

# AGRICULTURAL GROWTH, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION

## FISCAL YEAR 2024 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



Agricultural Marketing and  
Development Division

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS



Executive Summary . . . . .	3
Introduction . . . . .	4
Background . . . . .	5
Internal Controls and Grants Management . . . . .	5
Beginning Farmer Farm Business Management Scholarships . . . . .	5
Biofuels Infrastructure Grant . . . . .	6
Bioincentive Program . . . . .	7
County Fair Grants . . . . .	7
Crop Research Grants . . . . .	8
Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Grants . . . . .	8
GAP/GHP Cost-Share . . . . .	9
Good Food Access Program. . . . .	9
Livestock Investment Grant. . . . .	10
Make it Minnesota (Formerly New Markets) . . . . .	11
Minnesota Pavilions . . . . .	11
Make it Minnesota Cost-Share Program . . . . .	12
Preparing for Extreme Weather Grant . . . . .	12
Protecting Livestock Grant . . . . .	13
Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grants . . . . .	13
Urban Agriculture Grants . . . . .	14
Value-Added and Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Processing Grants . . . . .	15
Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grant . . . . .	15
Value-Added Grant . . . . .	15
Appendices: Grant Recipients and Program Participants . . . . .	17
Farm to School Grant . . . . .	17
Livestock Investment Grant . . . . .	25
Make it Minnesota Program . . . . .	30
Prepare Grant . . . . .	37
Protect Grant . . . . .	41
Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grant . . . . .	44
Urban Agriculture Grant . . . . .	45
Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grant . . . . .	48
Value-Added Grant . . . . .	50

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program, established at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) by MINN. STAT. 41A.12, advances Minnesota's agricultural and renewable energy industries. In Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), the MDA awarded over \$20 million to farmers, agricultural businesses, and schools through:

- ▶ Biofuels Infrastructure Financial Assistance Grants
- ▶ Bioincentive Program
- ▶ County Fair Grants
- ▶ Crop Research Grants
- ▶ Beginning Farmer Farm Business Management Scholarships
- ▶ Farm to School Grants
- ▶ Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)/Good Handling Practices (GHP) Cost-Share
- ▶ Good Food Access Program (GFAP) Grants
- ▶ Livestock Investment Grants
- ▶ Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grants
- ▶ Make it Minnesota Programming
- ▶ Preparing for Extreme Weather Grants
- ▶ Protecting Livestock Grants
- ▶ Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grants
- ▶ Urban Agriculture Grants
- ▶ Value-Added Grants

The AGRI appropriation in FY25 is \$27.457 million; this includes \$4 million for the Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Relief Initiative that was originally appropriated for FY24 but moved to FY25. As of February 1, 2025, the MDA is accepting applications for County Fair Grants, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)/Good Handling Practices (GHP) Cost-Share, Make it Minnesota Cost-Share, Meat Education and Training (MEAT) Grants, and Preparing for Extreme Weather (Prepare) Grants. We are finalizing awards for all other grant programs.

# INTRODUCTION

The Minnesota Legislature established the Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program (MINN. STAT. 41A.12) in 2009 to promote the advancement of the state’s agricultural and renewable energy industries. The statute authorizes the commissioner of agriculture to issue grants, loans, and other types of financial assistance for activities including, but not limited to, grants to livestock producers under the Livestock Investment Grant Program (MINN. STAT. 17.118); bioenergy awards made by the NextGen Energy Board (MINN. STAT. 41A.105); grants for the installation of biofuel blender pumps; and financial assistance to support other rural economic infrastructure activities.<sup>1</sup>

In FY24, the commissioner implemented the following programs:

**Beginning Farmer Farm Business Management Scholarships** to support beginning farmers and facilitate intergenerational transfer of farmland.

**Biofuels Infrastructure Grants** to help retail service stations upgrade their infrastructure to increase access to and sales of motor fuel blends containing at least 15% ethanol.

**Bioincentive Program** payments to encourage production of advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and biomass thermal energy.

**County Fair Grants** to help county fairs preserve and promote Minnesota agriculture, and provide public access to the state’s agricultural, historical, and cultural heritage.

**Crop Research Grants** to catalyze research that will improve the quality, quantity, and value of crops grown in Minnesota.

**Farm to School Grants** to help schools and early childhood education centers purchase and serve more Minnesota-grown and -raised products in their school meal programs.

**GAP/GHP Certification Cost-Share** to increase the number of food safety-certified farms and food processors.

**Good Food Access Program Equipment and Physical Improvement Grants** to help grocery stores and small food retailers located in food deserts and low- to moderate-income areas buy equipment and make physical improvements that will increase accessibility to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate foods.

**Good Food Access Program Technical Assistance Grants** to provide training, education, and other technical assistance to grocery stores, corner stores, farmers’ markets, and similar businesses.

**Livestock Investment Grants** to initiate or expand livestock production and processing.

**Make it Minnesota Cost-Share** to help farm or branded food, beverage, or pet food companies take advantage of growth opportunities through a variety of high-impact marketing activities.

**Minnesota Pavilions** to offer financial, promotional, and logistical support to small-to-medium-sized food and beverage companies who exhibit with the MDA at select business-to-business wholesale trade shows.

**Preparing for Extreme Weather Grants** to help Minnesota livestock and specialty crop producers buy and install supplies or equipment to make their operations more resilient against extreme weather.

**Protecting Livestock Grants** to help Minnesota farmers and ranchers purchase and install equipment and supplies to protect their livestock from disease outbreaks.

**Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grants** to enhance the sustainability of Minnesota farms through farmer-led on-farm research.

**Urban Agriculture Grants** to stimulate urban youth agricultural education and/or urban agricultural community development.

**Value-Added Grants** to buy equipment necessary to create, upgrade, or modernize value-added businesses.

<sup>1</sup>The NextGen Energy statute (MINN. STAT. 41A.105) created the NextGen Energy Board and authorized NextGen grants. It expired on June 30, 2015.

## BACKGROUND

Funds for the AGRI Program were first made available in FY13 after the state fulfilled its 10-year commitment to support the ethanol industry. In the first year, the Legislature combined \$641,422 in carryover funds from the FY12 ethanol producer payments appropriation with a separate \$2.3 million appropriation (Laws of Minnesota 2011 Ch. 14 sec. 3 subd. 4). The annual AGRI appropriation has gradually grown from \$10.235 million in FY14 to \$23.332 million in FY 2024 and \$27.457 million in FY 2025. In FY26, the base appropriation decreases to \$17.582 million.

## INTERNAL CONTROLS AND GRANTS MANAGEMENT

The MDA's Bioincentive Program and Biofuels Infrastructure Grant Program (BIP) were selected for review by the Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) during calendar year 2024. The focus of the audit was to determine whether the MDA administered the programs in compliance with good management practices and requirements in state laws. The period examined spanned from July 1, 2021, through January 31, 2024.

The MDA was pleased with the audit results and the overall finding that "MDA generally complied with significant finance-related legal requirements for its Bioincentive Program and its Biofuels Infrastructure Grant Program (BIP)". The OLA reviewed roughly \$14.5 million in expenditures between the two programs. Of that amount, only \$18,894, roughly one-tenth of 1% was recommended to be reclaimed.

The MDA is especially proud of the fact that despite the complex nature of the Bioincentive Program, more than \$12.1 million in payments were processed during the period covered by the audit without a single finding. In addition to the positive evaluation from OLA, the MDA prioritizes appropriate grants management policies and procedures through AGRI by consistently exceeding the Office of Grants Management (OGM) requirements for grant administration in several ways:

- The MDA's current practice is to reconcile every payment request. That means the MDA reviews source documentation for every payment request by reviewing invoices for all purchases and ensuring that the vendors have been paid. The Office of Grants Management only requires that agencies review one payment request on a grant of more than \$50,000.
- For payment requests for more than \$25,000, the MDA has two staff members review and sign off on the payment. This is not required by OGM.
- The MDA makes site visits or performs desk reviews on every grant over \$25,000 even though OGM only requires site visits on grants over \$50,000.

## BEGINNING FARMER FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Farm Business Management (FBM) helps farm operators learn profitable business management strategies. The program teaches farmers how to use their own farm records to make sound business decisions. Instruction is offered by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities campuses statewide. Instructors meet with students one-on-one and/or in small group settings.

The program defines a beginning farmer as a person who has owned or operated a farm or ranch, wholly or in partnership with others, for 10 years or fewer. As owner/operator, a person must have a financial interest in the farm, must participate in making some or all management decisions, and must participate in the operation of the farm on a regular basis. The FBM Beginning Farmer Scholarship Program pays

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*It has been very helpful to have a dedicated resource to help us with various things that come up. We have learned a lot and are grateful for the opportunity this scholarship has given us!*

*Stacey, Ada*

*I have been working with Farm Business Management (FBM) for two years and am enjoying the program and have learned a lot. It has helped me to understand my financials and cost of production. Even though I did not have a great year financially, I'm glad to have FBM to help make financial and management decisions. Thank you.*

*Brian, northern Minnesota*

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50% of the cost for beginning farmers to enroll in up to 10 credits of FBM education per year until the student earns 40 credits.



In FY24, the MDA awarded \$450,000 to the schools' foundations for scholarships. These funds helped 530 students afford FBM participation. An additional \$450,000 has been allotted for scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year.

Scan the QR code to read the *Financial Status of Beginning Farmers Report*, from the Minnesota State Agricultural Centers for Excellence, published in May 2024. The report details impact of the FBM program on beginning farmers.

*The Farm Business Management program I'm currently enrolled in has helped me a great deal in navigating our current farming environment. These programs are especially useful for young farmers like myself who don't have much experience navigating commodity futures markets or applying for high dollar financing at banks. The funding from the state helps to make these programs more accessible to those farmers.*

*Farmer, southwest Minnesota*

## BIOFUELS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

The Biofuels Infrastructure Program invests in equipment certified as compatible with E25 or higher blends to increase consumer access to and sales of motor fuel blends that contain at least 15% ethanol. The program makes grants to fueling stations for the replacement or installation of new fuel pumps, fuel storage tanks, and other equipment needed to dispense higher ethanol blend biofuels. This program supports the biofuel replacement goals established under the Petroleum Replacement Promotion statute (MINN. STAT. 239.7911). The FY24-25 budget rider appropriated \$3.375 million each year for this program, including \$373,750 for administrative expenses.

### FY 2024 AGRI Biofuels Infrastructure Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$3.156 million
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	54/\$9.87 million
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	16/\$3.04 million
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$4.7 million

### Grantee Spotlight

Kenny's Tire and Auto in Bemidji is a small, family-owned service station located in downtown Bemidji by Lake Bemidji. The station still offers full service fueling. Kenny's has been in business for over 70 years, with the fourth generation now working at the store. As their fueling equipment was reaching the end of its lifespan, business owner Alan Merschman contemplated removing their fueling options due to the cost of the equipment upgrade. However, when the opportunity arose, they applied for and received a Biofuel Infrastructure Program Grant of \$199,000 and completed their project in September 2024. They are now able to offer E15 at each of their four dispensers.



*Kenny's Tire and Auto in Bemidji used BIP grant funds to upgrade their aging fueling equipment.*

In FY25, approximately \$3.5 million was available, including funds appropriated by the Legislature to the AGRI Program and remaining funds from a gift from Minnesota Corn in 2022. Projects could be funded through AGRI, Minnesota Corn, or a combination of both. The MDA received 64 proposals requesting over \$11.36 million. Evaluations took place at the end of 2024 and pre-award risk assessments and contracts are currently being processed.

# BIOINCENTIVE PROGRAM

This program issues payments to eligible entities that produce advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, biomass thermal energy, and siding. MINN. STAT. 41A.15-41A.20 describes program eligibility, requirements, and payment amounts and limits. The FY24-25 budget rider appropriated \$5.75 million each year for this program, of which \$50,000 was reserved for administrative costs.

## FY 2024 AGRI Bioincentive Program Summary

Funding Available:	\$5,700,000
Amount of Qualified Claims Received:	\$7,337,902

In FY24, 11 producers received payments totaling \$5.699 million. Payments were apportioned as follows:

- Advanced Biofuels: \$3,485,482
- Renewable Chemicals: \$1,828,364
- Biomass Thermal Energy Production: \$386,154
- Siding: \$0

Eight participants received less than the amount for which they qualified because the appropriation was exhausted by claims made in quarters 1, 2, and 3. Unpaid claims for FY24 totaled \$1,637,902.

In FY25, \$5.75 million is available for the program. We anticipate that funding will again be fully used by the end of Quarter 3. More detailed information about this program is available in the separate Bioincentive Program Legislative Report.

# COUNTY FAIR GRANTS

The MDA offers two types of grants for county fairs. The AGRI County Fair Grant is for preservation and promotion of Minnesota’s agriculture; the Legacy County Fair Grant, funded through the Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, is for promoting Minnesota’s arts and agricultural history. The FY24-25 budget rider provided \$1,000,000 available for Minnesota’s 94 county fairs; the MDA reserved \$65,000 for administrative costs.

## FY 2024 AGRI County Fair Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$935,000
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	89/\$897,891

Each fair was eligible to receive up to \$10,175. In total, the MDA distributed \$897,891 in AGRI funds to 89 county fairs. Fairs used the funding in various ways, such as completing concrete work in poultry buildings, adding livestock signs to barns, buying hog pens, and updating children’s barn yards.

The Legacy County Fair Grant Program had \$336,000 available. Fairs could apply for up to \$3,755. Funds could be used for activities such as glass blowing demonstrations, mounting historical photos, updating fairground arts buildings, and providing free performances by local bands.

The MDA is currently accepting applications from county fairs for the FY25 grant cycle. Each fair is eligible to receive \$10,800 in AGRI funds and \$3,800 in Legacy funds.



The Hennepin County Fair used FY24 County Fair funds to promote Minnesota agriculture, including Nick’s Barnyard Adventure “Farm for a Day” display.

## CROP RESEARCH GRANTS

Crop Research Grants generate university-level applied research to improve the quality, quantity, or value of crops grown in Minnesota. Awards of up to \$250,000 can fully reimburse grantees for their project costs, with no match required. Projects must provide near-term benefits for Minnesota agriculture and associated industries and must include a robust outreach component to transfer results and technology to farmers. This program differs from other funding sources, such as federal grants, by supporting research that focuses on emerging or chronic crop production issues that are specific to Minnesota. With the goal of developing practical applications from projects in three to seven years, these grants are unique in addressing the immediate research needs of local farmers.

