

The *Commonwealth* Grows



Volume 10, Issue 3
Fall 2010

SPECIAL EDITION: *Agricultural Development Fund Resource Guide*

The Commonwealth Grows is a tool used to communicate with the thousands of volunteers on our County Agricultural Development Councils, the Cooperative Extension Offices, Kentucky's General Assembly and others interested in the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and related topics.

Councils Grow, Changes Implemented

Did you know...?

- November 19 - 25 is National Farm-City Week
- There are 85,000 farms in Kentucky with 14 million acres of land

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Photo (far right): Council members and program administrators attend a 2010 regional workshop in Bath County.

Every other year, members of the County Agricultural Development Councils are appointed for two-year terms. July 1 started the 2010-2012 biennium.

This biennium has seen the greatest change to the county councils, not just in a few new faces, but also an additional new member and the beginning of term rotations.

During the 2009 session of the General Assembly, legislation was passed to increase council membership and encourage diversity of membership on the county councils.

With the term limit taking effect and some attrition, more than 440 members rotated off councils this year. Those who rotated off the county council after two, two-year terms will be eligible to serve again after being off for at least two years.

Staggered terms also started

this biennium. Each appointing authority—Farm Service Agency (FSA), county conservation district or extension council—replaced its longest-serving member on the council with a new appointee, provided the longest-serving member has served on the council for four or more years.

In 2012, each appointing authority will again replace its longest-serving member on the county council with a new appointee, provided the longest-serving member has served on the council for four or more years.

Because of various circumstances in several counties, the appointing authorities replaced both nominees. In these counties, staggered terms will begin when at least one of the appointees reaches four years of service.

The size increase to the county council comes in the form of an at-large member,

bringing the total county council member total to nine members: two each from FSA, conservation and extension, and three at-large members.

There still must be two young farmers between the ages of 21 and 40 represented, but they may also be one of the six appointees.

Also, at least one of the nine members must represent an underserved population (e.g. gender, race, etc.).

Thanks to Dr. Gary Palmer and others in UK Cooperative Extension, we obtained the listings for all 120 county



Welcome from the Executive Director

Roger Thomas has served as Executive Director of Governor Steve Beshear's Office of Agricultural Policy, since January 2008. In addition to his role as Governor Beshear's chief agricultural policy advisor, Thomas also serves as CEO of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation.

Previous to his appointment, Thomas served as Executive Director of the Kentucky Dairy Development Council. He also served as a state representative for the 21st district in the Kentucky General Assembly from 1996-2004, serving as chairman of the House Agriculture and Small Business Committee for four years.

Thomas was the primary sponsor of House Bill 611 in the 2000 General Assembly which created the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

Among Thomas's many accomplishments, his proudest was farming with his Dad for 45-years on their family dairy farm in Smiths Grove, Ky.

Thomas lives in Smiths Grove with his wife Doris and they have three

Welcome to another biennium for our County Agricultural Development Councils. This is the sixth appointment cycle for our county councils, which started in 2000.

Whether you are new to the county council or have previously served, I am sure that you would agree Kentucky agriculture has evolved over the last decade. Similarly, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and its programs have evolved.

For ten years, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund has been providing the means for Kentucky agriculture to grow into an industry less dependent on one crop to sustain itself, and providing increased focus on adding value to existing and new enterprises through marketing and promotion efforts.

Since rolling out the first model cost-share programs in 2001, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, chaired by the Governor, has reviewed and revised its programs and policies on an annual basis to keep them relevant, timely and beneficial to Kentucky farmers.

Currently, we are preparing for the board's annual planning meeting November 18-19 at Cumberland Falls State Park. This is where policies and programs for 2011 will be discussed.

The 2011 GOAP Conference, which will be February 10 at the Sloan Convention Center in Bowling Green, will provide an opportunity to hear about changes first-hand and discuss any questions you may have.

Additionally, there will be a new council member orientation at the conference, as well as opportunities for all to network with their counterparts in other counties, as well as other agricultural leaders from across Kentucky.

Again, welcome to all our new and returning council members. Your service to Kentucky agriculture and your support of the KADF is greatly appreciated. I look forward to meeting each of you in February.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Thomas".

Roger Thomas
Executive Director

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board

Established in 2000, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) is charged by statute with administering the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

As its mission, the board will invest these funds in innovative proposals that increase net farm income and effect tobacco farmers, tobacco-impacted communities and agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky agricultural products, finding new ways to add value to Kentucky agricultural products, and exploring new

opportunities for Kentucky farms.

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) is chaired by Governor Steve Beshear and consists of five statutory members or their designees and 11 appointed members. Statutory members include the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, Economic Development Cabinet Secretary, head of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and the president of Kentucky State University.

Appointed members are geographically distributed throughout the Commonwealth and are subject to confirmation the General Assembly.

Seven of the appointments represent active farmers of which at least four are from substantially tobacco-impacted counties and two have experience in agricultural diversification; the remaining four appointments represent the Kentucky Farm Bureau, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, an attorney with farm experience and an agricultural lender. ☞

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board

Chair, Steven L. Beshear
Governor

Vice-chair, Richie Farmer
Agriculture Commissioner

Sec. Larry Hayes
Economic Development

Dr. M. Scott Smith
Cooperative Extension

Dr. Mary Evans Sias
President, KSU

Sam Moore
Kentucky Farm Bureau

Sam Lawson
KY Chamber of Commerce

Vickie Yates Brown
Attorney w/ag. experience

Karen Curtis
Farmer

Rodney Dick
Farmer

Pat Henderson
Farmer

Wayne Hunt
Farmer

Jim Mahan
Farmer

Wayne Mattingly
Banker

Troy Rankin
Farmer

Jim Sidebottom
Farmer



(Left) Board members, Wayne Mattingly and Pat Henderson, chat outside at Jackson's Orchard & Nursery after the October ADB meeting.

(Above) Bill Jackson (far right) guides a tour of ADB members, staff and guests. Jackson explained the features of his agritourism operation and how the Ag. Development Fund has helped his operation.

The Commonwealth Grows

Project Applications

Purpose: To provide access to state and county funds for statewide, regional and county projects that fit outside the standardized programs.

