



Governor Andy Beshear's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release

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**Gov. Beshear and Kentucky Agricultural Development Board Approve
More Than \$3 Million for Projects Across Commonwealth**
Agriculture education and processing expansion among projects approved

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 16, 2020) – The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB), chaired by Gov. Andy Beshear, approved \$3,110,520 for agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the commonwealth at its monthly board meeting.

“County programs continue to be a great strength for Kentuckians involved in agriculture,” said Gov. Beshear. “These programs allow for counties to provide funding for producers to grow their operation and empower those producers who make a large impact on their community.”

Of the total grant funding announced, \$2,129,762 was approved in both state and county funds to support projects and programs in 17 counties. \$1,679,770 in funding will go to support County Agricultural Investment Programs (CAIP) in 11 counties. Additionally, more than \$30,000 in funding will be used to support meat processing expansion projects in Casey, Fleming and Pulaski counties.

“Today’s approvals represent the KADB’s continued efforts in making for a better Kentucky across all facets of our agricultural industry,” said Dorsey Ridley, Executive Director.

State Investments:

Statewide Horticulture Technical Assistance, Education, Research and Marketing

The Kentucky Horticulture Council Inc. (KHC) was approved for \$980,768 in state funds over a two-year period. This funding will allow the KHC to continue to provide technical assistance, conduct education, research and market analysis for Kentucky’s growing horticulture industry.

Meat Processing Investment Program – Level 1

Central KY Custom Meats Inc., located in Casey County, was approved for incentives of up to \$20,000 in state funds for processing above an established baseline for its operation and working to fulfill extreme demand.

Meat Processing Investment Program – Level 2

Fleming Meat Packers/J Trester Enterprises LLC, located in Fleming County, was approved for \$37,500 in state funds to purchase and install processing equipment for its custom processing facility.

Meat Processing Investment Program – Level 3

Summit Holdings LLC d.b.a Summit Meat Processing, located in Pulaski County, was approved for up to \$249,922 in state funds as a forgivable loan to expand the freezer, build a new holding pen area, relocate the office area and purchase additional processing equipment. An estimated 150 farm families will be directly impacted by this project.

County Investments:

Bourbon County

The Bourbon County Board of Education was approved for \$18,000 in Bourbon County funds to aid in the construction of a high school greenhouse. This greenhouse will provide opportunities for students to engage in experiential learning while working in the greenhouse to prepare them for college and career readiness.

Carroll County

Carroll County Conservation District was approved for an additional \$5,826 in Carroll County funds to administer CAIP. In addition, \$15,000 was approved to administer Youth with a maximum youth investment of \$1,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Crystal Willis at crystal.willis@ky.nacdnet.net or 502-732-6098.

Christian County

Christian County Conservation District was approved for \$200,000 in Christian County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$2,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Leslie Fourquarean at leslie.fourquarean@ky.nacdnet.net or 270-987-3500.

Edmonson County

Edmonson County Cattleman Association Inc. was approved for \$80,000 in Edmonson County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Michael Skaggs at slskaggs@windstream.net or 270-535-3523.

Fleming County

Fleming County Conservation District was approved for \$208,613 in Fleming County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$2,000 for the 2020 program year. In addition, \$40,000 in Fleming County funds was approved to administer NextGen and \$25,000 in Fleming County funds was approved to administer Youth for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Tracy Ratliff at tracy.ratliff@ky.nacdnet.net or 606-834-6291.

Hardin County

Hardin County Extension District Board was approved for \$91,443 in Hardin County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Doug Shepherd at dshepherd@uky.edu or 270-765-4121.

“On behalf of the residents, businesses, officials and community leaders, we are pleased see the Hardin County Extension District Board approved for \$91,443 in funds to administer

County Agricultural Investment Programs,” said Sen. Dennis Parrett (D-Elizabethtown). “These funds and programs will greatly benefit agriculture and farmers in Hardin County.”

Hart County

Hart County Cattlemen’s Association Inc. was approved for \$260,000 in Hart County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Arvell Bunnell, III at butch.bunnell@gmail.com or 270-524-7271.

