Resources for Ag Producers

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USDA Rural Development’s Mission

We are committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America
• More than 40 loan and grant programs
• Business Programs
• Community Programs
• Housing Programs
• Utilities Programs
In 2016, USDA invested $315 million in rural Kansas.
USDA RD Programs for Ag Producers

Business Programs

• Value-Added Producer Grant
• Rural Energy for America Program
Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

VAPG Details

- VAPG awards can be used to develop new product lines from raw agricultural products or to expand a market for established products
- Working capital grants up to $250,000
- Planning grants up to $75,000
- Requires a $1 producer match for each grant $1
Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

VAPG Details

• Eligible Applicants
  • Independent producers, Farmer and rancher cooperatives, Agricultural producer groups, Majority controlled producer-based business ventures

• Funds Can Be Used For:
  • Processing cost
  • Marketing and advertising expenses
  • Some inventory and salary expenses

• VAPG funds cannot be used to build facilities, produce the raw commodity or purchase equipment
2016 VAPG Awardees

2016 VAPG Awards Toted $785,000

- Bauman’s Cedar Valley Farms, Garnett, To purchase inputs for the company’s feed mill to produce non-GMO, non-medicated livestock feed
- Holy-Field Vineyard & Winery, Basehor, To expand marketing of the company’s wine into Johnson County and the Leavenworth Farmers Market
- Holy Goat Creamery, Manhattan, To launch the production of farmstead cheeses made from goat’s milk
- Munson Angus Farm, Junction City, Kan., To develop a marketing campaign that would sell all cuts of beef from Munson Angus Farm’s cattle
- Schenker Family Farms, McCune, Kan., To launch sales of meat-based soups and entrees made with chicken, pork, and beef raised on the farm
- White Tail Run Winery, Edgerton, To increase the production of the winery’s Seyval Blanc wines
Bauman’s CVF

- Garnett, Kansas
- $49,948 VAPG
- In 2015, Bauman’s opened the feed mill because of a need for non-GMO poultry feed, and now they produce feed for swine and small and large ruminants as well
- Funds will help purchase inputs for the feed, as well as marketing the feed with new feed sack design
Hildebrand Dairy

- Junction City, Kansas
- VAPG award was to expand the company’s sales of processed milk into western and southeast Kansas
- The company’s milk is sold in glass bottles in more than 105 grocery stores across the state
2014 – Value-Added Producer Grant Award

Wiebe Cheese

- Durham, Kansas
- Funds will be used to expand Wiebe Dairy’s production of farmstead cheeses
- Dill Weed, Garlic & Herb, White Cheddar with Garden Vegetable, Jalapeño, Colby, Hot Habanero, Cajun Cheese, Southwest Chipotle, Raw milk cheeses, Cottonwood River Cheddar (Reserve)
Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

REAP Details

• Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.

• Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvements
  • Grants
  • Guaranteed Loans

• Eligible Applicants
  • Agricultural Producer
  • Rural Small Business
## Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

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Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

ARC Technology

• 12.2 kilowatt solar array in Whitewater, Kansas

• Family owned and operated rural small business with 8 full-time employees who provide Engineering Services
Foster Dairy

- Family Farm in Fort Scott, Kansas
- Six fans were purchased in total, three 12-foot fans, and three 16-foot fans
- The six new fans replaced, 24 fans that were 36-inch fans
Ag REAP Projects

- Upgrade lighting and equipment for dairy, swine, poultry facilities
- Update an inefficient grain dryer
- Solar waters/fencers
- Irrigation motor/pump conversions
Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Next REAP Deadline

• Continuously accept applications throughout the year
• Next deadline for grants and combination grant/loan request is March 31, 2017
• In 2016, awarded nearly $500,000 in REAP grants
For more information, contact:

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