As of the publication of this report, the contracts from FY24 are being finalized and award information is not yet public. FY24 grantee details will be released with the FY25 legislative report.

## FARM TO SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANTS

In FY24, the Farm to School grant program was expanded to include early childhood education (ECE) centers, in addition to schools. The FY24-FY25 budget rider provided \$1,000,000 for Farm to School grants, including \$65,000 for administrative costs. Applicants were able to apply for one of two food grants, each grant tailored toward schools and ECE centers with differing levels of Farm to School experience.

- **First Bite Mini Grants** were intended for school districts and ECE centers who were new to Farm to School or Farm to Early Care. Applicants could apply for awards ranging between \$2,500 and \$5,000 and did not have to provide matching funds.
- **Full Tray Grants** were designed for school districts and ECE centers with some prior Farm to School or Farm to Early Care experience. Applicants could apply for up to \$35,000, depending on the number of meals served in their federal meal program(s). A 1:1 cash match was required.

Applicants could also apply for up to \$25,000 to purchase kitchen equipment to support their Farm to School and Early Care initiatives. A 1:1 cash match was required.



*St. Louis Park Schools sourced local red potatoes from Hugh's Gardens in Halstad, MN using their Farm to School grant.*

### FY 2024 AGRI Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$935,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	92/\$1.85 million
Food Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	62/\$724,000
Equipment Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	17/\$215,000
Grant Type Awarded:	School: 9 First Bite   39 Full Tray   15 Equipment Early Care: 12 First Bite   2 Full Tray   2 Equipment

Please see Appendix A for a list of FY24 Farm to School recipients, a map of their locations, and a map showing grantees from FY17-24.

In FY25, \$1,051,875 is available to support Farm to School and Early Care programs. In addition to the grant programs, the MDA expanded offerings to include in-home family child care providers through the Local Tots Cost-Share program.

## GAP/GHP COST-SHARE

The Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)/Good Handling Practices (GHP) Certification Cost-Share Program defrays farmer and processor costs to obtain GAP and/or GHP certification for food safety. This kind of certification is increasingly required to sell produce to schools and institutions and through retail markets.

GAP and GHP certifications focus on improving the safety and quality of produce in the field and/or during handling. They require food safety plans and independent audits to verify that farmers and processors are producing, packing, handling, and storing fruits and vegetables in the safest manner possible. In FY24, growers and handlers who met USDA GAP and/or GHP standards, as assessed by an accredited certifier, were eligible to receive a reimbursement of 75% of their certification costs of up to \$2,500 for a maximum of three years.

### FY 2024 AGRI GAP/GHP Cost-Share Summary

Funding Available:	\$10,000
Number of requests for reimbursement:	5
Amount in claims disbursed:	\$3,762

In FY25, we have budgeted \$10,000 for this program. Applications will be accepted through May.

## GOOD FOOD ACCESS PROGRAM

The Good Food Access Program (GFAP) increases availability of and access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food, including produce, for underserved communities in low- and moderate-income areas. The program provides financial support and technical assistance to open, renovate, or expand the operations of grocery stores and small food retailers. It also expands access to credit and reduces barriers to investment. MINN. STAT. 17.1017 describes eligibility requirements, program administration, and additional selection criteria. The FY24-25 budget rider provided \$1,000,000 each year for the program.

### FY 2024 Good Food Access Program Summary

	Equipment and Physical Improvement Grants	Technical Assistance Grants
Funding Available:	\$735,000	\$200,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	79/\$3.71 million	5/\$441,689
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	19/\$747,417	3/\$187,582
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$212,329	\$187,582

Funded projects ranged from \$6,000 to \$75,000. Grantees are using these grants for activities such as installing coolers and freezers to expand their retail space and/or improve energy efficiency with their equipment.

In FY25, \$935,000 is available for GFAP Equipment and Physical Improvement Grants. Based on the recommendation of the GFAP Advisory Committee, the MDA is not offering the Technical Assistance Grants this year, so that more funding could be allocated towards the popular GFAP Equipment and Physical Improvement Program. Applications for that program are currently under review. More detailed information about this program can be found in a separate Good Food Access Program Legislative Report.

# LIVESTOCK INVESTMENT GRANT

The AGRI Livestock Investment Grant (LIG), established by MINN.STAT. 17.118, encourages long-term industry development for Minnesota livestock producers by investing in infrastructure and equipment. The MDA allocated \$1.5 million of the undesignated funds within the AGRI appropriation for the program.

## FY 2024 AGRI Livestock Investment Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$1.5 million
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	212/\$3.1 million
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	90/\$1.44 million
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$35 million

The program reimburses grantees for 10% of qualifying expenses, with a maximum award of \$25,000 per year. Grants are awarded competitively based upon recommendations made by a panel of MDA and external reviewers who have experience in the livestock industry. In FY24, evaluation criteria prioritized new farmers, generational transitions, recovery from natural disasters, farm management plans/programs, accessibility improvements, robotic milking equipment and other technology, improving profitability, and positive environmental impacts.

A list of FY24 awardees, a map of their locations, and a map of FY17-24 recipients are available in Appendix B.

Of the recipients who have completed their proposed project:

- 10 were able to start farming as a new farmer or enter farming through a generational transition.
- 92% believe the grant helped increase their farms environmental sustainability.
- 92% improved the efficiency of their operation.
- 75% completed a project they would not have been able to do without the grant.

Recipients also mentioned that, because of the grant, they took time to evaluate the farm and its needs during the application process and were able to do a project they may not have otherwise been able to do, or could do it sooner than planned.

In FY25, the MDA received 112 applications requesting \$1,251,316. Evaluations took place at the end of 2024 and contracts are currently being processed.

## Grantee Spotlight

Jacinta Matvick and her family from Foley raise broiler chickens. In 2016, they used a Livestock Investment Grant to construct their first barn. With another AGRI Livestock Investment Grant in 2024, they were able to add a 624' by 60' poultry barn. The expansion has allowed them to grow their agricultural activities leading the way for their children to have future opportunities in agriculture.



*Jacinta Matvick used AGRI funds to build a new poultry barn on her family farm.*

# MAKE IT MINNESOTA (FORMERLY NEW MARKETS)

## FY 2024 Make it Minnesota Summary

Funding Available:	\$400,000
Minnesota Pavilion Participants:	30 small- and medium-sized enterprises
Marketing Investment Cost-Share Program Participation:	120 small- and medium-sized enterprises

Make it Minnesota, which rebranded from the New Markets Program in early FY24, helps Minnesota food, beverage, pet food companies, and farms explore new markets and expand their market reach. The program provides manufacturers and brand-builders with business development assistance and resources that helps them gain a competitive advantage in regional and national markets. Primary activities include coordinating Minnesota Pavilions at national business-to-business (B2B) tradeshows and a marketing investment-inducing cost-share program that matches Minnesota brand investments in high-impact marketing activities.

In FY24, 130 Minnesota companies participated in Minnesota Pavilions and/or the Make it Minnesota Cost-Share. In total, those entities self-reported a projected \$21.7 million in new sales because of their participation. A list of Cost-Share Program and Minnesota Pavilion participants, a map of their locations, and a map of FY24 recipients can be found in Appendices C and D.



## Minnesota Pavilions

Minnesota Pavilion events provide promotional, financial, logistical, and execution support for Minnesota companies at B2B tradeshows, helping them put their best foot forward to new buyers around the country. The MDA works with event managers to secure prime booth space at events of interest to our constituents. The booth space is made available to those Minnesota companies and farms at a reduced cost, providing help on the ground and promoting the brands through various media channels. The MDA hosted Minnesota Pavilions at four food and beverage trade show events in FY24, including: the Winter Fancy Food Show (Las Vegas, Nevada), Natural Products Expo West (Anaheim, California), the National Restaurant Association Show/ Taste of the States Pavilion (Chicago, Illinois), and the Sweets & Snacks Expo (Indianapolis, Indiana). Overall, the MDA supported 30 companies, organizations, and farms at Minnesota Pavilion events.

In FY25, the MDA will again host Minnesota Pavilions at the Winter Fancy Food Show, Natural Products Expo West, the Sweets and Snacks Expo, and the National Restaurant Association Show.



*Jim Compart, Compart Family Farms, and MDA Assistant Commissioner Patrice Bailey at the 2024 National Restaurant show, where Compart Family Farms has shown their Duroc pork products since 2013.*

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*We are tremendously grateful for the funds that were received through the Make it Minnesota Cost-Share program. Running a small peanut butter start-up business is not easy and comes with many unforeseen costs. The money received will go directly back into our existing efforts to continue the business. We will forever be appreciative of the support.*

*Bryant Williams  
Hardcore PB, Minneapolis*

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*This is an incredible program, and we are grateful to have MDA as such a good partner since day one.*

*Joe Zimmerly  
Summer Lakes Beverage,  
Minneapolis*

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## Make it Minnesota Cost-Share Program

Through the Make it Minnesota Cost-Share Program, the MDA incentivizes marketing investment by small food and beverage businesses and farms. In FY24, this program reimbursed expenses in the following categories, up to \$3,000 per company:

- **In-store demos:** includes labor for an employee or owner and mileage for retail product demonstrations.
- **B2B tradeshows:** includes booth rental at in-person and virtual events, Minnesota Pavilion booth discounts, and limited travel costs for new exhibitors through the MDA's Walk the Floor Mentorship Program.
- **Wholesale and retail activities:** includes expenses that contribute to better brand performance in retail, such as syndicated data, brand strategy consulting, and logo/label design.
- **E-commerce and digital marketing activities:** includes expenses like email and social media marketing, website design and development, photography, and videography.

Out of 120 FY24 participating brands and farms, 63% identified as woman-owned (an 8% increase from FY23) and 70% identified with one or more of the following categories: women, veteran, African American, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or Native American-owned (a 9.3% increase from FY23).

The MDA sent evaluation surveys to all program participants and 78 responded. Extrapolating the survey results for all 120 participants, the MDA can estimate the following impacts attributed by participating brands and farms to the Cost-Share Program:

- Distribution to more than 15,000 new stores.
- 134 new distributor relationships were initiated.
- More than \$13.2 million generated in new gross retail sales.

## PREPARING FOR EXTREME WEATHER GRANT

The AGRI Preparing for Extreme Weather Grant, also known as Prepare, helps Minnesota livestock and specialty crop producers buy and install supplies and equipment that help make their operations more resilient to extreme weather, including drought, flooding, hail, and other severe weather events like storms, tornadoes, and straight-line wind. These weather events put significant stress on producers; this program aims to put producers in a better position when a severe weather event occurs. The MDA made \$500,000 of undesignated AGRI funds available for this program.

All grant recipients noted that their projects decreased the risk of extreme weather impacting their farms and they would not have been able to do their projects without the grant.

### FY 2024 AGRI Prepare Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$500,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	162/\$1.152 million
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	71/\$461,750
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	2.4:1

The MDA has \$500,000 available for the program in FY25 and applications are being accepted until February 12, 2025.

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*The Prepare Grant has tremendously improved the resiliency of our livestock operation and has assisted in reducing the financial challenges associated with undertaking such a project. Thank you so much!*

*Clayton, Pillager*

*This was a great grant. Being a beginning farmer trying to enter the farming industry, and not coming from a legacy family of farmers, these types of grants help me build up the needed infrastructure to expand my specialty crop, improve yields, and create efficiencies by also addressing some of the weather challenges that may present themselves.*

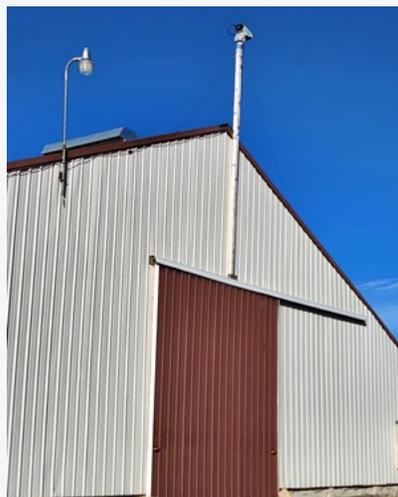
*Crystal, Spicer*

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## PROTECTING LIVESTOCK GRANT

The AGRI Protecting Livestock Grant, also referred to as the Protect Grant, helps Minnesota farmers and ranchers purchase and install equipment and supplies to protect livestock from disease outbreaks. In FY24, the MDA made \$500,000 of undesignated AGRI funds available for this program

Examples of projects include lasers, sensors, and truck washes for poultry, double fencing for cervids, electronic ear tags for cattle, and enhanced loading chutes for hogs.



*Tim Miller used AGRI funds to install lasers that deter wild birds from approaching his turkey farm.*

### Grantee Spotlight

Tim Miller and his family have been raising turkeys for 37 years. He has grown the operation to include his brother and sons. Their operation raises 150,000 hens and toms each year. Tim installed two lasers on the property that are programmed to cover the area around the barns. The lasers emit a green beam that travels around the perimeters of the barns and nearby property. When the wild birds see the beam approaching, they sense it as a predator and are scared away.

### FY 2024 AGRI Protect Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$500,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	127/\$921,000
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	54/\$368,000
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	3:1

In FY25, there is \$500,000 available for this program, including \$225,000 designated for the program in the budget rider and an additional \$275,000 of undesignated funds. The rider further required that grants focused on preventing the transmission of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). HPAI has affected over 8 million birds on 172 sites in Minnesota since March of 2022. The MDA received 48 proposals and are currently contracting with recipients.

## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE DEMONSTRATION GRANTS

Since 1989, the Sustainable Agriculture (SustAg) Demonstration Grant Program (MINN. STAT. 17.116) has helped farmers, nonprofit groups, agricultural researchers, and educators explore ways to enhance the sustainability of a wide range of farming systems. The program was originally funded through a dedicated biennial appropriation. Funding shifted to the AGRI Program in FY13. The 2024 Legislature made changes to the statute to allow grants to be awarded to organizations such as tribal entities, local units of government, and agricultural cooperatives. The MDA allocated \$350,000 of undesignated AGRI funds for this program.

The program funds projects that research or demonstrate farm-based agricultural techniques or systems that address energy efficiency, environmental benefits, and/or profitability. Grantees report annually on their progress, and their reports are compiled and published by the MDA in the Greenbook so other farmers and researchers can learn from their experiences. Starting in 2024 the Greenbook will be published digitally as a series within the [Minnesota Water Research Library](#) allowing users to search for relevant articles and research past projects.