Henderson County

Green River Area Beef Improvement Group Inc. was approved for \$28,763 in Henderson County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Stacy Marksberry at grabig@bellsouth.net or 270-929-0194.

Henderson Farmers Market Inc. was approved for \$7,859 in Henderson County funds to administer the Shared-Use Equipment program. A portable chute scale and plastic layer will be available for producers to lease. For more information, contact Brandi Boucherie at hendersonkyfarmersmarket@gmail.com or 270-860-0161.

Madison County

Madison County Farm Bureau Inc. was approved for \$22,500 in Madison County funds to administer the Shared-Use Equipment Program. An in-line bale wrapper will be available for producers to lease. For more information, contact Eddie Warren at eddie.warren85@gmail.com or 859-625-2252.

Martin County

Martin County Conservation District was approved for \$29,944 in State funds and \$1,535 in Martin County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Penny Runyon at district@suddenlinkmail.com or 606-298-3595.

Mason County

Buffalo Trace Area Development District Inc. was approved for \$273,000 in Mason County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$3,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Cindy Ring at cring@btadd.com or 606-564-6894.

Mason County Conservation District was approved for \$6,375 in Mason County funds to administer DAR with a \$25 per animal fee to producers. For more information, contact Lloyd Schiltz at lloyd.mccd@gmail.com or 606-759-5570.

“I want to thank our local and state agricultural leaders for making these funds available for our farmers and for helping them improve their land and overall operations,” said Rep. John Sims (D-Flemingsburg). “I’m proud to support these and other programs funded by our tobacco settlement dollars, which have helped Kentucky in so many ways over the past 20 years.”

Menifee County

Menifee County Beef Producers Inc. was approved for \$88,138 in Menifee County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Evelyn Crouch at crouch.evelyn@gmail.com or 606-768-2549.

Nicholas County

Nicholas County Conservation District was approved for an additional \$24,000 in Nicholas County funds to administer CAIP for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Erica Brierly at nicholasconservation@hotmail.com or 859-405-4018.

Robertson County

Robertson County Soil Conservation District was approved for \$262,000 in Robertson County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$3,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Danny Case at robertsonconservation@yahoo.com or 606-724-5472.

Taylor County

Taylor County Cattlemen's Association Inc. was approved for \$126,334 in Taylor County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$2,000 for the 2020 program year. In addition, \$8,000 in Taylor County funds was approved to administer Youth with a maximum youth investment of \$1,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Jeff Clark at sherryclark081959@gmail.com or 270-405-1725.

The County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) provides farmers with incentives to allow them to improve and diversify their current production practices. CAIP covers a wide variety of agricultural enterprises in its 11 investment areas, including, but not limited to, bees and honey; equine; forage; beef and dairy cattle; goats and sheep; horticulture; poultry; swine; timber and technology, as well as energy efficiency and production; farm infrastructure and water enhancement; marketing; and value-added production.

The Deceased Farm Animal Removal Program (DAR) serves as a measure to facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky producers.

The Next Generation Farmer Program (NextGen) addresses the growing need for a specialized program that would benefit producers ages 18 to 40 that have been engaged in an agricultural operation for a minimum of three years.

The Shared-Use Equipment Program assists broad-based community organizations with the purchase of farm equipment. The equipment purchased is made available for producer use in a specific county on a leased basis.

The Youth Agricultural Incentives Program (Youth) encourages youth to engage in and explore agricultural opportunities.

All application periods and deadlines for CAIP, NextGen and Youth programs will be advertised locally. For more information about application dates and guidelines in each county, please call or email the contact list above under the appropriate county.

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Read about other key updates, actions and information from Gov. Beshear and his administration at governor.ky.gov, kycovid19.ky.gov and the Governor's official social media accounts [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

Gov. Beshear and the General Assembly continue to make great strides toward lessening Kentucky's dependence on tobacco production while revitalizing the farm economy by investing a portion of Kentucky's Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement Funds into the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF).

To date, the KADF investments total more than \$630 million in an array of county, regional and state projects designed to increase net farm income and create sustainable new farm-based business enterprises. These funding approvals, made possible by the KADF, represent just a few of the more than 6,400 projects approved, since the inception of the program in January 2001.

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