

GROWTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE GRANT/LOAN PROGRAM

Project Summary for Fiscal Year 2017

(July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017)

The [Growth Through Agriculture](#) (GTA) program is a grant and loan program established by the Montana Legislature to strengthen and diversify Montana's agriculture industry through development of new agricultural products and processes.

The GTA program offers funding in the form of a grant or loan or both and funding is determined by a seven member [Agriculture Development Council](#) (Council) during scheduled meetings. The Council is comprised of seven members that are appointed by the Governor.

Growth Through Agriculture funding requires the investment of at least a \$1 in matching funds for every \$1 in program grant or loan assistance received.

Projects Funded

Watchdog Winery

A grant for \$7,500.00 to assist with vineyard costs including irrigation, plants, and fencing materials for the new Bozeman area vineyard.

Ravalli Hops LLC

A grant for \$25,000.00 to assist with the expansion of the hops farm near Stevensville, Montana.

The Emperor of Ice Cream

A grant for \$10,000.00 for cooler and freezer equipment to assist the company near Big Sky with the storage and distribution of Montana foods.

Stricks LLC

A grant for \$49,488.44 and a loan for \$100,000.00 for construction and equipment purchases to assist the expansion of the pulse processing facility in Chester, Montana.

Pardue Grain

A grant for \$48,000.00 to assist with the expansion of the pulse processing facility in Cut Bank, Montana.

Bear Paw Meats LLC

A grant for \$50,000.00 to assist with the expansion of the meat processing facility in Chinook, Montana.

County Rail Farm

A grant for \$40,000.00 for supplies, materials, and equipment for the expansion of the vegetable farm in Huson, Montana.

Cut Bank Creek Brewery

A grant for \$40,000.00 for brewing equipment to assist with the start-up of the new brewery in Cut Bank, Montana.

Busted Knuckle Brewery LLC

A grant for \$39,250.00 for brewing equipment to assist with the expansion of the brewery in Glasgow, Montana.

Western Cider Company LLC

A grant for \$50,000.00 for cider processing and canning equipment for the new cidery in Missoula, Montana.

Montana State University

A grant for \$4,500.00 for costs to develop a web-based will pool delivery software to increase the efficiency of wool pool deliveries and to keep track of pool members' wool consignment, weight, and grade of wool.

Lake County Community Development Corporation

A grant for \$40,333.00 for freezer storage and food processing equipment for the community-based food processing center located in Ronan, Montana.

Tabletree Montana LLC

A grant for \$40,000.00 for cherry processing equipment to assist with the expansion of the cherry juice company in the Flathead Valley.

Stillwater Packing Co

A grant for \$20,000.00 for meat processing equipment to assist with the expansion of the USDA meat processing facility in Columbus, Montana.

Stetson Ranches LLC

A grant for \$40,000.00 for equipment to assist with the expansion of the composting operation located near Fromberg, Montana.

Pulses of Montana

A grant for \$5,000.00 for recipe development for the pulse food company in Joliet, Montana.

C&K Meats

A loan for \$40,000.00 for equipment to assist with the expansion of the meat processing company in Forsyth, Montana.

Montana Poultry Growers Cooperative

A grant for \$2,080.50 to purchase specialized poultry processing equipment for the new poultry processing facility located in Hamilton, Montana.

Flathead Lake Cheese LLC

A grant for \$2,500.00 for the purchase of a custom label printing system that will allow the cheese processors located in Polson, Montana to efficiently package cheese.

Wood, Barrel and Farms

A grant for \$2,350.00 to purchase greenhouse construction materials, mobile refrigeration, harvesting and tilling equipment to expand the vegetable farm north of Helena, Montana.

Tabletree Montana LLC

A grant for \$2,500.00 to assist the company located in Bigfork, Montana to purchase labeling for Montana cherry juice bottles that will include the Grown in Montana logo.