Award Types: grants, loans

Guidelines: Complete a Project Application
Minimum applicant contribution of 50 percent of total project cost
County fund requests - must be prioritized by all counties from where funds have been requested
Requests for state funds are encouraged to seek county contributions
Reviewed on a case-by-case basis
Referred to the KADB for final approval/denial
Reporting, as outlined in legal agreement

Funds Committed: \$155,797,139
Projects Approved: 819

Project Application Process

1. An applicant submits a complete application to the county council (if county funds are requested) or directly to the state board (if no county funds requested);
2. Within 60-days of receipt of the application, the county council meets to assign a priority, based on the county plan and the funds available;
3. The county council forwards the request to GOAP by the last Friday of the month;
4. The KADB reviews each application. Project Analysts will work with the applicants if there are questions or concerns;
5. The KADB has final approval or denial for all projects submitted for county and/or state Agricultural Development Funds.

* The complete application and instructions are available at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/application>

Project Qualifications

Per KRS 248.711(2)

- Tobacco farmers shall be given priority;
- Applicants shall have sufficient equity to assure a reasonable chance of success of the action proposed for funding;
- Small farmers shall have as equal access to the funds as large farmers; and
- Consideration shall be given as to the percent of a county's allocation of funds an applicant is requesting.

See also the *Guiding Principles for Board Action*, available at agpolicy.ky.gov.



\$50,000 Agritourism Award



Kentucky Proud
More than \$7 million invested



Farmers' Markets
More than \$2.3 million in state & county funds invested



Farmers' Markets
More than \$2.3 million in state & county funds invested

Programs

The KADB recognized the importance of production agriculture, even with marketing as its #1 priority, and developed, in conjunction with state and local stakeholders, incentive programs that would provide producers opportunities to try new farm enterprises or enhance their existing enterprises.

County Agricultural Investment Program

Purpose: To provide farmers with incentives to allow them to improve and diversify their farm operations.

Award Types: Cost-share

Guidelines: Complete a CAIP Application Form
 Local agency, organization serves as administrator
 Legal agreement is with administrator
 50/50 match
 11 investment areas to choose from
 County Council sets primary, secondary areas
 Maximum cost-share \$5,000
 Producer universal application, producer report
 Semi-annual reporting required by administrator

**Complete guidelines and program application are available at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/caip.shtml>.*

Funds Committed: \$33,824,463
Counties Participating: 104

Funds Committed: \$1,518,726
Counties Participating: 63

Shared-Use Equipment Program

Purpose: To impact a high number of producers who cannot justify ownership expenses associated with certain equipment by helping them access technology necessary to improve their operations.

Award Types: Grant

Guidelines: Complete a CAIP Application Form
 Local agency, organization serves as administrator
 50/50 match
 Rental fees for maintenance, repair, replacement
 Equipment must be maintained five years
 Semi-annual reporting required

**Complete guidelines and program application are available at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/shared-use.shtml>.*

Program Update

RETROACTIVITY: At their August meeting, the ADB modified the policy for retroactive reimbursement of expenses through the CAIP.

Beginning January 2011, receipts dated 6-months or less prior to the execution date of the CAIP legal agreement will be eligible for reimbursement.



Governor's Office of
Agricultural Policy
agpolicy.ky.gov

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund is comprised of 50% of the state's Tobacco Settlement Funds.

How Does Kentucky's Agricultural Development Fund Impact You?

Do you like clean, accessible drinking water?
\$326,000,000 for rural water infrastructure projects

Do you value the environment?
\$90,000,000 for environmental cost-share through the KY Division of Conservation

Do you enjoy Kentucky's scenic farmscapes?
\$25,000,000 for farmland preservation

Do you value education and leadership opportunities for Kentucky's youth?
\$8,400,000 for Kentucky's FFA and 4-H programs and facilities

Are you concerned about having a secure food supply?
\$20,300,000 for improvements to the two animal diagnostic labs in Kentucky

Do you enjoy locally grown foods?
\$7,422,900 for the Kentucky Proud program, Kentucky's official brand

Other facts about the Fund...
Along with producer investments, Kentucky has invested over a half billion dollars in an array of projects designed to increase net farm income and create sustainable farm-based business enterprises.

The KADF has also supported long-term investments to provide Kentucky farmers access to capital through the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation.

The above leaflets are available upon request for counties to use in spreading the word about how the agricultural development fund impacts all Kentuckians.

County Council Corner

Important Roles



Dennis Perry, Rowan Co. Council Member, attends a regional workshop earlier this year in Bath Co.

County Councils
One of the most important pieces of the agricultural development process is the County Agricultural Development Council. The County Councils were established "to evaluate the needs of the local agricultural economy and to devise a plan for the county that would identify programs best suited for the agricultural development of the county."

All 120 counties developed their "County Plan" between 2000 and 2001 and many counties reviewed their plans for revisions in 2007.

Each county's plan for agricultural development is unique to that county's culture, climate and needs. No two plans are alike, but each plan provides an overview of the county, strengths and weaknesses, short term priorities and long term goals.

The "County Plan" should be the guide by which applications for county Agricultural Development Funds are evaluated. Does the proposed project meet short term priorities? Does the proposed project move the county in

the direction of its long term goals?

Along those same lines, the County Council is directed by statute to "assist prospective applicants in the council's county in obtaining moneys from the agricultural development fund." It goes on to direct the councils to "make applicants aware of the criteria for projects set out in KRS 248.711."

Extension

Recognizing the need for

COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE

UK

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
College of Agriculture

guidance and administrative support, the General As-

sembly included a provision that attached each County Agricultural Development Council to the county's cooperative extension service.

The county extension agent acts as a facilitator and assists with gathering information for the council. As a facilitator, the extension agent provides leadership development, engages the community, promotes the council and other communication to the media.



The extension agent also bears the role for accountability in guiding the council to fulfill its mission as laid out in the statutes.



Project Analyst

The Project Analysts are the liaisons between the counties and the state Agricultural Development Board. Project Analysts review applications and assist applicants within their assigned area.

They are available to attend council meetings, as needed, to assist with new member orientation or answer questions about new and revised policies.

Additionally, they play a role in project/program compliance by following up with fund recipients, as necessary.

Your county's Project Analyst is an important resource for you. See the map on page 7 for your Project Analyst's contact information.

