



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release



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**Farmers Market and Kentucky Young Farmers Convention
Among Eleven Agricultural Investments Approved
*More than \$7 million invested in Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds***

OWENSBORO, Ky. (Jan. 17, 2020) –The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, chaired by Gov. Andy Beshear, approved \$7,018,530 in 11 agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the Commonwealth at its monthly board meeting.

“As governor, I am committed to creating opportunities that will make Kentucky’s agricultural community stronger,” said Governor Andy Beshear. “Projects, such as these funded by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, play an integral role by educating and supporting our farming communities.”

State Investments:

Exposition Center Main Entrance Renovation

Kentucky State Fair Board was approved for up to \$6,000,000 in KADF funds for the demolition and renovation of Gate One at the Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center. For more information on this project, contact Ian Cox at (502) 367-5186 or ian.cox@kyvenues.com.

Farmers Market & Multi-Use Pavilion

City of Berea was approved for up to \$240,000 in State funds and \$10,000 in Madison County funds for the construction of a multi-use farmers market pavilion. For more information on this project, contact Bruce Fraley at (859) 986-8528 or bfraley@bereaky.gov.

County Investments:

2020 Kentucky Young Farmers Convention

Jessamine County Young Farmers Association, Inc. was approved for up to \$5,000 in Jessamine County funds to support the 2020 Kentucky Young Farmers Convention. For more information on this project, contact Carl Waits at (859) 948-5527 or carl.waits@twc.com.

On-Farm Investments

The County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) offers 11 investment areas that give Kentucky agricultural producers the ability to increase net farm income, add value to their

products and diversify their operation. CAIP benefits and enhances agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky agricultural products. Three CAIPs were approved by the board totaling \$524,519 in Bracken (\$250,000), Lewis (\$208,766) and Rowan (\$65,753) counties.

In addition to these new approvals, an additional \$178,028 was approved to enhance existing CAIPs in Daviess (\$142,528) and McLean (\$35,500) counties.

Next Generation Farmer Program

The Next Generation Farmer Program was developed to facilitate the growing need for a specialized program that would benefit producers engaged in an agricultural operation from three to seven years. One Next Generation Beginning Farmer Program was approved by the board totaling \$30,000 for recipients in Bracken County.

Shared-Use Equipment Program

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. One Shared-Use Equipment Program was approved totaling \$5,983 for Daviess County.

Youth Agricultural Incentives Program

The Youth Agricultural Incentives Program (Youth) serves as a measure to facilitate the growing need for a specialized program that benefits youth actively engaged in agriculture. One Youth Program was approved by the board totaling \$25,000 in Clark County.

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The Kentucky Agricultural Board, chaired by Gov. Andy Beshear, continues 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 known as the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

To date, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund has invested more than \$605 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 Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, represent just a few of the more than 6,100 projects approved, since the inception of the program in January 2001.

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