### FY 2024 AGRI SustAg Demonstration Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$350,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	19/\$625,000
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	12/\$347,149
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$200,000

## Grantee Spotlight

The Food Group was awarded a grant in FY24 for their project with Big River Farms. They are working with solar companies to provide land access for emerging farmers within solar developments. This practice, known as agrivoltaics, has caught the attention of solar developers to maximize land use potential on their solar sites. They have also partnered with the National Renewable Energy Lab to research the impact on the farmers and the land and to develop resources for farmers considering this type of farming.

The SustAg Demonstration Grant has helped them expand the project to a new location, opening opportunities for farmers in a new part of the state. The Food Group received an Environmental Initiative Award in Energy and Climate for this project in 2024.



*One of the solar sites is growing dill, beats, beans, and other crops underneath rows of solar panels, maximizing land use and creating opportunities for Minnesota farmers.*

## URBAN AGRICULTURE GRANTS

These competitive grants promote youth agricultural education and/or agriculture-connected community development in urban and peri-urban areas throughout Minnesota. For-profit businesses, nonprofit organizations, schools, local government entities, and Native American tribal communities are eligible to apply for the program. They can use funds to buy equipment, make physical improvements, and pay for staff time to carry out urban agriculture-related programming. The FY24-25 AGRI budget rider allocated \$2 million for the program, including administrative costs.

### FY 2024 AGRI Urban Agriculture Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$1,870,000
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	80/\$5.57 million
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	29/\$1,766,779
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$1,677,597

A panel of MDA staff and external reviewers evaluates proposals for long-term sustainability, the applicant's capacity to implement the project, impacts on economic justice and the environment, and commitment to serving underserved communities.

A list of grantees and a map of their locations is available in Appendix F.

The FY25 application process closed on January 30. Applications are currently under review.

## Grantee Spotlights

180 Degrees, Inc, located in St. Cloud, received an AGRI Urban Agriculture grant to install a teaching garden on-site at a St. Cloud youth center. Funds will support the development and delivery of agricultural education programs for at least 95 youth experiencing homelessness annually. Lessons will include garden planning, seed starting, and plant propagation, composting and, garden maintenance tasks.

We WIN Institute, located in Minneapolis, will use their grant funds to develop pollinator and teaching gardens at their permanent location in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood. They will also use grant funds to support the We WIN cooking program, connecting youth with local chefs to cook food harvested from the We WIN gardens. Their programs will teach youth agricultural education in addition to healthy eating skills.

## VALUE-ADDED AND MEAT, POULTRY, EGG, AND MILK PROCESSING GRANTS

The AGRI Value-Added and Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grants help value-added and livestock processing businesses invest in equipment and related physical improvements to increase sales of products produced with Minnesota grown ingredients.

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*I wouldn't have taken the risk to get into dairy processing without this grant.*

*Amanda Murphy  
Murphy's Grove, Aitkin*

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### Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grant

#### FY 2024 AGRI Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$2 million
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	66/\$3,907,145
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	32/\$1,258,834
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment:	\$2,632,887

The Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk (MPEM) Grant operates as a Value-Added Grant specifically targeted toward livestock processors. Applications were accepted in fall 2023 and spring 2024 for the funding allocated by the Legislature for MPEM grants. The FY24-25 budget rider dedicated \$1.25 million to this program.

The MPEM Grant prioritized projects that would create additional meat or poultry slaughter capacity as well as projects that would increase access to kosher or halal markets. Two processing businesses will be installing equipment for processing halal meat, and 14 businesses received grants that would increase food safety at their facilities. Two meat processing business will be purchasing equipment to facilitate their switch to Equal To processing.

Awards covered 50% of the total project cost for the first \$50,000, and 25% of remaining costs, with a minimum award of \$1,000 and maximum award of \$150,000.

### Value-Added Grant

The Value-Added Grant Program offers funding for equipment purchases and related physical improvements to improve the capacity of businesses to process Minnesota-grown and raised products. Awards covered 50% of the total project cost for the first \$50,000, and 25% of remaining costs, with a maximum award of \$150,000. The MDA set aside \$1.75 million of undesignated AGRI funds for this program and additional MPEM projects.

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*We're already using more grain than we were before the grant project. Over 90% of our ingredients by weight come from within 10 miles of Northfield.*

*Mark Schiller and Simeon Rossi  
Loon Liquors, Northfield*

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## FY 2024 AGRI Value-Added Grant Summary

Funding Available:	\$1.9 million
Applications Received/Amount Requested:	38/\$1,978,672
Applications Funded/Amount Awarded:	17/\$835,413
Estimated Leveraged Private Investment	\$2.22 million

This program impacts a variety of agricultural products including apples, dairy, grains, grapes, hemp, meat, potatoes, and more. Results include increased efficiency, diversification, and processing of new products or utilizing more agricultural products from Minnesota farmers. Businesses and projects of all sizes benefit, and businesses across the program project sales growth between thousands and millions of dollars based on the scale of their business.

Lists of FY24 recipients, a map detailing their locations, and a map showing FY17-23 grantees are available in Appendix J.



### Grantee Spotlights

Peatland Reds, located in Trail, received an AGRI Value-Added Grant to purchase an innovative potato grading system to make processing their locally grown red potatoes more efficient. Modernizing their processing equipment will reduce potato bruising and skinning damage and increase both the volume of potatoes processed and the number of potatoes their family farm is able to grow.



Rookie Farmers, located in South Haven, received an AGRI Value-Added Grant to purchase a hemp fiber baling machine for processing Minnesota grown hemp and oilseed into natural hemp fiber insulation and other materials. Rookie Farmers processed over 400,000 pounds of local hemp in 2024, and plan to increase their purchasing of hemp by over 250,000 pounds from other central Minnesota farmers next year.

## FY24 Farm to School Grant Recipients

School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
Alexandria School District	Pope	Full Tray, Equipment	Purchase a blast chiller and sealer to process, freeze, and distribute produce such as squash, potatoes, and summer vegetables, to serve more local foods year-round. Purchase a combi oven to roast local vegetables and add new knife sharpeners for each school kitchen.
Amherst H Wilder Foundation	Ramsey	First Bite, Equipment	Incorporate at least two Minnesota-grown food products per month to student menu. Purchase refrigerator, freezer, dishwashing appliances, and microwave to help store and process local foods.
Becker Public Schools	Sherburne	Full Tray	Increase the number of Minnesota-grown and -raised foods on menus and build relationships with local farmers, specifically a produce farm and a beef farm.
BOLD FFA	Renville	First Bite	Purchase more Minnesota-grown foods for students to try and introduce local farmers of different backgrounds to students during taste tests.
Cannon Falls Public Schools	Goodhue	Full Tray, Equipment	Purchase a vegetable preparation machine with workstation stands to prepare local foods and enhance the nutritional value of the meals.
Crosslake Community School	Crow Wing	Full Tray	Develop its Farm to School Program through initiating Minnesota Thursday meals, expanding district breakfast programs, providing taste tests, and introducing students to local farmers through promotional grower profiles in the cafeteria.
Dassel-Cokato Public Schools	Wright	Full Tray, Equipment	Procure more local foods to feature on menus. Purchase a combi oven and tilting skillet.
Dei Spring Academy & Childcare Center	Stearns	First Bite	Incorporating more Minnesota-grown fruits, vegetables, and other foods into the children's menu.
Dilworth Glyndon Felton Schools	Clay	Full Tray	Purchase more products from Minnesota farmers to introduce our students to new foods. Introduce our nutrition service employees to new skills such as baking, scratch cooking, and using local healthy foods.
First Evangelical Lutheran School	McLeod	Full Tray	Continue serving two locally-sourced meals each month and educating students about eating healthy, local foods.

School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
Fond du Lac Reservation	Carlton	Full Tray	Increase the number of Indigenous foods, such as bison, fish, turkey, maple syrup, and produce, coming through the food service program to further expose students to their Anishinaabe culture. Build upon existing relationships with local farmers and create new partnerships.
Frazee Vergas Public Schools	Becker	Full Tray	Offer more Minnesota Thursdays and taste testing events to provide our students more fresh, local products.
Glacial Hills Elem School	Pope	Full Tray	Provide students with lessons and activities centered around Minnesota agriculture and provide students with nutritious meals highlighting local produce. Build and sustain hydroponic gardens and implement Meaty Mondays and Taste Testing Tuesdays twice a month.
Henning Public Schools	Otter Tail	First Bite	Procure more local foods on the menu and educate students on the importance of eating healthy foods through a partnership with the district, the MDA, and FFA programs.
Heritage ESTEM Magnet School	Dakota	First Bite	Incorporate locally-produced food in the cafeteria during lunch five times throughout the school year so that students learn about the farmers that produced the food in schoolwide lessons.
Hill City School District	Aitkin	Full Tray	Expand Farm to School program by purchasing more food from local farmers.
Hinckley-Finlayson Public Schools	Pine	Full Tray	Continue sourcing local vegetables and beef to use in recipes. Continue educating students about the importance of farming and eating locally.
Holdingford Public Schools	Stearns	Full Tray	Purchase meats to make into homemade sloppy joes, pulled pork, beef stew, bratwursts, etc. Procure seasonal fruits and vegetables and coordinate with FFA students to purchase their animals and produce.
Holy Trinity Catholic School (Pierz)	Morrison	Full Tray	Continue purchasing local foods by connecting to at least four new farmers in the next year. Offer more taste test events and secure tours of local farms. Purchase a griddle, oven, and larger stand mixer, to help make mashed potatoes, meatballs, meatloaf, and baked goods, all with Minnesota-grown and -raised products.
Holy Trinity Catholic School (South Saint Paul)	Dakota	Full Tray, Equipment	Purchase more Minnesota-grown and -raised foods for the summer program and school-wide taste testing events. Purchase a stand mixer or new range with flat top.
Hopkins Public Schools	Hennepin	Full Tray	Add three new farmers to our Farm to School sources, including Hmong and American Farmers Association and Cannon Bells Cheese Company. Create new menu items featuring Minnesota-grown foods, such as beef to add to both breakfast and lunch menus.

School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
Hutchinson Public Schools	McLeod	Full Tray, Equipment	Procure more local foods to feature on menus. Purchase two combi ovens for use at the middle school and senior high.
Kato Public Charter School	Blue Earth	First Bite	Work with local farmers and retailers to provide students with a variety of different local food choices.
Kid Zone Early Learning Center	Hennepin	Full Tray, Equipment	Procure a local meat source from emerging farmers who produce beef, chicken, and pork. Incorporate taste testing, garden curriculum, and farmer visits. Purchase a meat slicer and classroom cooking tools including a dehydrator, cutting boards, and mixing bowls. Purchase a slicer to slice local cheese and tomatoes.
Listos Preschool and Childcare	Olmsted	First Bite	Purchase locally grown produce to serve snacks and meals. Host classroom visits with local growers to introduce children to new foods.
Litchfield Public Schools	Meeker	Full Tray, Equipment	Procure more local foods to feature on menus. Purchase a combi oven and blast chiller freezer.
Little B's	Carlton	First Bite	Purchase vegetables from our local CSA farm and the Carlton County Farmers' Market. Purchase a refrigerator and freezer to store and prepare local foods. Host community events that showcase our local CSA.
Little Cubs Hangout & Bertha-Hewitt Hangout	Todd	First Bite	Incorporate more Minnesota-grown foods into our menus.
Mesabi East Schools	St. Louis	Full Tray, Equipment	Expand relationships with local producers, including from Red Lake Nation and Bois Forte. Continue having the culinary arts classes host taste tests.
Metro Learning Center Inc.	Hennepin	First Bite	Source Minnesota-grown and -raised foods to foster a deeper connection with the local food ecosystem.
Minneapolis Public Schools	Hennepin	Full Tray	Grow relationships with emerging farmers to include more farmers and expand sourcing from previous years' emerging farm partners. Utilize produce items in a way that lends color, flavor, and appeal to meals. Purchase produce items that hold and store well, allowing for service deep into the school year.
Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) Mankato Head Start	Blue Earth	First Bite	Procure foods from local farmers to be served at snack time at least twice a month and at the monthly parent event. Highlight local farmers in community newsletter and trial other Minnesota-grown products on the snack menu, from suppliers like Ferndale Market and Sleepy Bison Acres.
Morris Area Public School	Stevens	Full Tray, Equipment	Purchase a fruit and vegetable slicer. Procure more local products, including chicken, pork, and sweet corn.
Murray County Central Schools	Murray	First Bite	Purchase and serve local foods throughout the entire school year, from suppliers like Brewster Bison and Deutz Heritage Farm.

