



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release



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Project Summary:

The Kentucky Horticulture Council, Inc. was approved for a total allocation of \$1,300,000 in state funds for 2015 and 2016 to provide technical support to farmers through on-farm demonstrations, educational programs, cost-share programs, and applied research. For more information about this project, contact Jeff Hall at 502-938-1331 or office@kyhorticulture.org.

Funds will be used to provide technical support to farmers through on-farm demonstrations, educational programs, cost-share programs, and applied research. This support is provided in cooperation with the University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Funds are also used to leverage other state and federal resources to conduct variety trials and new production technology. In addition, production and marketing information has been collected, and studies have been completed and shared.

Specifically, the KHC intends to provide direct benefits to cooperators in the following four areas over the next two years:

1. On-farm Demonstration and Education Programs (\$686,500)- Five Extension Associates will work directly with farmers who participate in these programs, providing assistance in the daily management of horticultural enterprises. Funds are also used to provide a source of matching dollars for shared-use equipment and crop inputs.
2. Production and Marketing Systems Development and Evaluations (\$310,500) - UK (\$290,500) and KSU (\$20,000) provide applied research for production and marketing systems to improve production efficiency, reduce input costs, and improve the variety and quality of products the consumer demands.

3. Market Research, Analysis, and Education (\$108,000)- These funds are used to match other state and federal grants, and are used for data collection, market trend analysis, and information distribution.

4. Sustaining Market Demand and Access (\$110,000)- These funds are used for cost-share programs that provide financial assistance for advertising, market development, and quality assurance training.

The remaining \$85,000 will be used for organizational support and grant management.

The applicant states that more than 8,000 individuals from 112 counties have benefitted from this program in the past and that it hopes to add 200 more farmers over the next two years.