Other staff contacts are listed on page 17. ☪

The Law

The County Councils were established under Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 248.721. This statute establishes the make-up of the council and duties of the council, including development of local agriculture plan.

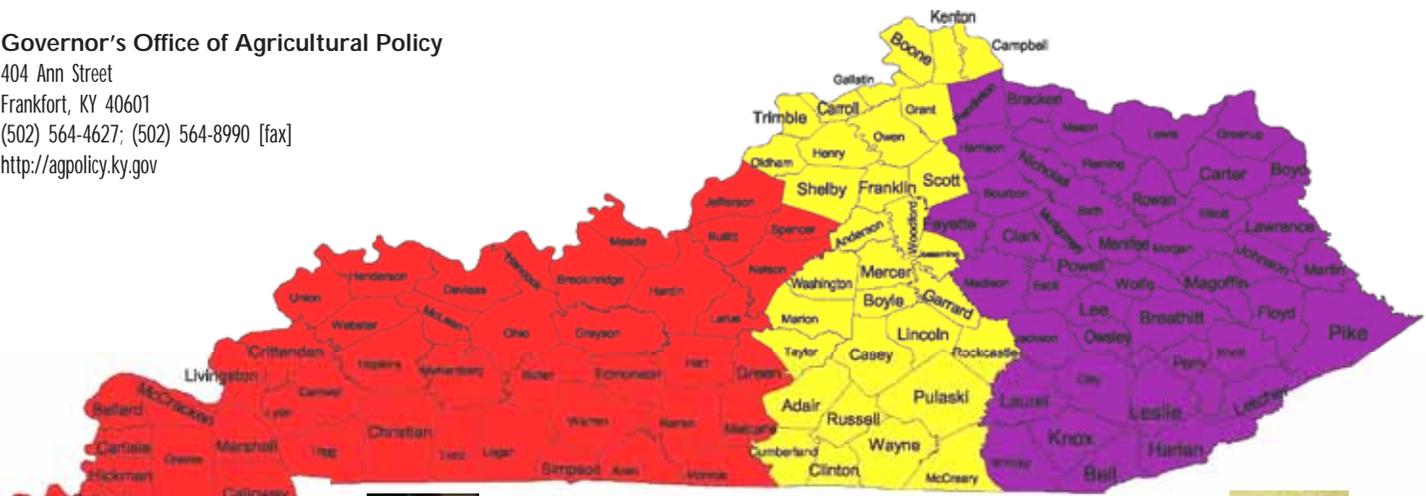
The statutes governing the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund are KRS 248.701 to 248.727.

All Kentucky statutes may be found at www.lrc.ky.gov.

Project Analyst Area Map & Contact Info

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

404 Ann Street
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 (502) 564-4627; (502) 564-8990 [fax]
<http://agpolicy.ky.gov>




Christi Marksbury
christil.marksbury@ky.gov



Jennifer Hudnall
jennifer.hudnall@ky.gov



Mike Tobin
mike.tobin@ky.gov

Continued from page 5

Programs (cont.)

Funds Committed: \$286,361
Counties Participating: 39

Deceased Farm Animal Disposal Assistance Program (DAP)

Purpose: To facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky producers.

Award Types: Grant

- Guidelines:**
- Complete a DAP Application Form
 - Local government agency or organization serves as administrator
 - Only one request per county considered
 - Award not to exceed \$7,500
 - Producer contribution encouraged
 - Programs with two or more counties encouraged

**Complete guidelines and program application are available at <http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/removal.shtml>.*

More Council Responsibilities

Prioritization Sheet: For each application that requests county funds, the county council must assign a priority: high or low. If a low priority is given, then a reason must be outlined on the priority sheet. A minimum of five members present are needed to sign the priority sheet. The application and priority sheet are then forwarded to GOAP.

60-day Rule: Within 60-days of receiving an application, the council shall meet to review the application. This ensures that all requests are handled in a timely fashion.

Compliance: Councils are encouraged to maintain contact with program administrators and other recipients of county funds. If necessary, the council may ask the recipient to provide an update to the council on the progress and benefits of the project or program.

Administrative Funds: Counties with an annual allocation of \$20,000+ may request up to 4% of the annual allocation, not to exceed \$15,000, for costs associated with the administration of the council. *CS*

Glossary of Terms

As with any program that spans across a very diverse state, a variety of terms are developed to describe the structure, components and programs. The following are common words or phrases that are related to the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and its programs.

Ag. Development Board (ADB)

Abbreviation of Kentucky Agricultural Development Board

Ag. Finance (KAFC)

Abbreviation of Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation

CAIP

Abbreviation of County Agricultural Investment Program

Cost-share Program

A program where the cost for a project is divided between the applicant and the funding source. For KADF programs this is generally 50/50.

County Accounts

Location in the state accounting system that tracks the funds each county receives from Kentucky's Master Settlement Agreement funds.

County Agricultural Development Council (County Council)

Nine member volunteer organization charged with setting priorities for the county agricultural development funds

County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP)

A program designed to provide farmers with incentives to allow them to improve and diversify their current production practices. The program includes 11 investment areas for cost-share reimbursement. Counties offer all investment areas.

County Plan

The document developed by each County Agricultural Development Council identifies local strategies for enhancing agricultural opportunities and assisting local farmers.

County Priority

The ranking by a county council of an application requesting county funds, either "low" or "high."

EPD

Acronym for "Expected Progeny Differences." EPDs provide estimates of the genetic value of an animal as a parent and may be directly compared between animals of the same breed.

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP)

The state agency charged with providing administrative support to the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation, as well as represent Kentucky's interests as state and national agricultural policies are developed.

House Bill 611 (HB 611)

Chartering legislation that laid the foundation for the investment of agriculture's 50 percent of Kentucky's tobacco master settlement agreement funds

KARDA

Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority

KDA

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB, ADB)

Created in 2000 by the General Assembly, the KADB serves to distribute 50 percent of Kentucky's Master Settlement Agreement funds for the general purpose of agricultural development in the Commonwealth.

Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC)

Created in 1984 by the General Assembly to address the unique financing needs of agriculture, KAFC administers six loan programs and the Linked Deposit program.

Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority

(KARDA)

KARDA is comprised of 23 various agriculture leaders, commodity and industry representatives and farmers who serve to unify the efforts of all Kentucky agricultural groups.

Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA)

KDA is a consumer protection and service agency comprised of the following offices: agriculture marketing, consumer and environmental protection and veterinary services. KDA is headed up by the commissioner of agriculture, an elected constitutional officer.

Long-term Plan

Cultivating Rural Prosperity: Kentucky's Long-term Plan for Agricultural Development represents a yearlong dialogue on the priorities for Kentucky's agriculture and rural economies.

MSA

Master Settlement Agreement (a.k.a. Tobacco Settlement)

Model Program

The initial cost-share programs established by the KADF for on-farm improvements. In 2009 these became "investment areas" in the County Agricultural Investment Program.

Near-term Plan

This plan offered general guidelines for investment decisions and represents the KADB's short-term direction and investment priorities for the first 24-months of the board.

Non-model Project

Any application that does not fit within the guidelines of an established ("standard") program. More recently referred to as simply "projects".

Oversight Committee

The legislative body comprised of members from the Kentucky Senate and House of Representatives. They

are charged with reviewing the funding decisions of the agricultural development board and offer suggestions for addressing issues, as needed.

PA

Project Analyst

Phase I

The tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. Although it was signed before Phase II, its benefits weren't realized in Kentucky until after Phase II had already been implemented.

Phase II

A separate agreement made after the MSA (phase I) between the tobacco companies and 14 states. These were direct payments to tobacco farmers for losses incurred, as a result of the MSA. It was nullified by the tobacco buyout enacted in 2005.

Project Analyst (PA)

GOAP staff member responsible for a specific area of the state. The PA reviews applications and gathers information requested by KADB members. PAs also maintain contact with award recipients to aid ensure awarded funds are used as intended.

Tobacco Settlement (MSA)

The agreement signed Nov. 23, 1998 by the Attorneys General and other representatives of 46 states and six territories with the five largest tobacco manufacturers, ending a four-year legal battle between the states and the tobacco industry. The settlement resulted in the states receiving more than \$206 billion over 25 years.

UK Study

The evaluation by the UK Department of Agriculture Economics of the effectiveness of Agricultural Development Fund investments in agriculture, agribusiness and leadership development (2001-2007).

Open Records, Open Meetings

Sunshine laws were first established in the mid-1970s to increase public disclosure by government agencies.

Kentucky's Open Records and Open Meetings Acts are examples of sunshine laws and are located in Kentucky's Revised Statutes Chapter 61.

As a local council created by statute where a majority of the members are appointed by public agencies, each County Agricultural Development Council is obligated to follow the Open

Meetings and Open Records Acts.

The Office of the Attorney General publishes a guide—*Your Duty Under the Law*—that explains the procedural and substantive provisions of Kentucky's sunshine laws. It is available at ag.ky.gov.

The following are just a few highlights from that document.

Open Meetings

- Applies to meetings with a quorum of members where

public business is discussed or action is taken.

- Meetings cannot be conducted by phone, although a member may listen in by phone without a vote.
- Meetings must be held in a specific location and time that are convenient to the public.
- News media coverage must be permitted, including recording and broadcasting.
- Minutes of action taken at every meeting must be kept and available for public inspection no later than the conclusion of the next public meeting.
- The schedule of regular meetings must be made available to the public.

Open Records

- Records that are prepared, owned, used, possessed or retained by a the council are public records.
- Public records must be made available upon request, subject to 14 exemptions
- Public records include emails, databases and other electronic records, as well as printed materials.

- The council must respond to a records request in writing within three days, excluding Saturday, Sunday and holidays.
- The three-day response time begins the day after the request is received.
- The absence of the custodian of the records does not extend the agencies response time.
- A requester must be permitted to conduct on-site inspection of records if that is requested.
- Costs associated with copying and mailing requested records may be recovered.
- No fees may be imposed to inspect public records in person.
- A record with both exempt and non-exempt information cannot be withheld, but must have the exempt portion masked.

For questions related specifically to records requests and open meetings obligations of the county council, contact Diane Fleming at GOAP at (502) 564-4627. ☞

The above was adapted from *Your Duty Under the Law* and is not meant to be a complete representation of all obligations of the county council to Kentucky's Open Records and Open Meetings Acts.

Compliance Update

On a quarterly basis, the Compliance Department reports to the Agricultural Development Board on both the timeliness of project reporting and the number of projects and programs that have completed their reporting requirements.

As of the end of the 3rd quarter of 2010, more than 3,900 projects and programs had been approved.

Out of 946 projects approved to date, 492 (~52%) have completed their reporting requirements with another 110 being reviewed for completeness.

When it is determined that these 110 projects have complied with the terms of their agreements and have completed their reporting requirements, they will be sent an official letter of completion.

The remaining 344 projects are in the monitoring phase, meaning that they are required to provide periodic reports about the progress of their project.

The remainder are approved established programs, which include cost-share assistance, deceased farm animal assistance and shared-use. Of these, 2780 (91%) have completed their reporting requirements.

Visit agpolicy.ky.gov for more information about program and project reporting.



Kylee D. Palmer
(502) 564-4627

kylee.palmer@ky.gov

Investments

Between April and September, the KADB approved a total of \$12,930,865 in state and county agricultural development funds in projects and programs across the Commonwealth, representing 114 of more than 3,700 projects approved since 2001.

Application Deadlines

All applications, including amendments to existing programs / projects, are **due the last Friday** of the month. Projects will be referred to committee at the next meeting and programs are eligible for consideration.

For consideration in...

November 2010:
Due October 29

December 2010:
Due November 24*

January 2011:
Due December 30*

** Because state offices will be closed on the last Friday of these months, an alternate date has been selected.*

4-H Livestock Project Barn
Fayette County 4-H Council
\$34,800 in Fayette County funds

Agriculture Storage Facility
Garrard Co. Board of Education
\$50,000 in Garrard County funds

Breckinridge County Farmers' Market Facility
Breckinridge County Extension District Board
\$75,000 in Breckinridge Co. funds

Business & Technical Support
Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development
\$310,000 in state funds

Commodity Cooking Facility Expansion/Construction
Kentucky Pork Producers Assoc.
\$164,900 in state funds

Cumberland Farm Products Facility Renovation
Cumberland Farm Products Association Inc.
\$35,000 in Wayne County funds

Demonstration Kitchen
Cumberland County Extension District
\$49,919 in Cumberland Co. funds

The Cumberland County Extension District breaks ground for their demonstration kitchen.



