first, in no time participants will quickly acquire the Spanish language skills needed to meet the project targets.

The book and CD that were developed for a pilot project last winter, specifically for Vermont dairy producers, with the help of Command Spanish and the Department of Community Development & Applied Economics at UVM, will be used for this project as well.

Classes will be offered in 5 locations across Vermont. Multiple locations will allow us to keep the classes small and at convenient locations for producers.

Classes will run once or twice a week for 4 hours per class for a total of 24 hours of instruction over a 6 to 8 week period. This will allow participants to 'practice' their new skills between class periods.

The student/producer numbers for each class will be small so there will be ample one-on-one guidance to keep the process of human resource risk management moving forward.

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Project Team

Team leader and members:

Louise Waterman, Education Coordinator Louise.Waterman@state.vt.us

Project collaborators:

*Vermont Dairy Producers, project participants

*David Chappelle, Outreach Professional, UVMEXT, dchappel@uvm.edu, Certified Command Spanish instructor

*Olga Saldarriaga, Cold Hollow Carrer Center, osaldarriaga@enosburgk12.net, Certified Command Spanish instructor

*Cheryl Mitchell, Addison County Migrant Worker Coalition member, Cheryl Mitchell@uvm.edu, assist with promoting the project

*Tim Buskey, Vermont Farm Bureau administrator, TBuskey@gmavt.net, assist with promoting the project

Describe your team's capacity to deliver this project:

History of Service. Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFM) has a long history of delivering programs and services to Vermont producers. They have earned the respect of the farmers they serve. This goodwill among farmers in the state will be a critical factor in ensuring that producers will respond to invitations to participate in this project. VDAFM has a successful track record working with RME on other risk management partnerships.

Knowledge of Vermont Agriculture. The range of activities operated by VAAFM puts them in a unique position of knowing the farm characteristics, crops, and trends in agriculture within the state.

Access to Unique Producer Information. VAAFM already has access to extensive data on the production characteristics of farms in the state. They can draw on much of this information to design an effective risk management education project.

Louise Waterman (team leader and AAFM employee) has been working with farmers for a number of years. She is the project coordinator for one RME on-going farm labor management project and several past RME projects, works with producers on farm transfer planning, facilitates a dairy management team, as well as supporting the coordination of the existing Farm Viability Enhancement Program and working with a young farmer discussion group. As such, she is experienced in building business relationships with farmers and other agricultural professionals, coordinating with other service providers, assigning tasks, delegating and follow-through.

Other team capacity information included in 'requested documents'.



Project Review

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We reviewed three projects in the Ag Risk Education Library: *A training Program on Human Risk Management for Producers Using Latino Labor Force *Human Resourc Risks and Contingency Planning

*Labor Risk Management Study Circles

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We will enhance our Spanish for Dairy Producer class curriculum with resource material from these projects. For example we will use 'Tips for Farm Employer/Employee Relationships' from 'Labor Risk Management Study Circles' for class discussion and a class hand-out.

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