

**Daviess County Agricultural Development Council
Report on Rural and Economic Development
Daviess County Agricultural Development Funds Distributed 2001 to 2015**

\$3,681,754 as of December 2015

County Agriculture Investment Program — \$1,193,854. Individuals were allowed flexibility to choose from a wide range of products to best fit their needs in order to improve net farm income.

Shared Use Equipment — \$5,700.

- \$700 for 4-H animal project scales which will be used in education and demonstration projects for Daviess County youth.
- \$5,000 to Daviess County Cattlemen's Association to purchase a portable squeeze chute available to local farmers to encourage better management practices including animal health, pregnancy confirmation, and artificial insemination.

Daviess County Fiscal Court --- \$25,000. Funds were used to allow for the completion of the storm water master plan phase II. Adequate drainage is vital to the agricultural economy in Daviess County. The county ag development council recognizes the importance of the drainage plan in its effort to discover ways to minimize flooding in agricultural and residential settings.

Daviess County Lions Club Fair Board — \$78,976. Funds to be used in conjunction with other money to construct the Tom Curtsinger Agricultural Education Center. Building will be used for local and regional agricultural education and exhibition events.

Daviess County Youth Agriculture Production Cost Share — \$171,600. Cost Share funding to provide Daviess County youth an opportunity to develop an agricultural production enterprise.

Kentucky Agricultural Relief Effort — \$110,594. KARE was created by Governor Beshear as a one time opportunity for farms to receive economic relief from losses incurred from 2007 freeze and drought.

Model Program: Menu Approach — \$171,942. 2008 was the first year all money was pooled so that individuals could choose the model program that best fit their needs.

Beef Cattle Herd Improvement — \$549,127

- \$310,073.44 in county funds was used to purchase cattle handling facilities that enabled producers to safely handle livestock in preparation for market.
- \$72,843.33 in funds was used for forage improvement assistance allowing producers to improve health, growth rate, and pasture sustainability.
- \$166,210.68 in funds was for herd genetic improvement. Herds were improved by funding producers to purchase superior bulls and semen.

On-Farm Drainage Enhancement — \$471,972. Funds were used to install tile drainage systems that enabled producers to plant earlier, improve yields, and lower input costs.

Grain Day Incorporated — \$10,000. Grain Day, Inc. sponsors Ag Expo, an annual event with educational opportunities in grain marketing, grain production, vegetable production, legislative updates and farm bill explanations. Ag Expo is the largest agriculture educational event in the area.

O'Bryan Grain Farms - Compost Style Swine Building — \$4,777

- Funds were used to construct a unique 4,000 head swine finishing building with elevated floor designed to eliminate the need for manure lagoon ponds.
- On farm research data is being collected by University of Kentucky

Owensboro Grain Company, LLC Biodiesel Facility — \$15,000. Funds were used in construction of a biodiesel plant in Owensboro. Oil produced from soybeans will offset national dependence on foreign oil.

Specialty Foods Group — \$5,140. Processed Meats Expansion Plan at Field Packing Company. Increase number of jobs and improve overall economy of Daviess County.

Goat Diversification — \$40,742. Funds were used to help producers purchase high-quality stock and handling equipment.

UK Research and Education Center - Research Sprayer — \$5,000. Funds were used as a match to purchase a high clearance sprayer for grain crops research.

Hay, Straw & Commodity Storage — \$250,002. Funds were used to construct or renovate existing barns for the purpose of improving the quality of harvested and fed hay in Daviess County, and to provide price advantage for storing grain on the farm.

Western Kentucky Grower Cooperative — \$94,977. County funds were used to buy equipment to allow local growers to expand vegetable production to commercial volumes and for equipment in plant to increase co-op volume to accommodate new or increasing growing producers.

Commercial Poultry Production — \$42,000. Program developed to allow expansion of existing poultry operations and construction development of new operations.

Owensboro Farmers' Market — \$13,000

- Feasibility study to determine how to best move forward with permanent location.
- Brochures printed about the farmers were placed in local hotels. As a result, several out-of-town guests stopped at the market.

Agricultural Diversification Program Cost Share — \$194,366

- Funds have been used for projects including: Fruit production including apples, grapes, strawberries, and blueberries; tree production by pot-in-pot method and field mum production; multiple greenhouse constructions and a honey processing facility

Owensboro Catholic High School Agriculture Program Greenhouse — \$18,384

- Students learned how to produce various greenhouse crops such as bedding plants, broccoli transplants and amaryllis. These plants were either sold to fund more supplies or used on the grounds.
- The added curriculum helped four students receive agriculture college scholarships due to classroom experiences in agriculture in high school.

Dairy Diversification Program — \$13,225. Funds were used to construct new dairy herd free stall barns, renovate existing parlors, and purchase new feeding equipment.

Swine Diversification Program — \$5,000. Funds were used to construct new swine facilities and renovate existing structures.

Owensboro Biotech Alliance — \$5,000. Funds are used to continue work on the promotion of agriculture based biotechnology.

Owensboro Community & Technical College — \$52,800

- \$25,300 was used for a greenhouse. Students gain practical horticultural knowledge through use of the greenhouse, and it helps provide the knowledgeable workforce demanded by the horticulture industry.
- \$20,000 for a producer training program to provide knowledge and skills demanded by modern agriculture production and management.
- \$7,500 was used to assist in construction of the Vet Tech program large animal handling facility

Technology Systems Enhancement — \$73,200

- Funds were used to install and upgrade modern technology tools vital to improving yields and lowering input costs on harvest and application equipment.
- Cost share for cattle producers to purchase electronic identification equipment necessary for implementation of the National Animal Identification System mandate.

Trunnell’s Farm Market — \$11,000. Commercial Farm Market established to supply year round supply of exclusive Kentucky Proud products.

Daviess County High School Greenhouse Renovation — \$4,500. Students learned how to produce various greenhouse crops. These plants were either sold to fund more supplies or used on the grounds.

Custom Beef and Bacon Processing - \$24,876. Funds to aid in construction of a custom meat processing plant in McLean County.

Nona’s Downtown Market - \$5,000. Funds used to enhance agricultural product sales at Kentucky Proud market in downtown Owensboro.

**DAVIESS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS
As of December 2015**

Jerry Fischer	Conservation District Representative
Jim Gilles, III	Extension Council Representative
Jason Hagan	Young Farmer Representative
Daniel Hayden	Extension Council Representative
Leigh Ann Kuegel	Farm Service Agency Representative
Joel Mattingly	Member-at-large
John Murphy	Farm Service Agency Representative
Matt Settles	Young Farmer Representative
Wally Taylor	Conservation District Representative

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