Farmer Welding Program
Breckinridge County Board of Education
\$5,625 in Breckinridge Co. funds

Farmers' Market Facility
Owen County Farm Bureau Inc.
\$82,419 in Owen County funds

Leadership Program Scholarship
Matt Jackson
\$1,000 in Henry County funds

Local Agricultural Marketing
Licking River Valley RC&D Inc.
\$975 in Harrison County funds

Marketing Facility Improvement
Garrard County Fair Board
\$4,439 in Garrard County funds

Meade Co. Welding Program
Breckinridge County Board of Education
\$6,120 in Meade County funds to

Producer Welding, Computer Training
Owensboro Community & Technical College
\$22,696 in Daviess County funds

Watershed Restoration
East Buck Creek Watershed Conservancy District
\$10,000 in McLean County funds

Youth Cost-share Program
Green River Area Beef Improvement Group Inc.
\$20,000 in Daviess County funds

Youth Livestock Cost-share Program
Owen County 4-H Club Council
\$10,000 in Owen County funds

Youth Livestock Pens
Mercer Co. Board of Education
\$1,500 in Mercer County funds



Switchgrass pelletizing demonstration at the UK Mountain Field Day in Quicksand.

Vocational Agriculture Equipment
Jessamine Co. FFA Alumni Assoc.
\$12,500 in Jessamine Co. funds

The following investments were made through the **Multi-County Agri-Energy Initiative** using American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funds and Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds (KADF)*:

Agri-Energy Technical Assistance
Mammoth Cave RC&D Area Inc.
\$10,000 in ARRA funds and \$10,000 in state KADF

Quarry Lake Water Project
Commonwealth Agri-Energy Inc.
\$100,000 in ARRA funds, \$100,000 in state, \$10,000 in Christian and \$5,000 in Todd county KADF

Study of Lake Cumberland Region Biomass Power Potential
South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation
\$10,150 in ARRA funds and \$10,150 state KADF

Western Kentucky AgBioworks
Western Regional Center for Emerging Technology
\$25,000 in ARRA funds, \$25,000 in state and \$2,000 each in Graves and Todd county KADF.

**The Multi-County Agricultural Energy Initiative funds are made possible through the Renewable Energy Partnership between the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP) and the Energy and Environment Cabinet's Department for Energy Development and Independence. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Energy from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).*

Mission Statement

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board seeks to invest in innovative proposals that increase net farm income and effect tobacco farmers, tobacco-impacted communities and agriculture across the state by stimulating markets for Kentucky agricultural products, finding new ways to add value to Kentucky agricultural products, and exploring new opportunities for Kentucky farms.

The **County Agricultural Investment Program** is designed to provide 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.

The following is a list of counties and amounts committed to CAIP from April to September 2010.

Adair	\$ 100,000
Allen	\$ 36,440
Anderson	\$ 125,338
Bracken	\$ 250,000
Bourbon	\$ 390,000
Bullitt	\$ 155,000
Butler	\$ 47,146
Caldwell	\$ 59,397
Calloway	\$ 31,500
Campbell	\$ 32,575
Carlisle	\$ 35,000
Carter	\$ 168,150
Casey	\$ 240,000
Clark	\$ 250,000
Clinton	\$ 160,000
Cumberland	\$ 95,000
Daviess	\$ 150,000

Edmonson	\$ 86,415
Elliott	\$ 184,830
Estill	\$ 100,000
Fayette	\$ 150,000
Fleming	\$ 312,514
Franklin	\$ 150,000
Grant	\$ 200,000
Graves	\$ 53,588
Greenup	\$ 135,680
Hancock	\$ 87,758
Hardin	\$ 150,000
Hart	\$ 320,000
Henderson	\$ 35,766
Henry	\$ 299,193
Hopkins	\$ 45,109
Jackson	\$ 225,000
Jefferson	\$ 26,883
Jessamine	\$ 230,000
Laurel	\$ 184,000
Lawrence	\$ 186,774
Lewis	\$ 300,000
Lincoln	\$ 200,000
Lyon	\$ 35,000
Madison	\$ 310,851
Marion	\$ 150,000
Marshall	\$ 48,203
Mason	\$ 250,000
McCracken	\$ 100,860
McLean	\$ 78,963
Meade	\$ 64,639
Mercer	\$ 250,000
Metcalfe	\$ 272,303
Monroe	\$ 165,438
Morgan	\$ 190,243
Muhlenberg	\$ 136,801
Nelson	\$ 142,500
Nicholas	\$ 324,000
Ohio	\$ 117,301
Oldham	\$ 45,278
Owen	\$ 300,000
Pendleton	\$ 205,608
Powell	\$ 52,846



A project at UK's Farm in Versailles demonstrates a method for whole carcass composting for livestock.

Robertson	\$ 258,400
Rowan	\$ 80,000
Scott	\$ 284,000
Shelby	\$ 350,000
Simpson	\$ 110,000
Spencer	\$ 180,000
Taylor	\$ 275,000
Trimble	\$ 190,000
Warren	\$ 200,364
Webster	\$ 23,681
Wolfe	\$ 125,000
Woodford	\$ 200,000

Shared-use Equipment Programs

Established with the purpose of impacting many producers who cannot justify ownership expenses associated with certain equipment.

Bullitt County Cattlemen's Association \$ 9,904
For the purchase of an aerator and lime spreader.

Monroe County Conservation District \$9,700
For the purchase of a no-till drill.

Nicholas County Fiscal Court \$12,050
For the purchase of a no-till seeder.

Woodford County Conservation District \$9,750
For the purchase of a no-till seeder.

Dead Animal Removal

The Deceased Farm Animal Disposal Assistance Program serves as an interim measure to facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky producers.

