

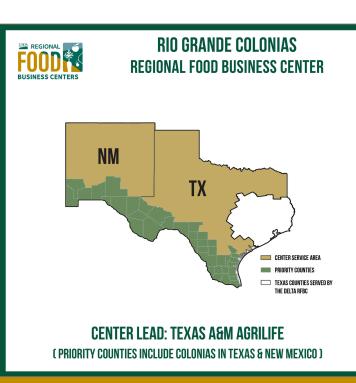
# NEWSLETTER

Supporting small and mid-sized farmers and food businesses in Texas and New Mexico through post-harvest technical assistance, coordination, and funding opportunities.

You have subscribed to our newsletter, which will keep you up-to-date with all offerings from the Rio Grande Colonias USDA Regional Food Business Center. We will also share information about other regional food systems events, training resources, funding opportunities, and more. Thank you for reading!

#### **ABOUT US**

The Rio Grande Colonias USDA Regional Food Business Center is one of twelve Centers nationwide tasked with serving small to mid-sized farmers and food businesses with post-harvest support in three categories: Coordination, Technical Assistance, and Capacity Building. Each Center has a unique, regionally tailored approach. Our Center is serving Texas and New Mexico with focused assistance to Colonias in both states. Texas is fortunate to have support from two Centers, the Delta USDA Regional Food Business Center is serving 53 counties in East Texas. Visit our website to learn more about our service area!



## COORDINATION SUPPORT AVAILABLE!

Our Center works with regional partners to support public-private partnerships, including technical assistance and access to resources that serve the specific needs of small and midsized farmers and food businesses across Texas and New Mexico.

For more information on how we may be able to assist your business, visit the link below!

**LEARN MORE!** 



#### **CENTER UPDATE**

Thank you to all farmers and food business owners that applied for support from our Business Builder Farm and Food Grant or Frontera Farm and Food Business Grant! If you missed your chance to submit for our first round of grant offerings, stay tuned for information on subsequent rounds opening this Fall and early 2026!

While grants are closed, we are thrilled to share that our technical assistance offerings are about to ramp up in really exciting ways! We are currently planning a wide range of both in person and virtual opportunities as well as exploring focused training for small groups.

### SAVE THE DATE FOR REGIONAL TRAININGS & EVENTS!

- GO TEXAN Expo -- June 18-21, Dallas, Texas
  - Register Here: <a href="https://www.gotexan.org/PARTNERS-ONLY/GO-TEXAN-EXPO">https://www.gotexan.org/PARTNERS-ONLY/GO-TEXAN-EXPO</a>
- Southern Family Farmers and Food Systems Conference -- August 4-5, San Marcos, Texas
  - Register Here: <a href="https://www.southernfamilyfarmersconference.org/">https://www.southernfamilyfarmersconference.org/</a>
- Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course -- August 4-6, College Station, Texas
  - Register Here: <a href="https://beefcattleshortcourse.com/">https://beefcattleshortcourse.com/</a>

## ARE YOU A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER?



Our Center is looking for technical assistance providers in the food systems and business development spaces to support our clients in reaching their unique business goals. Read below to learn more about the types of providers and delivery we are looking for.

#### **KEY CATEGORIES**

- Farming Operations
- Product Development
- Food Processing and Production
- Packaging and Labeling Compliance
- Supply Chain Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Market Research and Analysis
- Branding and Marketing
- Sales and Distribution Channels
- Financial Planning and Funding
- Networking and Mentorship
- Award Management
- Technical Training and Education

#### **RESOURCE TYPES & FORMATS**

- Educational Resources (publications, webinars, etc.)
- Educational Classes (workshops, field days, etc.)
- Professional Service (1-on-1 consultations, mentorships, etc.)
- Coordination (resource navigation, networking, etc.)
- Virtual or in-person (Texas or New Mexico)
- English, Spanish, and bilingual formats



**CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT OUR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** PROVIDER APPLICATION!



## DID YOU MISS ONE OF OUR **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WEBINARS?**

We have good news! All technical assistance webinars hosted by our Center are recorded in both English and Spanish and stored on our Vimeo channel! Visit the links below to catch up on any topics you missed:

• English: <a href="https://vimeo.com/showcase/11685450">https://vimeo.com/showcase/11685450</a>

• Spanish: <a href="https://vimeo.com/showcase/11685447">https://vimeo.com/showcase/11685447</a>

• Main Channel: <a href="https://vimeo.com/rgcolonias">https://vimeo.com/rgcolonias</a>

Sign up for future webinars and events at the link below:

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS** 

#### **CONTACT US!**

We are here to support you! For questions about grant and technical assistance eligibility, please visit our website and if you have additional questions about our Center, fill out the contact us form linked below:



rgcolonias.org



https://rgcolonias.org/contact-us/

#### **FOLLOW US!**



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## KEY PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

The Rio Grande Colonias USDA Regional Food Business Center is led by Texas A&M AgriLife Research and **Extension** via a cooperative agreement with the **USDA**. The Center is also supported by the combined expertise of several Key Partners and Collaborators in Texas and New Mexico:

- Key Partners: University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Advancement (SARA), La Semilla Food Center, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health in El Paso, Feeding Texas, and People Fund
- Collaborators: Desert Spoon Food Hub, University of Texas at El Paso, and Border City Distribution