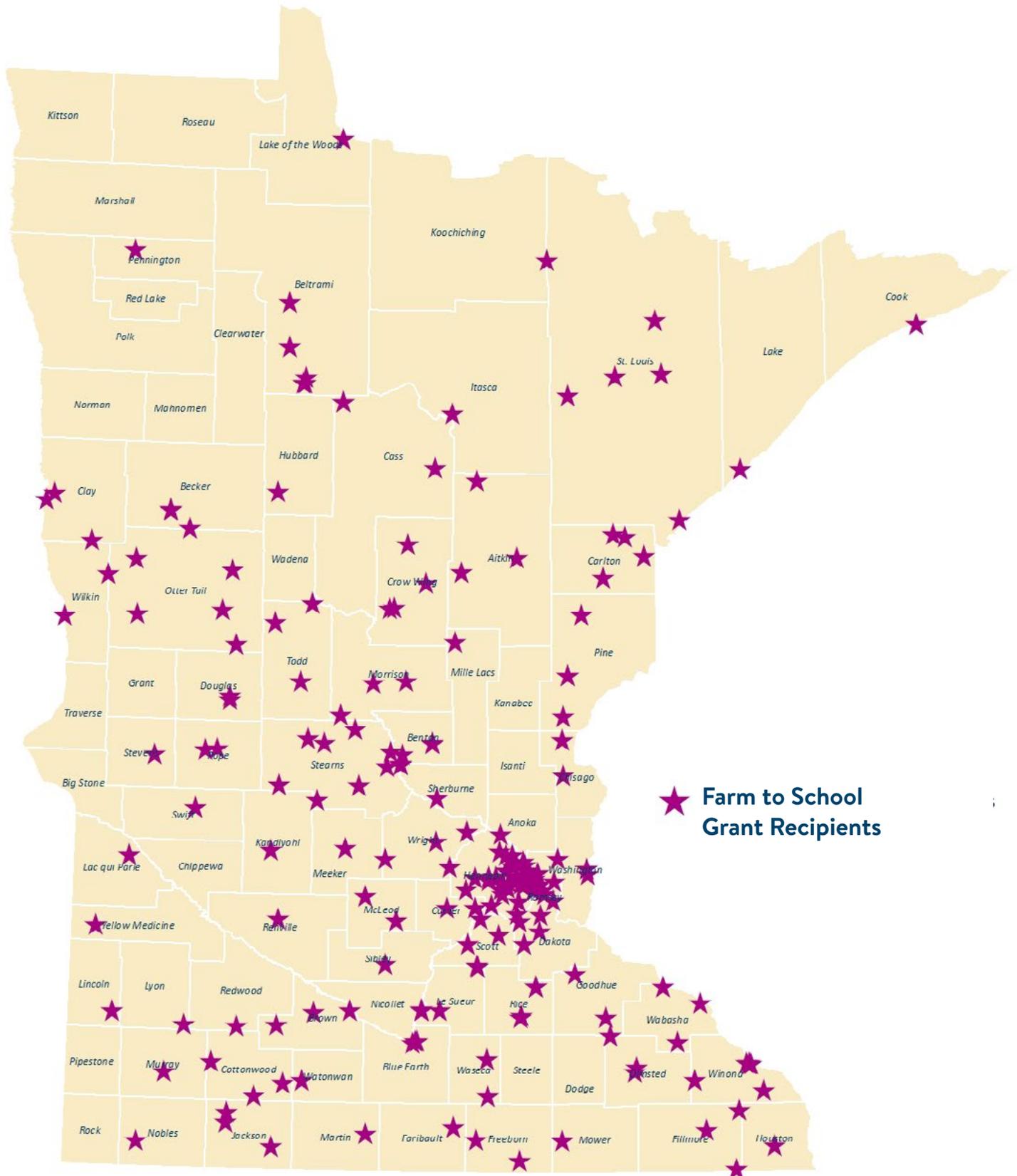
School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
MVAC St. Peter Head Start	Nicollet	First Bite	Procure foods from local farmers to be served at snack time at least twice a month and at the monthly parent event. Highlight local farmers in community newsletter and trial other Minnesota-grown products on the snack menu, from suppliers at the St. Peter Farmers' Market.
MVAC Waseca	Waseca	First Bite	Procure foods from local farmers to be served at snack time at least twice a month and at the monthly parent event. Highlight local farmers in community newsletter and trial other Minnesota-grown products on the snack menu, from suppliers like Cedar Crate Farms and Ed's Produce.
New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva	Waseca	Full Tray, Equipment	Continue purchasing fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats from local producers. Purchase a Robot Coupe, food processor, steamer, oven, and fruit slicer.
New Ulm Area Catholic Schools	Brown	Full Tray	Build relationships with local farmers to purchase high-quality meats, fruits, vegetables, and grains, to be served in the salad bar and hot food line.
Nisse Treehouse, LLC	Fillmore	Full Tray	Purchase a pig, cow, and sheep from a local farmer and raise it in collaboration with the local farmer. Offer frequent field trips to the farm and eventually process the animals at a local butcher shop.
Northfield Public Schools	Rice	Full Tray, Equipment	Purchase more foods from local farmers. Purchase a new combi oven to improve meal quality.
Northwest MN Juvenile Center	Beltrami	Full Tray, Equipment	Offer field trips to local farms, such as Merry Garden Farms. Educate students about food preservation and introduce them to new varieties of local produce.
Parkers Prairie School District	Otter Tail	First Bite, Equipment	Establish a salad bar that will offer a variety of fresh, local fruits and vegetables.
Prior Lake Public Schools	Scott	Full Tray	Expand our offerings of locally sourced products and educate students about the local food scene (i.e. beef, grains, honey, new produce items). Create expanded partnerships with farmers via a "Meet the Farmer" series where students can learn firsthand from people who produce their food.
Reach-Up, Inc.	Benton	First Bite	Introduce healthy, locally grown foods on the menu and teach children about where their food comes from. Provide nutrition education to families regarding the use of local produce at home.
Riverway Learning Community	Winona	Full Tray	Procure more fresh and food products—especially organic meats like chicken and pork— through partnerships with local farms to decrease the use of frozen and processed meats.

School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
Robbinsdale Area Schools	Hennepin	Full Tray, Equipment	Offer more scratch meals by purchasing Minnesota-produced beef products. Provide students with local proteins and grains, in addition to local produce and cheese. Purchase an all-in-one cooking system, vacuum packager, and food pans, to efficiently cook and package large quantities of raw beef.
Rosemount Apple Valley Eagan Schools	Dakota	Full Tray, Equipment	Continue to purchase local produce, grains, and protein
Roseville Public Schools	Ramsey	Full Tray	Continue bimonthly Minnesota Thursdays, implement local foods served at breakfast, and increase the variety of locally sourced grains and proteins, by developing relationships with local farmers and distributors.
Rothsay Public School	Otter Tail	First Bite	Purchase local beef from an area farmer to reduce reliance on processed and imported meats.
St Croix Preparatory Academy Charter School	Washington	Full Tray	Purchase more local produce, proteins, and grains. Educate students about where their food items are grown and about the farmers that grow it.
St. Anthony-New Brighton Schools	Ramsey	Full Tray	Continue bimonthly Minnesota Thursdays, implement local foods served at breakfast, and increase the variety of locally sourced grains and proteins by developing relationships with local farmers and distributors.
St. Charles Public Schools	Winona	Full Tray	Build and sustain long term relationships with local producers and educate our students on the importance of consuming local products.
St. Cloud School District	Stearns	Full Tray	Maintain current relationships with farmers and create new relationships to promote local sourcing.
St. Mary's Catholic School	Brown	First Bite	Implement Lunch with a Farmer events, where local producers educate about their operations and production models. Establish a salad bar with fresh, local food to encourage students to try new foods.
St. Paul Public Schools	Ramsey	Full Tray	Feature Minnesota grown fruits and vegetables on the hot lunch menu and/or salad bar at least once per month. Purchase and promote the use of Minnesota-made dairy products. Promote Minnesota-grown foods to students during Farm to School month in October through food maps, farmer highlights on social media, and cafeteria promotions.
Stare Academy	Crow Wing	First Bite	Enhance lunchroom education on agriculture by providing the students and staff with a variety of foods grown by local farmers. Establish a school garden with greenhouses, and introduce other educational curriculum related to food, health, and agriculture.

School/ School District	County	Type(s)	Project Summary
Step By Step Montessori	Hennepin	First Bite	Purchase local fruits and vegetables to use at snack time. Continue purchasing milk from a Minnesota dairy farm. Offer taste tests during snack times so students can taste new foods.
Tracy Area Schools	Lyon	Full Tray, Equipment	Procure local beef bison. Update the HACCP plan and offer additional training for staff on food safety, knife skills, recipe development of local foods, and operational guidance to incorporate more scratch prepared items into the menu.
United South Central Public Schools	Faribault	Full Tray	Continue sourcing ground beef from Goette Farms. Start purchasing potatoes from Sonnek Potatoes, sweet corn from Bias Family Sweet Corn, and apples and melons from a local orchard.
Wayzata Public Schools	Hennepin	Full Tray	Create new partnerships with local producers, with a focus on emerging farmers and businesses owned by women.
Westwood Early Childhood Center	Hennepin	First Bite	Over the next three years, feature local produce each Thursday for afternoon snack. Participate in the Great Apple Crunch. Implement a Farm to School breakfast featuring local produce and whole grains purchased from a Minnesota farmer.
Winona Area Public Schools	Winona	Full Tray	Purchase a rational combi oven to roast, bake, and steam, more locally-sourced foods.



# FARM TO SCHOOL GRANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEARS 2017-2024



## FY24 Livestock Investment Grant Recipients

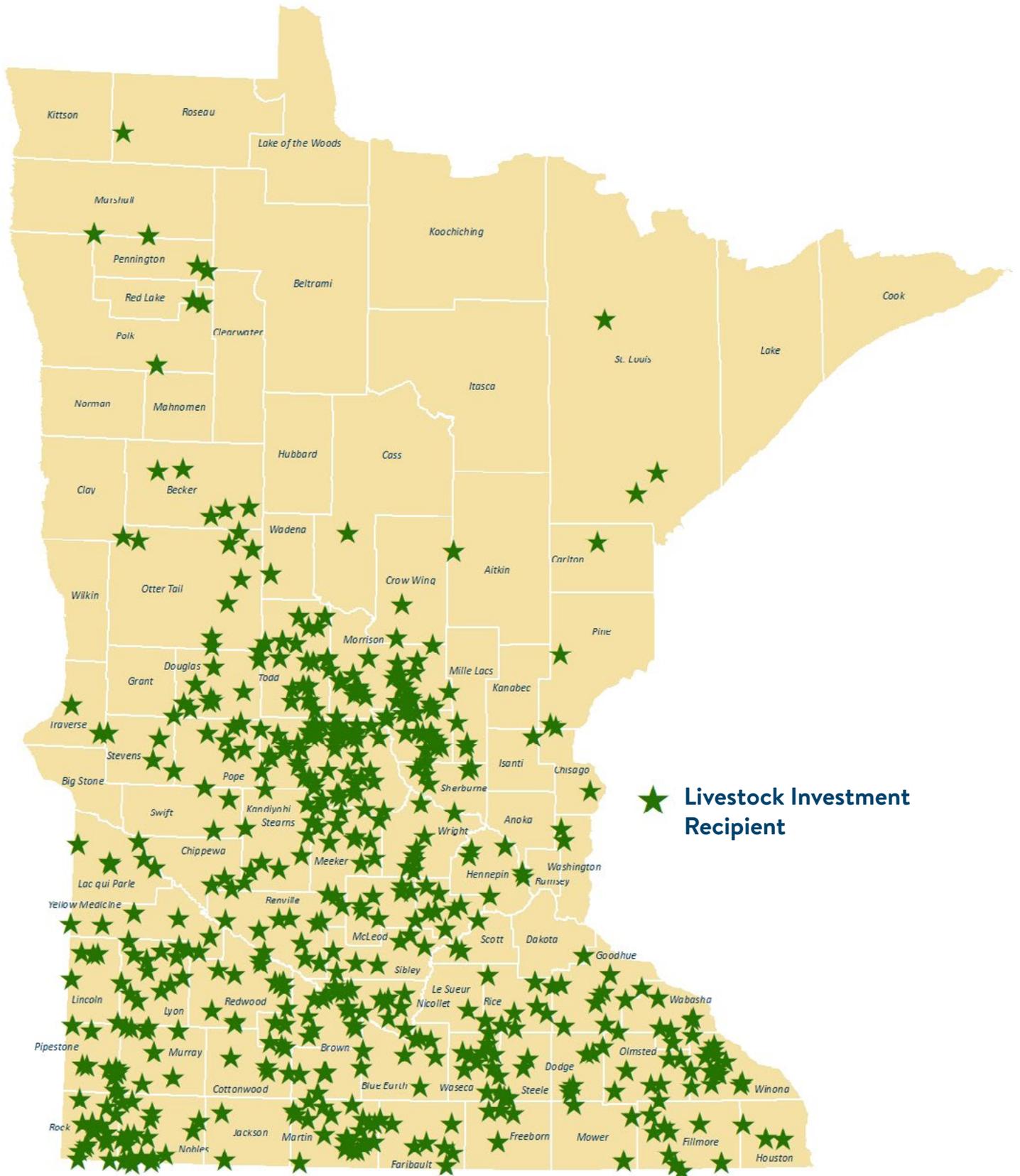
Legislative District	County	Name	Species
01A	Pennington	Jennifer Arveson	Beef
01B	Polk	Jeremy Bergerson	Beef
01B	Polk	Nick Geray	Beef
02B	Becker	Jason Chilton	Beef
03A	Cook	Karen Brodeen	Beef
05B	Stearns	Jason Felling, Felling Dairy, LLP	Dairy
05B	Todd	Elizabeth Vetsch, Vetsch Farms, LLC	Dairy
05B	Todd	Amber Rasinski, R&R Ranch	Beef
05B	Todd	Kyle Klein, Klein Dairy	Dairy
09A	Traverse	Brent Pederson	Swine
09B	Otter Tail	Troy Becker	Beef
09B	Wadena	Stephanie Goeller, Style-Heaven Holsteins	Dairy
10B	Benton	Brandon Marshik	Dairy
10B	Benton	Jocelyn Schlichting, Schlichting Farms, Inc.	Swine
10B	Benton	Patrick Scapanski, Scapanski Dairy, LLP	Dairy
10B	Morrison	Harvey Schoon	Dairy
11B	Pine	Dale Heidelberger, Heidelberger Farm Equipment, LLC	Diversified Livestock
12A	Pope	Todd Carlson	Beef
12A	Stearns	Alise Sjostrom, Jer-Lindy Farms, LLC	Dairy
12A	Stearns	Ken Kerfeld, Kerfeld Dairy	Dairy
12A	Stearns	Tom Herkenhoff, Herkenhoff Central Dairy, Inc.	Beef
12A	Stevens	Eric Zeltwanger	Beef
12B	Pope	Dean Reichmann, Homestead Farms	Beef
12B	Pope	Jeremy Walker	Dairy
12B	Pope	Paul Fiedler, Fiedler Finishing	Swine
13A	Renville	Tyler Magedanz	Dairy
13A	Stearns	Joe Merdan, Merdan Dairy, Inc.	Dairy
13A	Stearns	Scott Wittkop, Scott Wittkop Farm	Beef
13A	Stearns	Vanessa Gillman, Windhaven Farm	Beef
13B	Stearns	Jacob Posch, Posch's Poultry, LLC	Poultry
15B	Brown	Brandon Anderson	Beef

