

UMHDI Early Adopter Commercial Partner Application Form and FAQs

Please complete this application and email to jason.fischbach@wisc.edu.

Organization Name: _____

Is Your Organization a Legal Entity (eg LLC, C-Corp, 501(c)3, etc.) _____

Organization Mailing Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Primary Contact Email: _____

Primary Contact Phone: _____

Website url (if applicable): _____

1. Please describe your organization (5 sentences or less).
2. How many existing or prospective hazelnut growers are currently members of your organization?
3. Please describe how you have brought farmers together to solve supply chain or marketing challenges faced by those farmers (max 500 words).
4. Please describe your organization's current involvement with hazelnuts in the Midwest (max 500 words).
5. Please describe specific actions you will be taking in the future to help build sustainable hazelnut supply chains through organization and support of geographic clusters of growers (max 500 words).
6. Why does your organization want to be a UMHDI Early-Adopter Commercial Partner (max 250 words)?

Early-Adopter Commercial Partner Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is required to become an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner? Potential partners are required to: 1) be a formal or informal organization with **three** or more members currently or aspiring to grow hazelnuts, 2) submit an application, 3) demonstrate prior experience or activities with bringing farmers and growers together to solve supply chain or marketing challenges, 4) demonstrate a plan and commitment to helping build sustainable hazelnut supply chains through organization and support of geographic clusters of growers.

What are the benefits of becoming an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner? The primary benefit is being able to purchase UMHDI 1st Generation Cultivars for your organization or growers in your organization.

Is there a cost to become an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner? At this point, there is no fee or other cost.

Does an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner have to be a formal legal entity, such as a 501(c)3 non-profit or LLC? No. Informal groups or collaboratives, such as **three** or more growers working together, can be recognized as an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner and eligible to purchase plant material.

If my organization becomes an Early-Adopter Commercial Partner, when will I be able to purchase plants? The first step is meeting with MidwestHazelnuts, LLC (MH, LLC) staff to develop a short term (1-2 years) wish list of plant material based on the plans and aspirations of the organization and its members. That wish list helps MH, LLC work with its nursery partners to quantify demand. Nurseries report their plant availability to MH, LLC by November 30 for plants delivered the following September and July 30 for plants delivered the following April/May. MH, LLC will then contact the Early-Adopter Commercial Partners to take plant orders by January 31 for fall-delivered plants and September 30 for spring-delivered plants. Exact dates are subject to change. If quantities are limited, plants are made available per the MH, LLC priority policy and availability is not guaranteed.

What is the cost of the plants? We don't yet know as the nurseries are still working to produce the plants. Annual pricing will be announced along with availability on November 30 for fall-delivered plants and September 30 for spring-delivered plants.

Can my organization purchase plants and then re-sell them? Yes and no. Each organization must demonstrate how they are working to develop and support socially-networked and geographically-clustered hazelnut production. Buying plants from MH, LLC and simply re-selling them, such as at retail garden center or nursery, or to growers outside the Partner's network, is not allowable. To avoid this, Early-Adopter Commercial Partners must provide the names and addresses of the growers in their organization purchasing the plant material. Partners found violating this policy will lose priority to purchase plant material.