The following county Fiscal Courts were approved for this program:

Bourbon Co.	\$7,500
Carroll Co.	\$2,250
Hardin Co.	\$7,500
Henry Co.	\$7,500
Jessamine Co.	\$5,000
Nelson Co.	\$7,500
Spencer Co.	\$5,988

The following county Conservation Districts were approved for this program:

Adair Co.	\$3,269
Franklin Co.	\$4,500
Hart Co.	\$7,500
Metcalfe Co.	\$2,759
Rockcastle Co.	\$2,250
Taylor Co.	\$7,500
Warren Co.	\$2,917



Corn harvest in west-central Kentucky.

KAFC Update

Meetings & Deadlines

For consideration on...

December 3, 2010:

Due November 12

January 7, 2011:

Due December 17

February 11, 2011:

Due January 21

March 4, 2011:

Due February 11

Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation

Chair, Richie Farmer
Agriculture Commissioner

Jonathan Miller
Finance Secretary

Westy Adams
Horticulture Producer

George Begley
Livestock Farmer

Kenny Burdine
Agricultural Economist

Wayne Hunt
Grain Farmer, ADB Liaison

Larry Jagers
Dairy Farmer

Doug Lawson
Commercial Lender

Joel Oney
Financial Services Officer

Frank A. Penn
Equine Representative

Peggy Peterson
Financial Services Officer

Bob D. Proffitt
Horticultural Producer

During their meetings from May to September, the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC) approved more than \$1.3 million in loans for 18 producers across the Commonwealth.

Agricultural infrastructure loans totaled \$652,837 and included recipients from Davi-

ess, Hickman, Logan, McLean, Ohio, Pulaski, Union, Warren and Washington counties.

Beginning farmers may qualify for financing to purchase livestock, equipment, agriculture facilities, to make a down payment on real estate or invest in a partnership. Beginning farmer loans totaled



\$721,903 and included recipients from Barren, Henderson, Hickman, McLean, Wayne and Woodford counties.

As of September 30, KAFC has approved 352 loans and committed more than \$42 million. ☺

Vet Loan Spotlight (cont.)



(left to right) Drs. William Holbrook, Ralph Adams, Laura Scalf and David Fugate pose with an equine patient.

(Continued from back page)

in the area, but had very different routes in getting to WLVC. Regardless of their paths, they both agreed that the main motivators for returning to eastern Kentucky, specifically WLVC, were to be close to home and the passion that Drs. Holbrook and Fugate have for their profession and serving the community.

At the suggestion of their mentors, Drs. Adams and Scalf looked into KAFC's veterinary loan program. After contacting KAFC staff, the pair worked through their local lender, Darren Gillespie at Commercial Bank in West Liberty, to finance their investment into the practice.

"We are just struggling little veterinarians that have been out of school for a few years," stated Dr. Adams. "This program has definitely helped us in being

able to buy into the clinic and to better our lives."

"We may have bought into the clinic down the road," added Dr. Scalf. "But this made it possible for us to afford it now."

This early buy-in is also a blessing to Dr. Fugate. "By having them as partners, I know they are going to stay," said Dr. Fugate, "They are laying roots down here – a place where they are sorely needed."

This need has not gone unnoticed by state officials either. "Drs. Holbrook, Fugate, Scalf, and Adams have provided a much needed service for our community for many years," said Rep. John Will Stacy, of West Liberty. "Without the loan program, the shortage of veterinarians in West Liberty would be much greater."

In addition to investment in an existing practice, the program will also provide financing for acquisition, renovation and development of capital assets needed for large animal medicine, as well as equipment essential for the delivery of large animal medical services.

"KAFC's veterinary loan program not only allows individuals the opportunity to become small business owners," added Rep. Stacy, "but also provides our community with knowledgeable veterinarians." ☺

Ag. Finance Programs

KAFC continues to work in developing and marketing new loan opportunities for producers and agribusinesses in Kentucky. KAFAC currently has six loan programs: four participation programs and two direct loans for processing. The following are the four participation loan programs available where KAFAC partners with a local lender to provide financing. Information about other programs and complete guidelines for these programs are available at kafc.ky.gov.

Agricultural Infrastructure Loan Program (AILP)

Purpose: To assist Kentucky's agricultural producers finance long-term projects that will improve their financial stability.

Interest: 2% with tobacco dependence; 4% without

Requirements: 20% of Gross Income must come from farming

Eligible Loans: Limited to structural improvements that enhance the farm's profitability, including:
 Livestock facilities
 Grain bins
 Greenhouses
 Tobacco barns
 Fencing
 Other long-term structures

Commitments: \$16,749,980
Loans Approved: 255

Beginning Farmer Loan Program (BFLP)

Purpose: To assist individuals with farming experience who desire to develop, expand or buy into a farming operation

Interest: 2%

Requirements: Beginning farmer
 Net worth of \$500,000 or less
 Off-farm earnings of less than \$100,000
 Five-year business plan
 Mentor

Eligible Loans: Livestock, equipment, facilities
 Permanent working capital
 Real estate down payment
 Partnership investment

Commitments: \$7,262,194
Loans Approved: 71

Diversification Through Entrepreneurship in Agribusiness Loan Program (DEAL)



Purpose: To assist entry level agri-entrepreneurs with the establishment of or purchase into a business that provides agricultural products or services to other producers.

Interest: 2%

Requirements: At least 50% of gross farm income from farming for last two years
 Net worth of \$500,000 or less
 Five-year business plan, feasibility study

Eligible Loans: Equipment, facilities
 Permanent working capital
 Real estate down payment
 Partnership investment

Large/Food Animal Veterinary Loans Program

Purpose: To assist individuals licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Kentucky who desire to construct, expand, equip or buy into a practice serving large animal producers.

Interest: 2%

Requirements: Valid Kentucky veterinary medicine license
 Net worth of \$500,000 or less
 Five-year business plan

Eligible Loans: Capital assets, equipment necessary for large animal practice
 Partnership investment

Commitments: \$483,565
Loans Approved: 5

Public Affairs

A Successful World Equestrian Games Come to a Close

- Roger Thomas, executive director

The 16-day, Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) are now history, but the legacy lives on. The legacy of WEG will continue to be part of the Kentucky Horse Park, the Lexington community and the entire Commonwealth for years to come. Just as important, the legacy of Kentucky will be alive in the minds of our visitors from all over the United States and from nations around the world.

