



November 27, 2023

Candace Pollock-Moore  
Assistant Director  
111 Stuckey Drive, Room 207, Stuckey Building  
University of Georgia Griffin Campus Griffin  
GA 30223-1731

Dear Ms. Pollock-Moore,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support as Project Cooperators for the proposed project titled "Regenerative Agriculture: Effects of Cover Crop and Mycorrhizal Inoculation on Salt Stress Mitigation in Floridian Tomato Cultivars," for which Dr. Amir A. Khoddamzadeh has submitted a funding request to the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education On-Farm Research Grant.

The mission of The Little Farm is rooted in community building through education, accessibility, and serving as a model of responsible land stewardship, sustainable agricultural practices, and compassionate animal care. Our commitment lies in creating enduring connections between individuals, animals, and the environment, exemplified by our "Agri-education" model. This approach involves hands-on experiences with farm animals, interactions with native plants, engagement with pollinators, and participation in agricultural experience programs. We are inspired by the genuine curiosity and exploration exhibited by both children and adults, fostering a passion for lifelong learning.

Recognizing the significance of sustainable agriculture, we believe that Dr. Khoddamzadeh's proposed project aligns seamlessly with our values and goals. By investigating the effects of cover crops and mycorrhizal inoculation on salt stress mitigation in Floridian tomato cultivars, this research contributes to the broader objective of promoting environmentally conscious and resilient farming practices. Sea level rise driven by climate change poses a major threat to Florida; as Miami is considered ground zero of sea level rise, being only about 4ft above. This makes the state vulnerable to saltwater intrusion, which is caused by seawater being pushed into the porous limestone bedrock, and through the holes in the rock, mixing in with our freshwater supply. We are particularly encouraged by the potential positive impacts on soil health, crop resilience, and sustainable food production.

The Little Farm is committed to actively supporting the activities outlined in Dr. Khoddamzadeh's proposal and wholeheartedly endorses the application for this project. Should you require any additional information or clarification regarding our endorsement, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Kristina Fiorentino  
Founder and Owner, The Little Farm  
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