Legislative District	County	Name	Species
15B	Redwood	Daniel Schouvieller, Schouvieller Poultry Farms, LLC	Poultry
15B	Redwood	Mark Hoffman, Hoffmann Dairy	Dairy
16A	Chippewa	Kurt Stranberg	Beef
16A	Renville	Sawyer Tersteeg, Sawyer & Samantha Tersteeg	Beef
16B	Kandiyohi	Benjamin Thorpe, Thorpe Farms	Beef
17A	McLeod	Garrett Luthens, Luthens Family, LLC	Dairy
17A	Meeker	Justin Wagner, Wagner Dairy, LLC	Dairy
17A	Sibley	Nathan Sommer, TD Pork LLC	Swine
17A	Swift	Benjamin Clark, Clark Family Farm Partnership	Dairy
17B	Sibley	Alex Stark, Stoney Creek Livestock	Swine
18A	Nicollet	Dustin Compart	Swine
19A	Goodhue	Madeline Patterson, Country Girls Show Pigs Partnership	Swine
19A	Rice	Thomas Metzdorff	Bison
19B	Steele	Karen Kasper, Kasper Family Dairy Farm	Dairy
20B	Goodhue	Anthony Scheffler, Scheffler Dairy	Dairy
20B	Wabasha	Tagen Miller	Dairy
20B	Winona	Becky Clark, Clark Farms, LLC	Dairy
20B	Winona	Marlene Ward, Fallen Oaks Custom Calves	Dairy
20B	Winona	Stan Kreidermacher	Beef
21A	Lincoln	Daniel Vos	Beef
21A	Murray	Shawn Wichmann	Beef
21A	Pipestone	Luke Minion, Twin Rock Family Farms, Inc.	Swine
21A	Pipestone	Robert Van Hill, Van Hill Farms	Beef
21A	Pipestone	Terry Wolters, Rosewood, LLP	Swine
21A	Rock	Halden Vanwyhe	Swine
21A	Rock	Micah Stensland-Bos, J&M Farms	Diversified Livestock
21A	Rock	Phillip Raak, I & G Raak, Inc.	Dairy
22A	Faribault	Adam St. Germain	Beef
22B	Le Sueur	Sara Hewitt, Maple Wood Farms	Sheep/Goats
22B	Scott	Glen Jeurissen	Beef
22B	Scott	Tony Kornder, Kornder Farms	Beef
23A	Faribault	Mark Sahrside, Sahrside Dairy	Dairy
23A	Faribault	Taylor Ovrebo	Beef

Legislative District	County	Name	Species
24B	Rice	Angie Draper, Draper Dairy	Dairy
26B	Fillmore	Olaf Haugen, Springside Dairy, LLC	Dairy
27A	Sherburne	Ofsia Nyaikonda, Nyota Farm	Diversified Livestock
28B	Chisago	Jeril Andrews, Meadowland Cattle Company	Beef
29A	Meeker	Josh Pommier	Diversified Livestock
29A	Wright	Sean Groos, Minkota Holsteins, LLC	Dairy
33A	Washington	Andrew Miron, Miron Farm	Dairy
34B	Hennepin	Kathryn Blanchard, Blanchard Properties, LLC	Sheep/Goats
48A	Carver	Tyler Lueck	Beef
49A	Hennepin	Jamie Johnson, Enchanted Gardens MN	Diversified Livestock
58B	Goodhue	Jeff Beckman	Dairy



# LIVESTOCK INVESTMENT GRANTS BY COUNTY MAP FISCAL YEARS 2017 THROUGH 2024



## FY24 Make it Minnesota Program

### Minnesota Pavilion Participants

Legislative District	County	Business Name	City
03A	Lake	Wildly Organic	Silver Bay
12B	Hennepin	Clo-Clo Vegan Foods	Edina
13A	Stearns	Stickney Hill Dairy	Rockville
14B	Stearns	Heavenly Treats, LLC	St. Cloud
18A	Nicollet	Compart Duroc	Nicollet
30B	Sherburne	Jonny Pops, LLC	Elk River
37B	Hennepin	P&TY Granola Co.	Dayton
40A	Ramsey	Maazah	Arden Hills
40B	Ramsey	Old Dutch Foods	Roseville
41B	Dakota	Field Theory Foods	Hastings
42A	Scott	Nordic Waffles, LLC	Shakopee
43A	Hennepin	Flackers	New Hope
43A	Hennepin	Mixly Cocktail Co.	Shorewood
43B	Hennepin	The Amazing Chickpea	Plymouth MN
51B	Hennepin	Seven Sundays	Bloomington
52B	Dakota	Toom Garlic Dips	Mendota Heights
54A	Scott	Stone Gate Foods	Shakopee
60A	Hennepin	We are Nuts	Minneapolis
60B	Ramsey	Forever Green Initiative	Minneapolis
60B	Washington	Janet's Finest	St. Paul
61A	Hennepin	Acremade	Minneapolis
61A	Hennepin	Papa George's	Minneapolis
63A	Hennepin	Peace Coffee	Minneapolis
64A	Ramsey	Per Se	Saint Paul
64A	Ramsey	Plucky Pickle Dip	Saint Paul
66A	Dakota	Captain Ken's Foods, Inc.	St. Paul
66A	Dakota	GrIk, LLC	West Saint Paul
66A	Hennepin	SMACKIN' Snacks	Minneapolis
66A	Hennepin	The Good Acre	Falcon Heights

## FY24 Make it Minnesota Program

### Cost-Share Program Participants

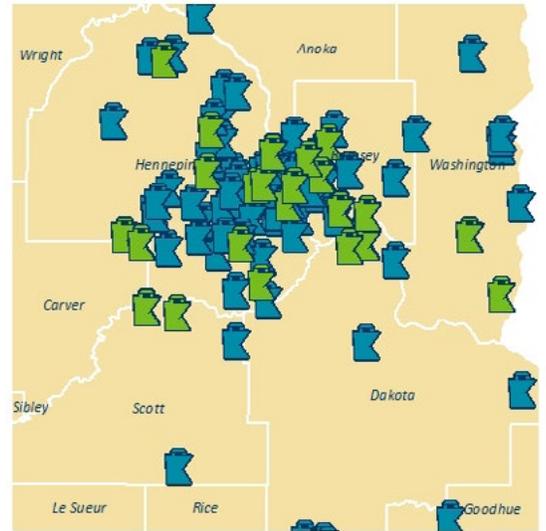
Legislative District	County	Business Name	City
01A	Kittson	Far North Spirits, Inc.	Hallock
08A	Otter Tail	Terroir Chocolate	Fergus Falls
09A	Otter Tail	CB Holl, Inc DBA Pelican Pete's Pistachios	Wells
12A	Pope	Rolling Forks Vineyards, LLC	Glenwood
12A	Stearns	Redhead Creamery, LLC	Brooten
12B	Douglas	Dutch House Confections	Nelson
12B	Hennepin	Clo-Clo Vegan Foods	Edina
14A	Ramsey	Soul Grain	Saint Paul
14B	Stearns	Heavenly Treats, LLC	St. Cloud
15A	Yellow Medicine	Fertile Acreage Farm	Echo
18A	Blue Earth	The Meatery	Mankato
19A	Goodhue	Seven Songs Organic Farm	Kenyon
19B	Steele	N H Corp	Owatanna
20A	Goodhue	CannonBelles Cheese	Northfield
20A	Goodhue	Ferndale Market	Cannon Falls
20A	Goodhue	Provender Brands LLC DBA Deeply Rooted	Cannon Falls
21A	Cottonwood	Krienke Foods International, Inc.	Mountain Lake
21A	Hennepin	Kathie's Bakery	Brooklyn Park
24A	Dodge	Stablefeed	Kasson
26A	Winona	Blackberry Ridge Farms	Winona
26A	Winona	Hart Country, LLC	Rushford
26B	Houston	Sno Pac Foods, Inc.	Caledonia
28A	Isanti	NKI Enterprises, Inc. DBA The Saucy Mamma	Isanti
28B	Chisago	Eichtens Hidden Acres, LLC	Center City
28B	Chisago	Sunrise Flour Mill, Inc.	North Branch
29B	Hennepin	Tailgate Spices	Hopkins
30B	Sherburne	Jonny Pops, LLC	Elk River
31A	Anoka	Mabel Concessions, LLC	Ramsey
31A	Hennepin	Summer Lakes Beverage	Ramsey
33A	Washington	Facepunch Foods	Stillwater

Legislative District	County	Business Name	City
33A	Washington	Henke Foods, LLC	Saint Paul
33A	Washington	Sara's Bakery	Stillwater
33B	Washington	Infusion Gardens	Stillwater
33B	Washington	Sara's Topsy Pies	Stillwater
36B	Hennepin	Junita's Jar	Minneapolis
37B	Hennepin	P&TY Granola Co.	Dayton
37B	Hennepin	Qwiznibet Foods	Minneapolis
38A	Hennepin	Must be Ruff, LLC	Brooklyn Park
39B	Hennepin	Luca and The Five Girls, LLC	Minneapolis
39B	Hennepin	VIP Wellness Tea	Brooklyn Park
40A	Ramsey	Riffs Smokehouse	Arden Hills
40B	Ramsey	Lovejoy's Bloody Mary Mix, Inc.	Roseville
41A	Washington	Vanilla Bean Project	Lakeland
42A	Ramsey	Nordic Waffles, LLC	Shakopee
42B	Hennepin	Minneoats, LLC	Plymouth
42B	Hennepin	Nikkolette's Macarons	Plymouth
42B	Hennepin	Num Nuts, LLC	Edina
42B	Hennepin	Trusted Services, LLC	Maple Grove
42B	Ramsey	Blume Brauhaus, LLC DBA Bent Brewstillery	Roseville
43A	Hennepin	Dr. In The Kitchen, LLC	New Hope
43A	Hennepin	Maytown Foods, LLC	New Hope
43A	Hennepin	Mixly Cocktail Co.	Shorewood
43B	Hennepin	Envy Brands	Golden Valley
43B	Hennepin	Healthy America, LLC	Minneapolis
44A	Washington	Sailor Mercy	Stillwater
45A	Hennepin	Chocolate San Jose - Minneapolis	New Hope
45A	Hennepin	Creme de la Crème, LLC DBA Polly's Gourmet Foods	Deephaven
45A	Hennepin	North Mallow	Golden Valley
45A	Hennepin	Plucky Pickle Dip	Excelsior
45B	Hennepin	Mostly Made	Deephaven
45B	Hennepin	Rassy Rub, LLC	Minnetonka
46A	Hennepin	CoreWellness, LLC	Minneapolis
46A	Hennepin	Well Rooted Teas	St. Louis Park
46A	Hennepin	Zambezi Biltong	St. Louis Park
46A	Hennepin	Zambezi Kitchen, LLC	Savage

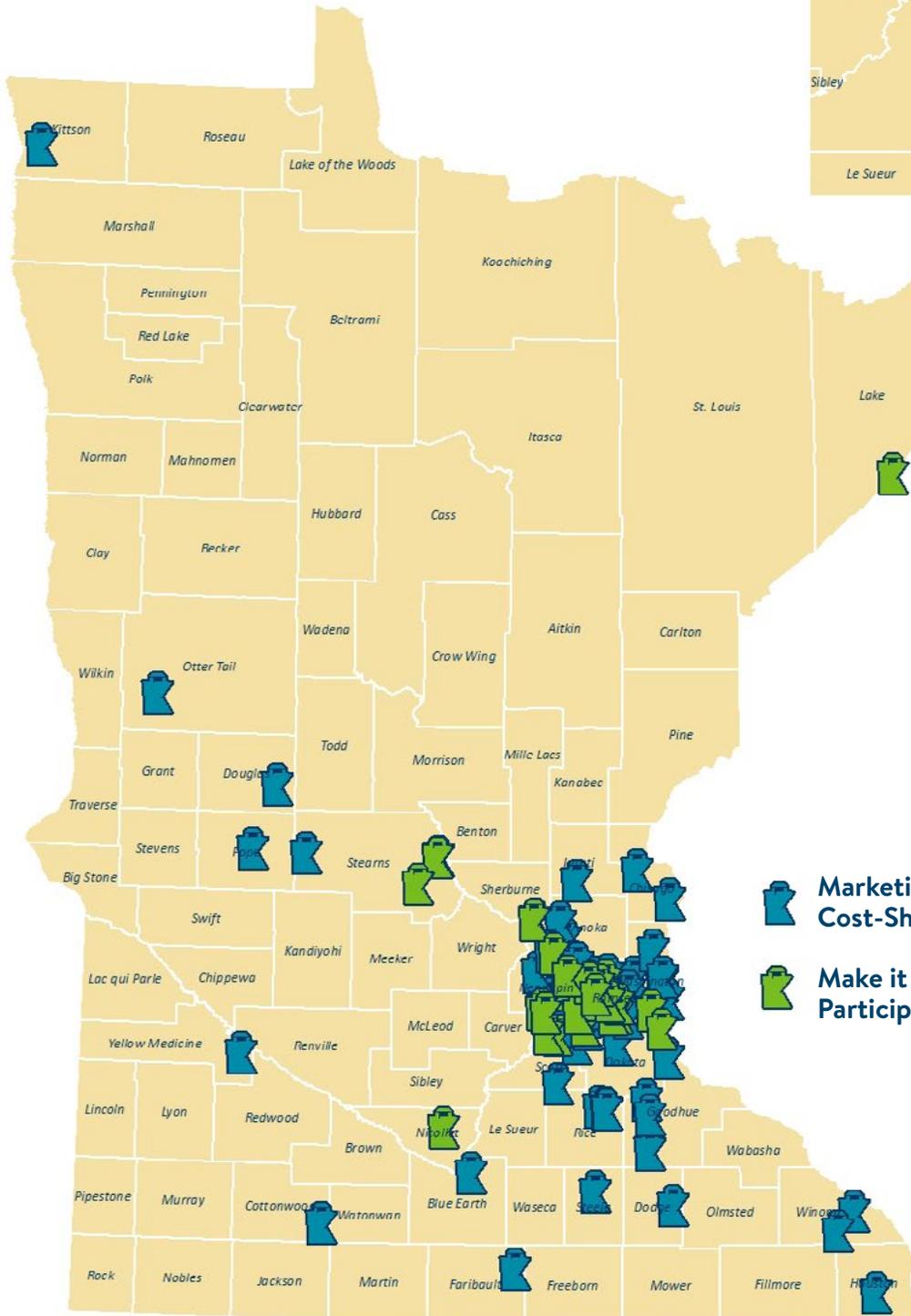
Legislative District	County	Business Name	City
46B	Hennepin	Hem Eatery DBA Bao Bao Buns	Minneapolis
46B	Hennepin	HEPP'S Spice Co.	Hopkins
46B	Hennepin	Thumbs Cookies	Minneapolis
49A	Hennepin	Minne Kitchen, LLC	Hopkins
49A	Hennepin	Sergeant Shortbread, LLC	Eden Prairie
49B	Hennepin	Double Take Salsa	Edina
49B	Hennepin	Mama Kicks, LLC	Edina
50A	Hennepin	Lovebird Foods	Edina
50B	Hennepin	Bright Planet Pet, LLC	Minneapolis
51A	Dakota	Joyce Foods, LLC	Mendota Heights
51A	Hennepin	Social Mixers, LLC	Richfield
51B	Hennepin	Hoyo	Minneapolis
51B	Hennepin	Mr. B's BBQ	Bloomington
53B	Dakota	Linko Food	South Saint Paul
56B	Dakota	Coconut Whisk, LLC	Rosemount
58A	Rice	Tree Range Farms	Northfield
58A	Scott	Sweetland Orchard, LLC	Webster
58B	Dakota	Creative Confectionaire	Hastings
58B	Dakota	Little Hill Berry Farm	Northfield
59A	Hennepin	Safari Pride Coffee	Minneapolis
59B	Hennepin	Chef FLO-K Foods	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Acme Organics, LLC	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Aleamar Cheese	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Eli's Hot Rockin'	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Flt Butters	Maple Grove
60A	Hennepin	K-Mama Sauce, LLC	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Lowry Hill Provisions	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Northstar Kombucha LLC	Minneapolis
60A	Hennepin	Ostri(chi)zed Brewing	Minnetonka
60A	Hennepin	The Twisted Shrub	Edina
60A	Hennepin	We Are Nuts	Minneapolis
60A	Ramsey	Desserts by Alighieri	Saint Paul
60A	Ramsey	Jinx Tea	Saint Paul
60B	Hennepin	So Good Brand Inc	Minneapolis
60B	Hennepin	The Beste Co. DBA Village Salsa	Corcoran

