



**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 \$1.7 Million for Projects Across Commonwealth**  
*Projects and programs approved span the diverse array of Kentucky agriculture*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 18, 2020)** – The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved \$1,713,425 for agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the commonwealth at its monthly board meeting.

“As we cap off 2020, the December approvals from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board show the full spectrum of agricultural activity in across our commonwealth,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “These approvals will provide funding for county programs, statewide horticulture support, meat processing, on-farm water management and more. This funding will help Kentucky’s agriculturalists lead us into a prosperous future as we beat the coronavirus and sprint out of the pandemic in 2021.”

**State Investments:**

**Statewide Small Fruit Crops Program**

The Kentucky Horticulture Council Inc. (KHC) was approved for \$500,000 in state funds over two years to expand the Kentucky Small Fruit Crops Program. This program supports the expansion of the small fruits industry in Kentucky by increasing production capacity and farm revenue for specialty crop growers.

**Meat Processing Investment Program – Level 2**

Kunkle Farm, located in Boone County, was approved for \$37,500 in state funds to purchase and install a walk-in cooler, freezer and various equipment for its custom processing facility.

Yoder’s Custom Processing Inc., located in Garrard County, was approved for \$37,500 in state funds to purchase and install a freezer box and unit, and build an addition for its custom processing facility.

Spencer County Butcher Block, located in Spencer County, was approved for \$37,500 in state funds to purchase and install a band saw, meat saw, vacuum sealer and various kill floor equipment for its custom processing facility.

### **On-Farm Water Management Program**

Andrew Ellison d/b/a Southern Sweet Berry Farm, located in Graves County, was approved for \$2,000 in state funds as a Small Scale Grant (SSG) project to install a micro-irrigation system to increase water efficiency on its strawberry operation.

Conyea Farms LLC, located in Graves County, was approved for \$5,644 in state funds as a SSG project to install an irrigation pipeline and micro-irrigation system on its strawberry operation.

Barton D. Rudolph, located in McCracken County, was approved for \$1,500 in state funds as a SSG project to install a micro-irrigation system for their strawberry operation.

Sustainable Harvest Farm LLC, located in Laurel County, was approved for \$9,695 in state funds as a SSG project to purchase and install subsurface and drip irrigation systems for its horticulture operation.

Lazy Eight Stock Farm LLC, located in Madison County, was approved for \$8,984 in state funds as a SSG project to install pump, pipeline and drip irrigation systems for its organic vegetable operation.

River Farm Nursery LLC, located in Oldham County, was approved for \$45,443 in state funds as a Producer Implemented Project (PIP) to implement pot-in-pot tree production and a micro-irrigation system.

### **County Investments:**

#### **Bourbon County**

Nochelinda Farms LLC was approved for \$4,722 in Bourbon County funds to build a walk-in freezer to support marketing farm raised beef. For more information, contact Steve Grissom at [nochelinda@roadrunner.com](mailto:nochelinda@roadrunner.com) or 859-362-4694.

#### **Carter County**

Carter County Conservation District was approved for an additional \$50,564 in Carter County funds to support its 2020 CAIP. For more information, contact Melodie Bush at [melodie.bush@ky.nacdnet.net](mailto:melodie.bush@ky.nacdnet.net) or 606-474-5184.

#### **Daviess County**

Daviess County Conservation District was approved for \$5,000 in Daviess County funds to administer a Shared-Use Equipment Program for the 2020 program year. A no-till drill will be available for producers to lease. For more information, contact Connie Mills at [connie.mills@ky.nacdnet.net](mailto:connie.mills@ky.nacdnet.net) or 270-685-1707.

#### **Fulton County**

The City of Fulton was approved for \$88,150 in state funds to construct a farmers market pavilion for the Fulton County farmers market. For more information, contact Mike Gunn at [fultoncmgr@live.com](mailto:fultoncmgr@live.com) or 270-472-1320.