We in agriculture were very fortunate to have an opportunity to share our way of life and Kentucky hospitality with many of the over 500,000 visitors that were on the grounds. Many guests had the chance to visit the Kentucky Experience's Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion.

Our exhibit highlighted Kentucky's tobacco growing his-

...tory, our traditional core enterprises in animal agriculture and the diversity of crops across the state. The evolution and diversification spurred by the investments made possible through the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, including the Kentucky Proud Program, were also featured.

This display was coupled with value-added food and artisan products that gave visitors a chance to purchase items produced right here in Kentucky.

As a result of the partnership between the Artisan Center at Berea, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, Kentucky Proud producers were able to show-

case and give samples of their products to thousands of people, all 16-days of the games, in the demonstration area of the Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion.

This was an opportunity to connect the faces of producers with the Kentucky Proud brand that is becoming so well known all across Kentucky. Kentucky Farm Bureau was a valuable partner as all worked to put our best foot forward on behalf of Kentucky agriculture and demonstrate how important agriculture is to the Commonwealth.

The WEG legacy will be a part of Kentucky for years to come because it truly was a world class event. Our guests from around the world experienced the Kentucky hospitality exhibited by the hundreds of workers and volunteers. This will be the legacy of our state in their minds. ☪



(Above) Representatives of Evans Orchard & Cider Mill, provide samples to guests as part of the Kentucky Proud Showcase.

(Below) Kentucky native and award-winning garden designer, Jon Carloftis, signs his book Beautiful Gardens of Kentucky at the Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion.



(Above) A view of the outdoor stadium. (Left) The USA endurance team, during competition. (Right) Angela Blank, WEG agriculture liaison, stands in the Kentucky Experience garden designed by John Carloftis.





1. Gov. Steve Beshear and First Lady Jane Beshear are joined by members of Kentucky's Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet to officially open the Kentucky Experience.
2. Outside view of the Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion, part of the Kentucky Experience.
3. An exhibit of Kentucky agriculture in the pavilion, highlighting its history and featuring displays of Kentucky Proud products.
4. A replica of the Berea Artisan Center anchors the pavilion with Kentucky Proud products and artisan crafts for visitors to purchase.
5. Artisan and Kentucky Proud demonstrations were featured throughout the event. Shown, Screamin' Mimi's Salsa



The Commonwealth Grows

Equine Council and Livestock Care Standards Commission Appointed

During the 2010 General Assembly, the Kentucky Equine Health and Welfare Council and the Kentucky Livestock Care Standards Commission were established.

The following were appointed by Gov. Beshear to serve on the equine council:

- Alex Barnett, of Cynthiana, is a farmer and represents the Kentucky Farm Bureau.
- Dwayne Marcum, of Versailles, is a veterinarian. He represents the Kentucky Equine Health and Welfare Alliance Inc.
- Jeremy Whitman, of Georgetown, is a veterinarian with Equine Medical Associates PSC. He represents the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association.
- Esther "Essie" Rogers, of Harrodsburg, is director of education and welfare at the Kentucky Horse Council Inc. and represents the council.
- Michael Blowen, of Georgetown, is president and founder of Old Friends Inc. He represents organized horse rescue entities.
- Mary Ann Ellison, of Mayfield, is co-owner of Smith's Supermarket Inc. She represents mem-

bers at large.

- Robert L. Coleman, of Olive Hill, is a private investor and is a member-at-large.

The following were appointed by Gov. Beshear to serve on the livestock commission:

- Danny Wilkinson, of Columbia, is a farmer and represents the Kentucky Farm Bureau.
- Darrell L. Link, of Williamstown, is the Grant County Judge/Executive and represents the Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association.
- Charles Townsend, of Russellville, is a veterinarian and represents the Kentucky Veterinarian Medical Association.
- Warren G. Anderson, of Hustonville, works for the Danville Advocate-Messenger. He represents citizens-at-large.
- Brenda F. Paul, of Paris, is farmer and beef producer, representing bovine producers.
- Robert A. Leer, of Paris, is an autoworker at Toyota Motor Manufacturing Co. and represents sheep and wool producers.
- John S. Medley Jr., of Springfield, is a farmer and represents pork producers.

- Joe Ramsey, of Lexington, is the farm manager for Hill "n" Dale farms and represents equine producers.
- Bill G. Sammons, of Guthrie, is the farm manager with Cal-Maine Foods and represents poultry producers.

The commission held its first meeting on Oct. 19 and began work on their mission to make recommendations on the standards governing the care and well-being of on-farm livestock and poultry.

Commission members will work with consulting groups representing the various livestock industries to develop recommendations for each.

The recommendations from each consulting group will be reported at the next commission meeting.

The information provided from the industry groups will be used to develop recommendations to submit to the State Board of Agriculture for their review and consideration in creating or amending state regulations.



(Above) Sen. David Givens, of Greensburg, addresses the Kentucky Senate, during the 2010 session.

(Below) Rep. Tom McKee, of Cynthiana, addresses the Kentucky House of Representatives, during the 2010 session.

Rep. McKee and Sen. Givens sponsored legislation creating the Kentucky Equine and Welfare Council and the Livestock Care Standards Commission.



Angela Blank

Director of Public Affairs
angelag.blank@ky.gov



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
AGRICULTURAL POLICY

2011 Conference

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green

Please mark all that apply:

- | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Council Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Extension Agent | <input type="checkbox"/> Lender | <input type="checkbox"/> Univ./State Employee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Farmer | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislator | <input type="checkbox"/> ADB/KAFC Fund Recipient |

Please fill out the following information:

(For event use only, this information will not be distributed to others.)

(Circle one) **Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. / Miss / Dr.**

Name: _____ **Organization:** _____

(If applicable)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **County:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ **Fax:** (____) _____ **Email:** _____@_____

Web Address: _____

(If applicable)

Please select your preference for each breakout session:

Session 1 (10:15 a.m.): 2011 Program Update KAFC Programs Energy Programs New Council Orientation
 Local Foods Initiatives

Session 2 (1:15 p.m.): Administrator Forum USDA Programs KAFC Programs Energy Programs
 Policy/Application Updates

Hotel Information:

Those needing overnight accommodations should contact the Holiday Inn University Plaza directly at (270) 745-0088. Let them know that you will be attending the 2011 GOAP Annual Conference.