Legislative District	County	Business Name	City
60B	Ramsey	AJ Foods LLC DBA Janet's Finest Compotes	Saint Paul
61A	Hennepin	Puris Holdings, LLC	Minneapolis
61B	Hennepin	Huxley	Minneapolis
63A	Hennepin	Laune Bread, LLC	Minneapolis
63A	Hennepin	Peace Coffee	Minneapolis
63A	Hennepin	Swanson Meats	Minneapolis
63A	Hennepin	University of Fisheries, LLC	Minneapolis
64A	Ramsey	Per Se	Saint Paul
64A	Ramsey	Vikings and Goddesses Pie Company	Minneapolis
65A	Hennepin	Quebracho, LLC	Minneapolis
65A	Ramsey	West Indies Soul Food, Inc.	Saint Paul
65B	Dakota	Jajja Wellness	West Saint Paul
66A	Hennepin	Off Type, LLC	Minneapolis
66A	Hennepin	Route To India, LLC	Minneapolis
66A	Hennepin	SMACKIN' Sunflower Seeds	Minneapolis
66A	Ramsey	Dry Wit	Wayzata
66A	Ramsey	GrIk, LLC	West Saint Paul
66A	Ramsey	J's Kombucha	Saint Paul
66A	Ramsey	Simpls	Saint Paul
66A	Ramsey	Tasty Tin	Falcon Heights
66A	Ramsey	Verdant Tea, LLC	Saint Paul

# MAKE IT MINNESOTA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2024



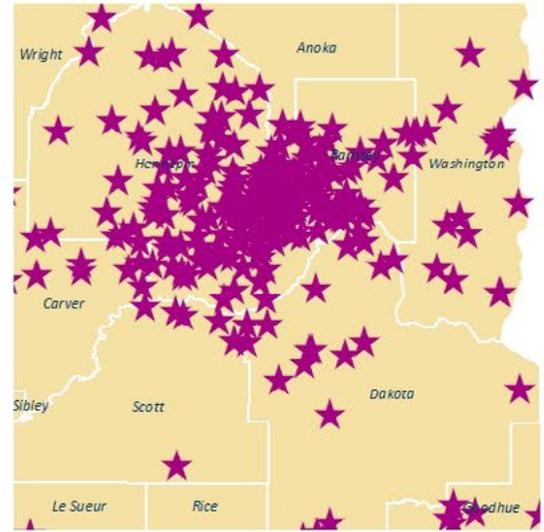
Twin Cities Metro Area



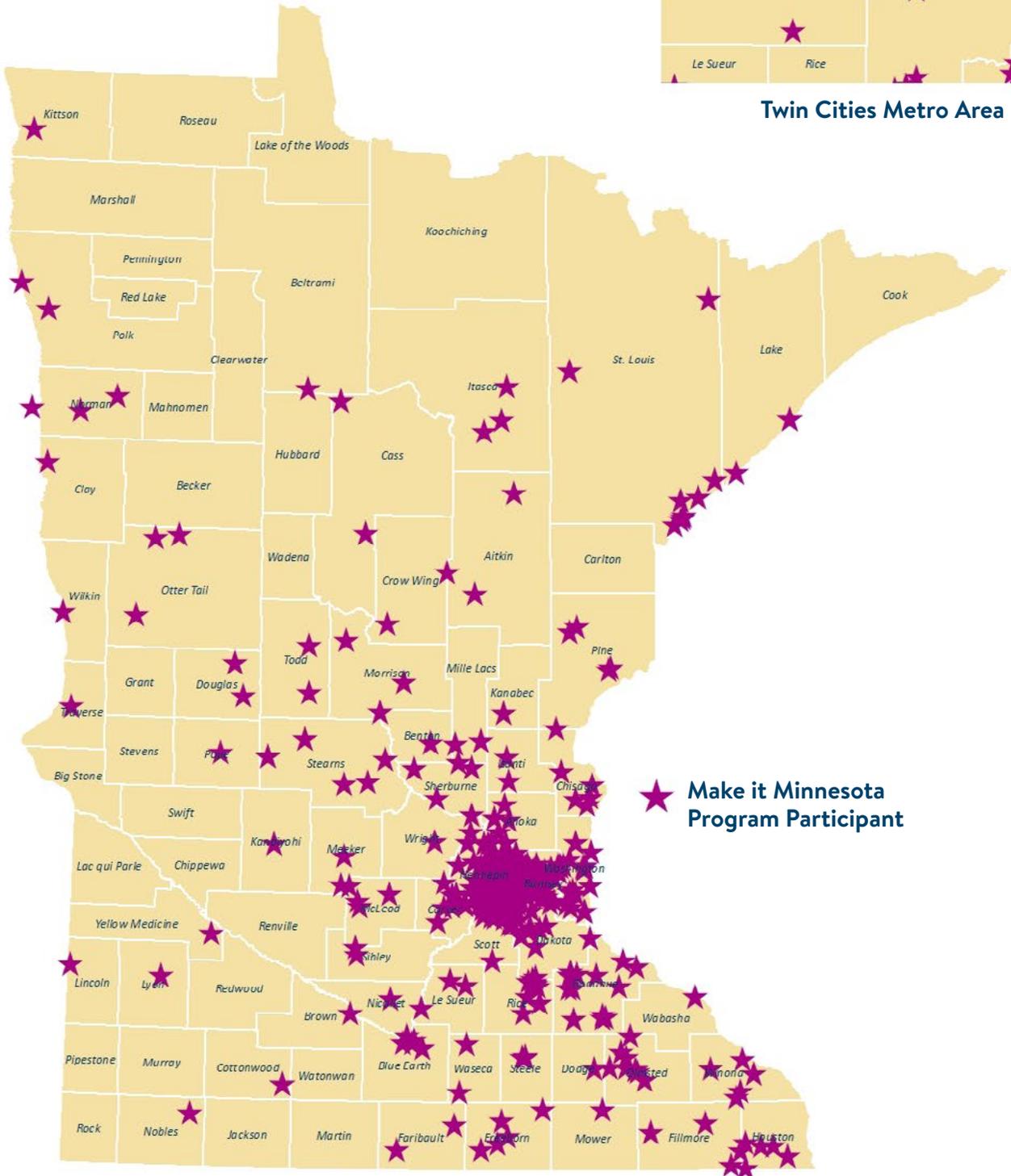
-  Marketing Investment Cost-Share Participant
-  Make it Minnesota Program Participant

# APPENDIX D

## MAKE IT MINNESOTA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEARS 2017 THROUGH 2024



Twin Cities Metro Area



Make it Minnesota Program Participant

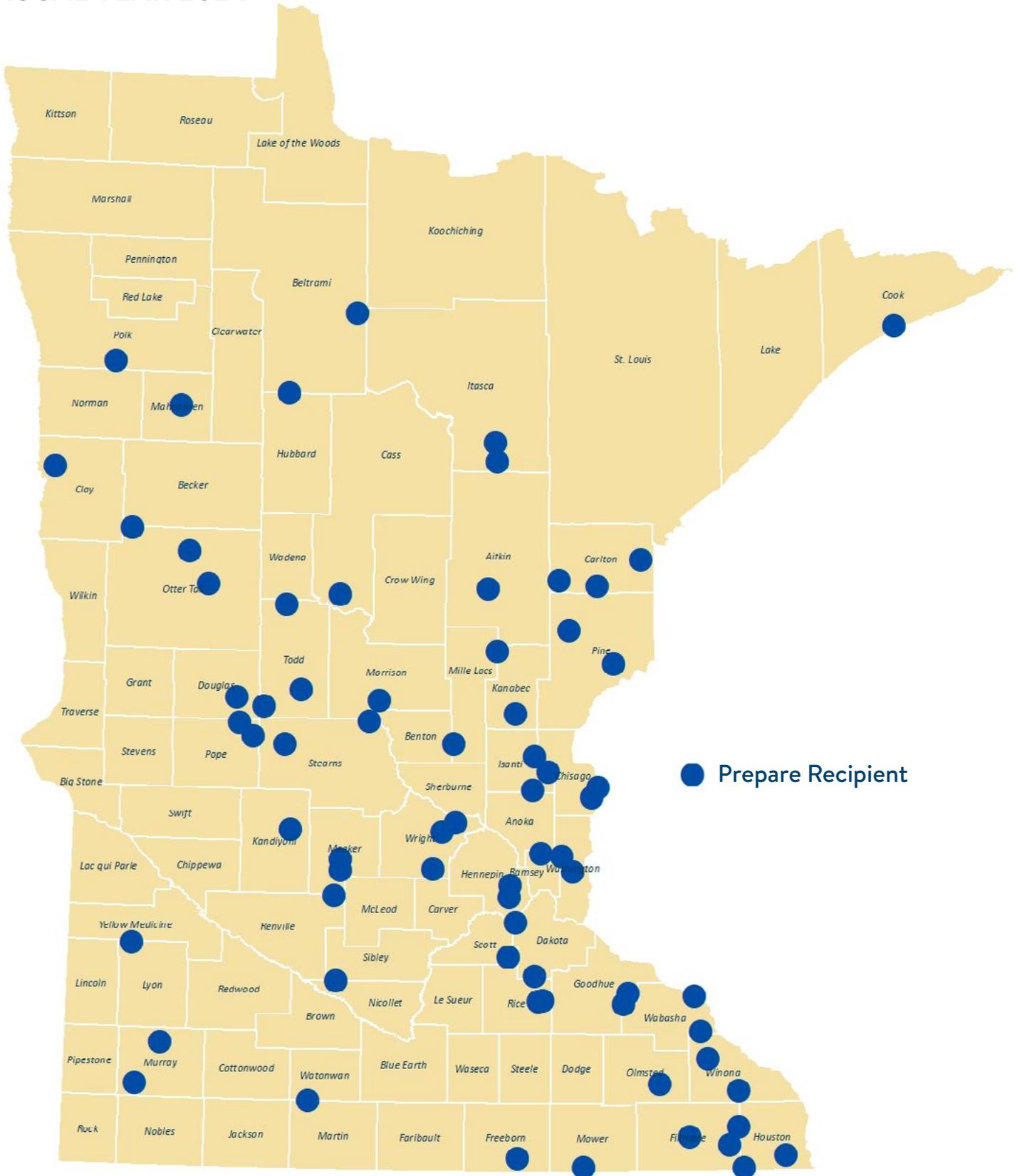
## FY24 Prepare Grant Recipients

Legislative District	County	Grantee	Farm Type
01A	Polk	Matthew Erickson, Erickson Farms	Livestock
02A	Beltrami	John Judkins, Grandpa Roy's Pickles	Specialty crops
02B	Mahnomen	Kristi Dormanen, Dormanen Family Farm	Livestock
02B	Beltrami	Cory Walker	Livestock
03A	Cook	Sarah Sigford	Specialty crops
04A	Clay	Verna Kragnes, Prairie Rose Farm, LLC	Livestock and Specialty crops
05B	Todd	Brenda Miller	Livestock
05B	Todd	Matthew Holt	Livestock
05B	Todd	Nathan Wiese	Livestock
05B	Cass	Clayton Barg	Livestock
06A	Itasca	Stuart Lavalier, Lavalier's Berry Patch and Orchard	Specialty crops
08A	Itasca	Wililyn Dowell	Specialty crops
08A	Isanti	Stephen Lunak	Specialty crops
09A	Otter Tail	Philip Breen, Breen Enterprises, LLC	Livestock
09B	Otter Tail	Dreyer Dairy Farm	Livestock
09B	Otter Tail	Pansi Millage	Specialty crops
10A	Aitkin	Kelley Rajala, Clear Lake Gardens	Specialty crops
10A	Kanabec	Stephanie Paulsen	Livestock
10B	Morrison	Russell Gerads, Triple S Pumpkins, LLC	Specialty crops
10B	Mille Lacs	Jodi Brown, Brown Family Farm, LLC	Livestock and Specialty crops
11A	Carlton	Haley Ammann-Ekstrom	Livestock and Specialty crops
11A	Carlton	Stephen Meyer	Specialty crops
11A	Carlton	Brittany Johnson, Polish Farmer, LLC	Specialty crops
11B	Pine	Jonathan Nelson	Livestock
11B	Pine	Hannah Bernhardt, Medicine Creek Farm	Livestock
12A	Stearns	Tara Meyer, Meyer Dairy, LLC	Livestock
12B	Pope	Cory Walker	Livestock
12B	Pope	Jennifer Olson	Livestock

