



Study Title: Equity in access of Midwestern farmers to the US voluntary soil carbon sequestration market

Investigators:

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I am writing on behalf of a team of researchers from University of Illinois and Ohio State University about a study we are conducting on how different farmers and farm operations perceive carbon markets and other conservation agricultural funding programs.

We are speaking to farmers in the Midwest – specifically in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. We are interested in talking with all kinds of producers and operations, including but not limited to conventional, organic, and regenerative farms both small and large; operations raising grain, specialty crops, or livestock; and diverse farmers, row crop farmers, ranchers, multi-generational farmers as well as new farmers. Participation in the carbon market is not required to participate in this study. We are also speaking with some key informants who work with farming populations and can speak on behalf of their advocacy work.

I am reaching out to request an interview with you on behalf of our team to find out if you would be interested in participating in this project? The interview is recorded and typically lasts no longer than 90 minutes. We will ask you questions relating to your farming operation and access to carbon markets. Your participation is completely voluntary. You can also choose not to answer any questions at any point. All interview data will be made confidential.

If you are interested in participating, we would travel to meet you for the interview at a time and place that is convenient for you. We can also set a time to talk virtually over Zoom or the phone if that works better for your schedule.

Participants will receive \$50 as a thank you for participation in the study. In-person interviewees will receive cash, and if the interview is conducted via Zoom or phone you will receive a check in the mail.

Please reply to this email if you are interested in participating. Share your phone number if you would prefer to communicate over the phone. We will be in touch shortly after we hear from you to schedule a time to meet. We look forward to hearing your perspective.

Sincerely,

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