Room Rates:

Single/Double ...\$95.00

(Plus any applicable taxes)

To guarantee that you receive this special rate, make your reservations by **January 12, 2011.**

- OVER -

Awards Luncheon:

To recognize those who have been important to the agricultural development process, there will be an awards luncheon, during the Annual Meeting. At the luncheon, awards will be given to *County Council Members of the Year*, an *Extension Agent of the Year*, a *Program Administrator of the Year*, *Agricultural Entrepreneurs of the Year* and more.

The Awards Luncheon is included in your registration fee.

Registration Fee:

Early Registration - \$ 30.00 <i>(before January 14, 2011)</i> Late Registration - \$ 45.00 <i>(after January 14, 2011)</i>		Mail Registration & Payment to: Sandy Gardner, Registration Coordinator Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy 404 Ann Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Inter-account information may be faxed to: 564-8990 or e-mail sandra.gardner@ky.gov .
<p style="text-align: right;">Total Due:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>No Refunds</i></p>		

Method of Payment:

Please make checks payable to "Kentucky State Treasurer."

- Credit Card – See on-line registration form
- Check
- Money Order
- Inter-account (*State agencies only*):

eMARS Template	Fund	Agency	Unit	Activity	Amount

Early Registration Due Friday, January 14, 2011

Late Registration Due February 2, 2011 to guarantee materials and Awards Luncheon ticket

Registration will be accepted at the door, but we cannot guarantee a space for lunch for those who register on-site.

Even if lunch is not available registrants are still responsible for the late registration fee.

Upcoming Events

Recurring Meetings

Tobacco Settlement Legislative Oversight Committee
First Wednesday of the month
www.lrc.ky.gov

Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation
First Friday of the month
kafc.ky.gov

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board
Third Friday of the month
agpolicy.ky.gov



Commodity Conferences

Nov. 16-18
Ky. Small, Limited Resource, Minority Farmers Conference
KSU Research Farm, Frankfort
Cost: \$50, plus hotel
Contact: Louie Rivers, Jr., KSU (502) 597-6327

Nov. 19
Agritourism Update
Fleming County Extension Office
9:30 - 3 p.m. EST
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
Cost: \$20; includes lunch
Contact: Sara Swope
saraswope65@yahoo.com

Dec. 1 - 4
Kentucky Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
Galt House, Louisville
Contact:
Your local Farm Bureau office
www.kyfb.com

Jan. 3 - 4
Horticulture Conference
Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington
Contact: Dr. John Strang
(859) 257-5685 or (859) 396-9311
jstrang@uky.edu
www.ca.uky.edu

Jan. 13-14
Ag. Industry Tradeshow
Lexington Convention Center
1 - 7 p.m. Thurs.; 8 - 6:30 p.m. Fri.
Joint event between Kentucky Cattlemen's Assoc., Kentucky Horse Council and Burley Growers Coop.
Contact: Brandy Graves
(859) 278-0899
bgraves@kycattle.org

Jan. 13 - 15
KCA Convention
Lexington Convention Center
Contact: Carey Brown
(859) 260-2060
info@kycattle.org
www.kycattle.org/Convention.aspx

Jan. 14
Kentucky Horse Council Annual Conference
Lexington Convention Center
Contact:
kentuckyhorse.org/annual-conference/

Jan. 18
Kentucky Landscape Industries Winter Conference
Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville
Contact: www.knla.org

Jan. 21
Kentucky Commodity Conference
Holiday Inn University Plaza Hotel, Bowling Green
Contact: www.kycorn.org

Jan. 28, 29
Mid-States Horticultural Expo
Kentucky International Convention Center, Louisville
Contact: www.knla.org

Feb. 4-10
NAFDMA Conference
Hyatt Regency, Baltimore, Maryland
Contact: www.nafdma.com

Feb. 10
GOAP Conference
Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green
On-line registration will be available this year.
Cost: \$30 (early), \$45
Contact: govagpolicy@ky.gov
agpolicy.ky.gov

Feb. 16-19
National Farm Machinery Show
Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville
Contact:
www.farmmachineryshow.org

SAVE THE DATE

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

2011 Conference

February 10

Sloan Convention Center
Bowling Green

On-line Registration will be available at
agpolicy.ky.gov

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Energizing Kentucky Agriculture

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Spare a Tree



E-mail sandra.gardner@ky.gov to receive this newsletter by e-mail.

CWG Spotlight...

Large Animals, Big Hearts

- Sandra Gardner, director of communications

In 2007, an issue of increasing importance caught the attention of Kentucky's agriculture community. Nationwide, the number of veterinarians practicing large animal medicine had dramatically declined to the point where many areas were underserved. Kentucky was no exception to this trend.

The shortage of large/food animal veterinarians quickly became a high

priority in many agricultural organizations. Various ideas were discussed across the agriculture community on ways to slow or stop the trend and pull more veterinarians back into practicing large/food animal medicine at least as a portion of the practice.

In 2008, the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation began developing the Large/Food Animal Veterinary Loan Program to help provide access to capital. KAFC received input from industry leaders, including KVMA, and launched the program in 2009. After a year, the program has provided low interest loans to five veterinarians: four purchased interest in an existing veterinary clinic and one will be constructing a mixed animal clinic.

Two of these recipients happen to be in the same

clinic and come from an area of arguably the greatest need for large animal medicine. Drs. Laura Scalf and Ralph Adams were each approved for low interest loans to purchase 20 percent interest in the West Liberty Veterinary Clinic in Morgan County.

Started in 1963 by Dr. William Holbrook, a former president of KVMA, the WLVC serves a diverse base of clients in a wide radius. According to their Website, Dr. Holbrook was essentially the first veterinarian in the hills of eastern Kentucky. In 1998, Dr. David Fugate joined the practice, which is mixed small and large animal. Both are passionate about their profession, which is evidenced by their on-call status for 365-days a year. The need for additional veterinarians in the practice was evident.

Dr. Adams joined the practice in 2004 and Dr. Scalf in 2006. Both grew up

(Continued on page 12)



(left-right) Drs. David Fugate, William Holbrook, Laura Scalf, Ralph Adams of West Liberty Veteri-