Legislative District	County	Grantee	Farm Type
12B	Douglas	Miriam Kilpatrick, Kilpatrick Land & Livestock	Livestock
13B	Stearns	Gary Borash	Livestock and Specialty crops
15A	Lyon	Scott Anderson	Livestock
16A	Meeker	Jayna Larrea	Specialty crops
16A	Renville	Michael Kurth	Livestock
16A	Meeker	Joan Olson, Prairie Drifter Farm	Specialty crops
16B	Kandiyohi	Crystal Swanson, Topsy Barn Farms, LLC	Specialty crops
18A	Nicollet	Keith Hartmann	Livestock
19A	Rice	Travis Roethler	Livestock and Specialty crops
19A	Rice	Aidan Read, Shepherd's Way Farms	Livestock
20A	Goodhue	Ruby Creek Vineyard	Specialty crops
20A	Wabasha	Catherine & David Schmidt, Bluff Valley Farm, Inc.	Livestock and Specialty crops
20A	Goodhue	Michelle Benrud	Livestock
20A	Wabasha	Mindi Arendt, Arendt Holstein Resort, LLC	Livestock
20B	Wabasha	Eric Heins	Livestock
20B	Olmsted	Ronald Pagel	Livestock
21A	Murray	Asa Nelson	Livestock
21A	Murray	Amy Mulder, KDC, LLC	Livestock
21B	Martin	Haley Ammann-Ekstrom	Livestock
23A	Freeborn	Jessica Webb	Livestock
23B	Mower	Roger Jax, Jax Dairy Farms, Inc.	Livestock
26A	Winona	Scott Herber	Livestock
26A	Winona	Jessica Heiden, Heiden Century Farms, LLC	Livestock
26A	Winona	Byron Hechter, Southwind Orchards	Specialty crops
26B	Houston	Tony Heppner, Golden Hawk Farms, LLC	Livestock
26B	Fillmore	Kayla Nelson	Livestock
26B	Fillmore	Carter Lee, South Fork Cattle, LLC	Livestock
26B	Fillmore	Dane Diede, D & H Acres, LLC	Specialty crops
26B	Houston	Troy King, Au Bon Canard, LLC	Livestock
28A	Isanti	Holly Pearson DeVries	Livestock
28A	Isanti	Mayerlin Challander	Livestock and Specialty crops
28B	Chisago	Matthew Hardy, Rust Hill Ranch, LLC	Livestock

Legislative District	County	Grantee	Farm Type
28B	Chisago	Clara Davis, Flying Leap Farm, LLC	Livestock
29A	Wright	Darcy Sjomeling, Fall Harvest Orchard, LLC	Specialty crops
29B	Wright	Philip Hannay, Trumpeter Swan Farm	Specialty crops
29B	Wright	Zeke Berg, Fresh Acres, LLC	Specialty crops
33A	Washington	Amanda Johnson, Seven Vines Vineyard, LLP	Specialty crops
36A	Ramsey	Stephen Kavan	Specialty crops
41A	Washington	John Krueger, Kruegers Christmas Tree Farm, LLC	Specialty crops
46A	Washington	Janice Reuland, Jan's Artisan Garden	Specialty crops
57A	Scott	Jessica Webb	Livestock
58B	Dakota	Aaron Wills, Little Hill Berry Farm, LLC	Specialty crops
65A	Ramsey	Vong Thao, Thoj Farm	Livestock and Specialty crops

# PREPARE GRANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2024

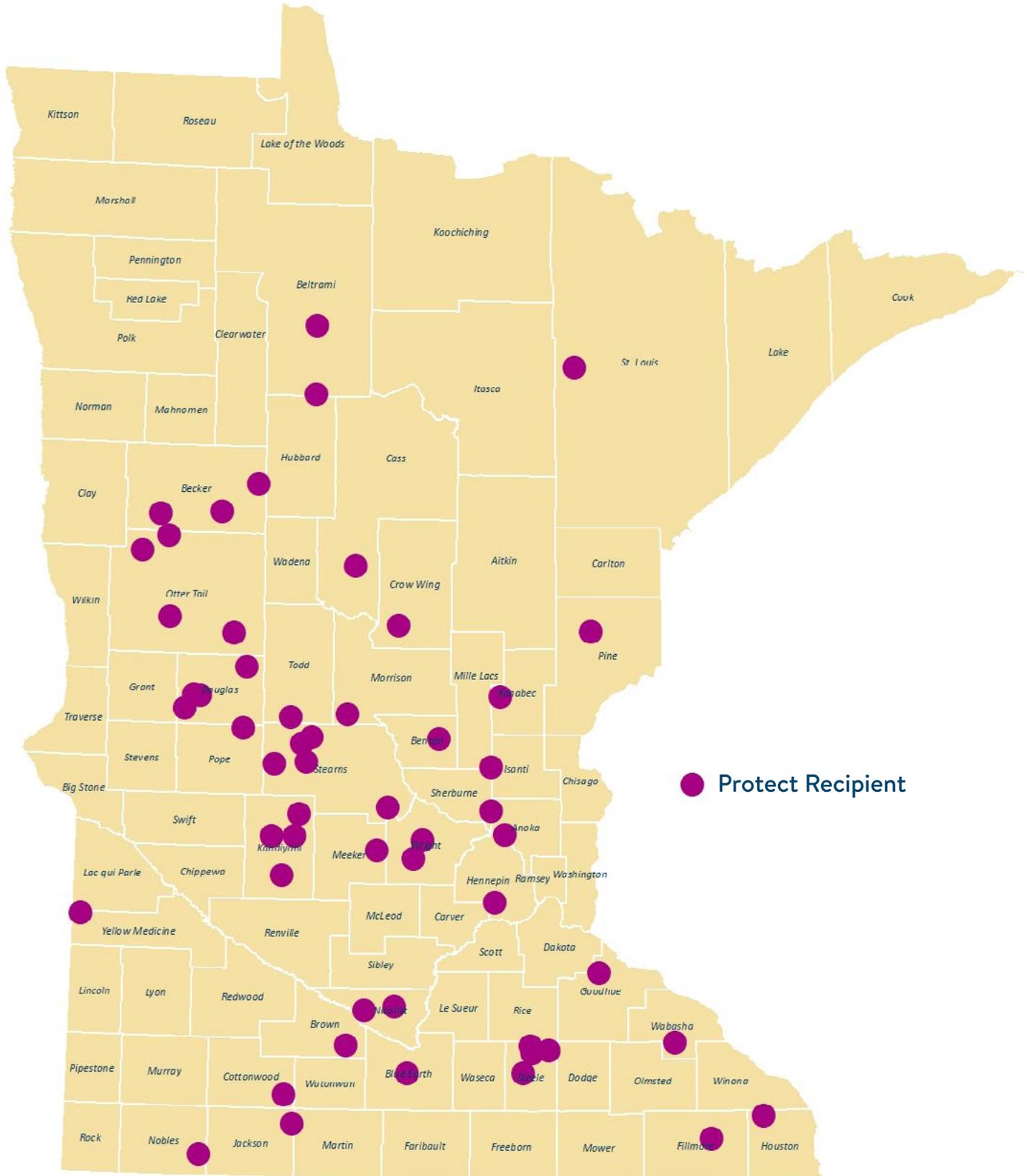


## FY24 Protect Grant Recipients

Legislative District	County	Grantee
02A	Beltrami	Aaron Seitz, Hay Creek Ranch
02A	Beltrami	Caara Bergeron, Paul Bunyan Animal Land
04B	Becker	Dean Mace, Sandstone Turkey Farm, LLC
05A	Becker	Brad Snelling, Family Freedom Elk Farm
05A	Cass	Jerry Campbell, Stony Brook Elk Farm
05A	Becker	John Mickelson, Evergreen Ranch
05B	Todd	Dennis Suelflow, Spring Brook Elk
07B	Saint Louis	Gary Larson
09A	Otter Tail	Michael Forsgren, Forsgren's Pheasant Farm, Inc.
09B	Otter Tail	Ardy Johansen
09B	Douglas	Kimberly Esala-Francis, Doraisamy Farm
09B	Otter Tail	Dustin Ebersviller, Trowbridge Creek Zoo, LLC
09B	Douglas	Erica Sawatzke, Oakdale Farm
09B	Douglas	Glen Zebarth, Oak Point Elk Farm
09B	Otter Tail	Glen Olson, Roy Olson Partnership
10A	Crow Wing	Candice Zimmermann, Treeline Acres, LLC
10A	Kanabec	Clinton Stucky
10B	Benton	Kylie DeMarais, Sixty Six Whitetails
10B	Morrison	Mark Luedtke, Luckyland Elk, LLC
11A	Pine	Laura Hillyer
12A	Stearns	Roger Nietfeld
12A	Stearns	Todd Heieie, Heieie Dairy
12B	Pope	Cory Walker
12B	Stearns	Dale Hartung, Hartung Turkey Farm, Inc.
12B	Douglas	David Luedeke, Elkoholics Elk Ranch
12B	Stearns	Matt Herdering, R&L Turkeys
13A	Stearns	Ellie Fox, Rookie Farmers, LLC
15A	Yellow Medicine	Lisa Christensen
15B	Brown	Tim Miller, TJ Turkeys, LLP
16A	Kandiyohi	Jake Vlaminck, Fahlun Farms, Inc.

Legislative District	County	Grantee
16B	Kandiyohi	Crystal Swanson, Topsy Barn Farms, LLC
16B	Kandiyohi	Robert Orsten, Orsten Turkeys of Willmar, Inc.
16B	Redwood	Sam Knudsen, K&B Turkeys
17A	Meeker	Deven Lundin, DMDK Reindeer, LLC
18A	Nicollet	Dustin Compart, KA Enterprises, LLC
18A	Nicollet	Loren Brey, Brey Farms, Inc.
19B	Steele	Dan Parsons, Parsons' Elk Ranch
19B	Steele	Dave Askelson, Viking Whitetails
19B	Steele	Raymond Matejcek, Matejcek Elk & Deer Ranch
19B	Steele	Richard Hafstad, Hafstad Elk Farm
20A	Goodhue	John Fredrickson, Fredrickson Elk Farm
20B	Wabasha	Kraig Wurst
21B	Nobles	Jeff Barber, T&M Farms
21B	Cottonwood	Jonathan Adrian, Adrian Turkey Farm
21B	Jackson	Nick Vonohlen
22A	Blue Earth	Braden Rahn, TTB Rahn Farms Partnership
26B	Fillmore	Katarina Amdahl, Miehlisch Turkey Farm
26B	Houston	Steven Krage, Money Creek Elk and Antler
28A	Isanti	Brian Heymer, Red Bridge Farms, Inc.
29A	Wright	Brian Wagner, Black Velvet Elk Ranch
29B	Wright	David Dorow, Bluestem Reindeer, LLC
30B	Anoka	Michelle Saari, Best of Both Worlds Farm
31A	Anoka	Dale Wippler, Darling Elk Ranch
49A	Hennepin	Jamie Johnson, Enchanted Gardens of Minnesota

# PROTECT GRANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2024



**FY24 Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grant Recipients**

<b>Legislative District</b>	<b>Counties</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Project Title</b>
02A	Beltrami	Bemidji State University	Computer Vision Guided In-row Weeding System for Organic Farming in Northern Minnesota
05A	Becker, Wadena, and Aitkin	Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute	Hemp Wool Matting Pilot Project
07B	St. Louis	Owl Forest Farm	Evaluating Cold-Hardy Roses for Cut Flower Production in USDA Zone 3
09A	Grant	Lakeside Prairie Farm, LLC	Restoration of an Oak Savannah Following Buckthorn Removal by Goats
11A	Carlton and St. Louis	Amundsen Farms, Inc.	Atmospheric Water Collection Project
11A	Carlton and St. Louis	Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee	FDL Gitigaaning Regenerative vs. Conventional
29B	Sherburne	The Food Group	Enabling Solar Facility Land Access for Emerging and Immigrant Farmer Empowerment
31B	Isanti	Twin Cities Berry Company	Investigating Biocontrol Techniques to Reduce Spray Usage Inside Affordable, Controlled Environments
54B	Scott	Anthony Polyakov	Optimizing Crop Productivity and Quality Through Targeted Electric and Magnetic Field Exposure
66A	Carver, Meeker, Ramsey, and Rice	Regents of the University of Minnesota	Broccolini: A Broccoli Alternative to Limit Losses due to Pathogens and Pests
66A	Ramsey and Hennepin	Regents of the University of Minnesota	Bounty and Blooms: Integration of Cut Flowers in Urban Vegetable Farms
66B	Ramsey	Urban Roots MN	Cover Cropping to Remediate Urban Soil Compaction

## FY24 Urban Agriculture Grant Recipients

Legislative District	County	Organization	Project Summary
01B	Polk	Crookston Public Schools	Construct a year-round solar greenhouse to provide hands-on agricultural experiences for all students in ISD 593.
04A	Clay	Prairie PRAXIS	Encourage future leadership in urban agriculture using community connectors/garden coordinators, youth leaders, youth stewards, and youth volunteers, all of whom will work with urban farmers & gardeners in the Moorhead area.
04B	Clay	Harvest Hope Farm	Expand Farm Camp and Farm Camp on Wheels programming to teach youth about sustainability in agriculture, careers in agriculture, where their food comes from, and life skills.
05A	Becker	Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute	Build community gardens and greenhouses to teach regenerative agriculture practices and traditional ecological knowledge for youth in the Village of Pine Point, a village of the White Earth Nation.
07B	St. Louis	Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability	Build a deep winter greenhouse at Rock Ridge High School, creating a space that will be a living classroom utilized by science classes, including Horticulture and Science 9, whose state standards revolve around climate science; culinary arts courses making fresh salads; and indigenous education projects.
08A	St. Louis	Community Action Duluth	Expand the Seeds of Success program at Denfeld High Schools by increasing the number of garden beds, improving the on-site compost system, providing educational experiences, and supporting the deepening relationship between the garden space and the school community.
08A	St. Louis	Family Freedom Center	Build upon current programming to expand youth farming workshops, food preservation techniques, and entrepreneurship training, enhancing urban agriculture within the Black community in Duluth.
10A	Morrison	Sprout, MN	Support the Gamradt Park Community Garden to purchase raised plant beds, fencing, and essential tools for gardening and pay for staff to manage the program. Produce and programming will be available for senior citizens and those with limited access to land.
14A	Stearns	St. Cloud State University Community Garden	Collaborate with SCSU's American Indian Center and Biology Department to create a Healing Garden featuring native plantings, medicinal plants, and traditional ceremonial herbs. Serving as an outdoor learning space providing hands-on education for on- and off-campus visitors, this venue for workshops and classes for area youth, university students, and area community members will expand on the mission and purpose of the SCSU Community Garden.
17A	McLeod	Hutchinson Public Schools	Create a space for students from all grade levels to experience local agriculture up close by purchasing a walk-in cooler and building composting infrastructure, work tables, and a produce washing station for students to use.