#### **Grant County**

Grant County Cattlemen's Association Inc. was approved for \$180,000 in Grant County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$3,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Chris Ammerman at [chris.ammerman@uky.edu](mailto:chris.ammerman@uky.edu) or 859-824-3355.

### **Grayson County**

Grayson County Cattlemen's Association Inc. was approved for \$120,000 in Grayson County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$2,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Ronald Horn at [rhorn@wrightimp.com](mailto:rhorn@wrightimp.com) or 270-769-2341.

### **Green County**

Green County Cattlemen's Association Inc. was approved for \$242,500 in Green County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$4,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Seth Hedgespeth at [sethhedgespeth@gmail.com](mailto:sethhedgespeth@gmail.com) or 270-932-5311.

### **Harrison County**

Harrison County Fiscal Court was approved for \$7,500 in Harrison County funds to administer DAR for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Judge Alex Barnett at [hcjudge@harrisoncountyfiscalcourt.com](mailto:hcjudge@harrisoncountyfiscalcourt.com) or 859-234-7136.

### **Leslie County**

Leslie County Conservation District was approved for \$24,998 in state and \$31,207 in Leslie County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$2,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Ronnie Gay at [leslieconservation@yahoo.com](mailto:leslieconservation@yahoo.com) or 606-672-2357.

### **Letcher County**

Letcher County Conservation District was approved for \$27,906 in state and \$1,779 in Letcher County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$3,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Ron Brunty at [cosmiccowboyz@yahoo.com](mailto:cosmiccowboyz@yahoo.com) or 606-633-4448.

### **Marshall County**

Marshall County Conservation District was approved for \$54,000 in Marshall County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Kyle O'Dell at [odellkyle42025@gmail.com](mailto:odellkyle42025@gmail.com) or 270-994-8220.

### **McLean County**

Green River Area Beef Improvement Group Inc. (GRABIG) was approved for \$5,000 in McLean County funds to administer a Youth program with a maximum youth limit of \$1,500 for the 2020 program year. GRABIG also was approved for an additional \$15,033 in McLean County funds to support its 2020 CAIP. For more information, contact Stacy Marksberry at [grabig@bellsouth.net](mailto:grabig@bellsouth.net) or 270-929-0194.

### **Metcalf County**

Metcalf County 4-H Council Inc. was approved for \$1,521 in Metcalf County funds to purchase hams for Metcalf County 4-H members. The country ham project teaches members about the history and science of curing hams, food safety, meat production and food presentation. For more information, contact Marla Young at [marla.young@uky.edu](mailto:marla.young@uky.edu) or 270-432-3561.

### **Perry County**

The City of Hazard was approved for an additional \$19,000 in state funds to be used for a hand washing station and other COVID-19 sanitation expenses at the farmers market pavilion. For more information, contact Derrick Hall at [derrick.hall@hazardky.gov](mailto:derrick.hall@hazardky.gov) or 606-436-3171.

### **Scott County**

Edwards Woolworks was approved for up to \$49,676 in multiple county and state funds to establish a wool mill for Kentucky sheep producers to have an economical outlet to process and sell wool. For more information, contact Caitlin Edwards at [thewoolworksKY@gmail.com](mailto:thewoolworksKY@gmail.com).

### **Simpson County**

Simpson County Conservation District was approved for \$79,103 in Simpson County funds to administer CAIP with a maximum producer limit of \$5,000 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Michelle Estes at [sccd2015@yahoo.com](mailto:sccd2015@yahoo.com) or 270-850-3122.

### **Wolfe County**

Wolfe County Farm Bureau Federation was approved for \$20,000 in Wolfe County funds to administer a Youth program with a maximum youth limit of \$1,500 for the 2020 program year. For more information, contact Jessica Morris at [Jessica.morris@uky.edu](mailto:Jessica.morris@uky.edu) or 606-668-3712.

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 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](http://governor.ky.gov), [kycovid19.ky.gov](http://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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