Legislative District	County	Organization	Project Summary
18B	Blue Earth	Living Earth Center	Engage Mankato-area youth in hands-on agricultural experiences through the Seeds 2 Sauce program. Funds will be used to pay for staff to develop and teach the program and to purchase supplies and materials for growing produce and establishing on-site gardens.
26A	Winona	Winona Area Public Schools	Expand the "Cultivating the Next Generation of Farmers with Hydroponics" by purchasing hydroponic equipment and educating school staff and students on how to grow year-round, nutritious produce.
31B	Anoka	Star of the North Academy	Refresh the on-campus garden space by rebuilding the garden beds, installing a new greenhouse, and exposing students to Minnesota agriculture through farm field trips.
35A	Anoka	Anoka High School	Construct the Agriculture All Inclusive Learning Greenhouse, creating a space for students to learn the multifaceted nature of agriculture and how it connects to daily living.
47A	Washington	Woodbury Thrives/ Woodbury Community Foundation	Triple the number of plots at the Woodbury Community Garden, building a more inclusive space for community members to grow their own produce. Funds will be used to make some plots ADA-compliant and to purchase community-owned garden equipment.
53B	Washington	Basic Needs Inc. of South Washington County	Support the Growth for Good Community Garden by funding new garden equipment and supplies. Funds will be used to replace a garden shed, purchase a tiller, build ten new raised beds, and fill all 44 garden beds with new soil.
60A	Hennepin	Sheridan Neighborhood Organization	Hire a Garden Manager to oversee the community garden volunteer program and manage crop rotation, soil building and harvesting. Funds will also be used to build a chicken wire fence around the donation plot to deter pests and increase produce available for donation.
60A	Hennepin	Spark-Y	Create an urban farm highlighting various permanent and "sand box" farming applications to promote youth empowerment in environmental work, high school technical training, and employer-backed certifications.
60B	Hennepin	Regents of the University of Minnesota	Empower Hmong youth through cultural immersion experiences and education focused on rediscovering their agricultural roots. The project will involve and honor Hmong farmers who support this initiative through teaching youth traditional agricultural practices and food preservation and preparation methods through visits to the school as well as field trips to their farms.
60B	Hennepin	University of Minnesota Foundation	Collaborate with the Little Earth of United Tribe to promote the production of Yellow Perch at the urban aquaponics facility located in the East Philips neighborhood. Funds will supply Yellow Perch fingerlings and provide workforce development to Little Earth community youth and University of Minnesota undergraduates.

Legislative District	County	Organization	Project Summary
61A	Hennepin	180 Degrees Inc.	Install a teaching garden on-site at a St. Cloud Youth Center. Funds will support the development and delivery of urban agriculture educational programming for at least 95 youth experiencing homelessness annually.
62A	Hennepin	Hope Community, Inc.	Establish the Food, Land, and Community (FLC) program to conduct a 19-month project to develop and pilot a replicable, scalable youth education program in the form of paid summer internships in urban agriculture.
62A	Hennepin	WE WIN Institute	Support the development of teaching and pollinator gardens at WE WIN's permanent home in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood of Minneapolis as well as the WE WIN cooking program, which connects youth with local chefs to cook food harvested from the WE WIN garden.
62B	Hennepin	East Phillips Improvement Coalition	Facilitate collaboration between four community gardens and urban farms across the Phillips Neighborhoods to create a food sovereignty network. The coalition will utilize funds to share resources, coordinate educational events, fund garden infrastructure, and hire a project manager.
65A	Ramsey	Frogtown Farm	Enhance Frogtown Farm's capacity for urban agriculture by installing a post-harvest processing station and repurposing an existing shed into a community kitchen for value-added production.
65A	Ramsey	Frogtown Green	Promote urban agriculture community development through weekly gardening workshops for youth and community members. The project will take place at Frogtown Green's four urban farming and agriculture-related spaces in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul.
65A	Ramsey	Global Entrepreneurship Week Minnesota	Teach community members about sustainable farming practices, renewable energy, and urban agriculture at Way of the Root Farm.
65A	Ramsey	Irreducible Grace Foundation	Support African American Heritage Gardening Methods & Market, encompassing the expansion of a community garden, integrating African American heritage gardening methods, and launching a weekly "pay what you can" urban farmers' market.
66B	Ramsey	Urban Roots MN	Expand Urban Roots' Community Garden Program by increasing culturally specific crop partnerships and improving their urban agriculture curriculum for youth interns.

## FY24 Meat, Poultry, Egg, and Milk Grant Recipients

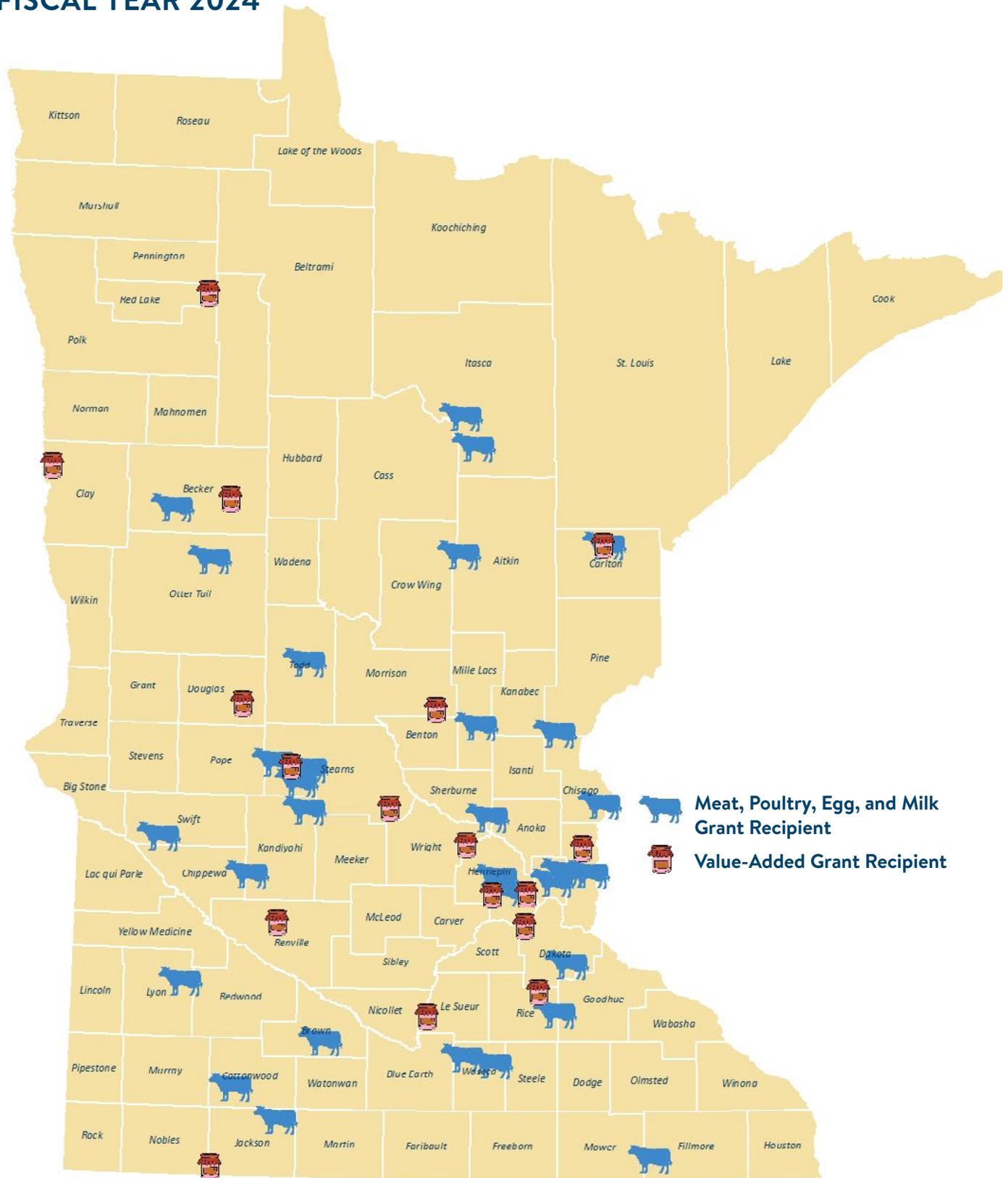
Legislative District	County	Business Name	Project Summary
12A	Stearns	Al's Butcher Shop	Purchase of sausage stuffer and twister.
21A	Cottonwood	Amo Creamery	Purchase of pasteurizer, cheese vat, and milk filler for new on-farm creamery.
21B	Jackson	Bergen Meat Processors	Building retail cutting room, sausage-making area, smokehouse room, and ready-to-eat food cooler.
33B	Washington	Brine's Market and Deli	Epoxy finishing flooring to increase food safety.
30B	Sherburne	Clean Chickens and Co.	Purchase of refrigerated trailer and poultry bagging system for halal poultry processing facility.
12A	Stearns	Concept Processing (Stony Creek Dairy)	Purchase of new cooling system for fluid milk products.
15A	Lyons	Deutz Brothers	Purchase of refrigerated delivery vehicle for meat and egg transport.
11B	Pine	Greeley Smokehaus & Meats	Purchase of pellet smoke generator, vacuum sealer, and water activity meter for increased food safety.
58B	Dakota	Greg's Meat Processing	Purchase of generator and cleaning equipment for increased food safety.
16B	Kandiyohi	Kandi Acres	Building halal goat slaughter and processing facility; purchase of freezer and slaughter equipment.
05B	Todd	Konetzko's Meat Market	Purchase of walk-in freezer, vacuum packer, and meat grinder.
09B	Otter Tail	Lakes Community Cooperative	Purchase of packaging machines for increasing processing capacity.
04B	Becker	Lakes Processing Inc.	Purchase of hoist and trolley system, tumbler, and clipper.
44A	Ramsey	Minnesota Farmers Union Foundation	Purchase of trailer, delivery truck, and livestock holding and handling equipment for modular meat processing system in Staples.
19B	Waseca	Morgan's Meat Market	Purchase of rollstock packaging machine for meat processing facility.
07A	Aitkin	Murphy's Grove	Converting farm building to commercial milk processing facility; purchase of micro-dairy equipment including bulk tank, pasteurizer, proofer, etc.
11A	Carlton	NativeWise	Purchase of walk-in freezer and meat processing equipment for bison processing facility.

Legislative District	County	Business Name	Project Summary
19A	Rice	Nerstrand Meats & Catering	Purchase of packaging machine for meat processing facility.
26B	Fillmore	Ody's Country Meats & Catering	Purchase of new slaughter chute and expansion of processing facility.
07A	Itasca	Orty's Custom Meats	Making structural adjustments to existing building to accommodate for slaughter, including overhang, holding area, rail system, etc.
07A	Itasca	Orty's Custom Meats	Purchase of livestock slaughter equipment.
10B	Mille Lacs	Peterson's Farm	Construction of on-farm poultry processing space.
12A	Stearns	Redhead Creamery	Purchase of equipment (tanks, filler/capper, milk transfer pumps, cream separator, plumbing/piping) for fermenting Somali-Style yogurt.
16B	Kandiyohi	Roelof's Meats Inc.	Purchase of new industrial slicer, trolleys, hooks, carts, and gambrel.
28B	Chisago	Rust Hill Ranch	Purchase of scalding/dunker and vacuum sealer to expand poultry processing capacity.
15B	Brown	Sleepy Bison Acres	Purchase of walk-in freezer/cooler for storage of culturally specific farm products.
45B	Anoka	TC Farm	Purchase of cooler and epoxy flooring for produce storage.
06A	Itasca	Tikes Enterprises	Purchase of new smoker.
12A	Swift	Toad Hill Farm	Purchase of egg washer and refrigeration unit for egg processing.
42B	Hennepin	Von Hanson's Plymouth	Purchase of new smokehouse.
36B	Ramsey	White Bear Butchery Inc.	Purchase of new meat saw.
19A	Waseca	Wiste's Meat Market	Purchase of new scales, smokehouse, and facility repairs for move to E2 licensing.

## FY24 Value-Added Grant Recipients

Legislative District	County	Business Name	Project Summary
05A	Becker	Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute	Purchase of hemp processing equipment, including a decortication system, hemp seed cleaner, and herd binder.
45B	Hennepin	Crème de la Crème	Purchase of a labeler, capping machine, and mixer for value-added pecan and granola production.
04B	Clay	Doubting Thomas Farms	Purchase of stone mill for making flour on-site.
12A	Stearns	Harry's Pizza	Purchase of a waterfall pizza topping applicator.
10B	Morrison	Healthy Harvest	Purchase and construction of walk-in freezer/cooler.
62B	Hennepin	Hoyo, Inc.	Construction of production facility and purchase of equipment (freezer, fryer, mixer, oven, dishwasher, etc.) for sambusa production.
58A	Rice	Loon Liquors	Purchase of still for micro-distillery.
30A	Wright	M2D Enterprises	Construction of produce shed for washing and packing of produce, purchase of a freezer.
12B	Douglas	Naima's Farm	Purchase of walk-in freezer and storage, washing, and packing area for value-added farm products.
11A	Carlton	NativeWise	Purchase of refrigerated vehicle for transport of processed bison.
55B	Dakota	Northern Diversified Solutions	Purchase of hemp processing equipment to increase capacity.
01B	Polk	Peatland Reds	Purchase of a potato grading system.
16A	Renville	Prairie PROducers	Purchase of hemp form, fill, and seal packaging system.
18A	Nicollet	River Rock Kitchen & Baking Co.	Purchase of ovens, tables, and flooring for incorporating Kernza® into baked goods.
13A	Stearns	Rookie Farmers	Purchase of fiber baling machine for hemp insulation line.
21B	Jackson	Round Lake Vineyards & Winery	Purchase of dryer and other processing equipment for converting grape byproducts into flour, oil, and supplement extract.
33B	Washington	Sailor Mercy	Purchase of bottle labeling equipment.

# VALUE-ADDED AND MEAT, POULTRY, EGG, AND MILK GRANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2024



# VALUE-ADDED AND MEAT, POULTRY, EGG, AND MILK GRANTS BY COUNTY FISCAL YEARS 2017 THROUGH 2023

