

GROWTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE GRANT/LOAN PROGRAM

Project Summary for Fiscal Year 2018

(July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018)

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

Cowtown Ag Supply, LLC – Miles City

A loan and a grant totaling \$50,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's manufacturing line of hopper cone bottoms that can be used to make farmers' existing grain bins safer, easier to use and preserve the quality of more sensitive grains such as peas and chickpeas. The funding will also help with the creation of 10 jobs.

<https://www.facebook.com/cowtownag>

Duckworth, Inc. - Dillon and Bozeman

A loan and a grant totaling \$50,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's "Sheep to Shelf" Montana wool sock line of products. <http://www.duckworthco.com/>

Go Roam Free LLC – Hot Springs

A loan and a grant totaling \$75,000 to assist with the start-up and expansion of the company's "Bison Bite" product line. <http://goroamfree.com/>

Windrift Hill – Conrad

A loan and a grant totaling \$50,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's goat's milk-based soap, lotion and skin care line of products. The funding will help with the creation of 6 jobs. <http://windrifthill.com/>

Big Sandy Organics, LLC – Big Sandy

A loan for \$40,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's Kracklin' Kamut product line and the creation of 10 new jobs. <https://www.kracklinkamut.com/>

Kalispell Creamery Inc. – Kalispell

A loan for \$40,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's yogurt product line.

<http://kalispellcreamery.com/>

OTRB Co. – Bozeman

A loan for \$25,000 to assist with the expansion of the company's bakery.

<http://www.ontherisebread.co/>

Becky's Berries – Absarokee

A grant for \$25,000 to assist with the expansion of the Montana honey & berry-based product.

<http://www.beckysberries.com/>

Ronan Cooperative Brewery – Ronan

A grant for \$50,000 to assist with the start-up of Montana's first cooperative-owned brewery.

<https://www.facebook.com/RonanCooperativeBrewery/>

Miriam's Inspired Skin Care LLC - Missoula

A grant for \$8,000 to assist with the expansion of the skin care company's herbal-infused tallow products. <https://miriamsskincare.com/>

Joe Bailly – Conrad

A grant for \$5,000 to assist with the product design of a more efficient irrigation system, using magnetized water.

Rocky Mountain Agriscience – Florence

A grant for \$50,000 to assist the start-up of a year-round vegetable hydroponics facility.

Philipsburg Creamery LLC – Philipsburg

A grant for \$8,000 to assist with the start-up of the ice cream facility using Montana milk.

<https://www.facebook.com/Philipsburg-Creamery-1938259753058237/>

Clay Boyce – Hops – Winifred

A grant for \$8,000 to assist with the start-up of a hops yard near Lewistown, Montana.

Beartooth Fertilizer Inc – Bridger

A grant for \$50,000 to expand the company's natural soil improvement products that would be able to help non-productive soil become productive and provide conventional and organic-certified soil treatments. <http://www.btfertilizer.com/>

Bridger Malt House LLC – Bozeman

A grant for \$25,000 to assist with the start-up of the craft malting facility in Bozeman that will make specialized malt for Montana breweries. <https://bridgermalthouse.com/>

Montana Fruit and Cider Company LLC – Boulder

A grant for \$50,000 to assist with the start-up of a mobile fruit processing facility that will be available to Montana apple and pear producers to press fruit into cider.

Cowboy Cricket Farms LLC – Belgrade

A grant for \$8,600 to assist the expansion of the cricket food manufacturing company that manufactures the Chocolate “Chirp” Cookie. <https://cowboycrickets.com/>

2J's Natural Foods, Inc. – Great Falls

A grant for \$20,000 to assist with the development of the new 2J's Fresh Market in the new West End development in Great Falls. The expansion will include an emphasis on locally sourcing Grown in Montana products. <http://2jsfreshmarket.com/>

House of Ferments – Hamilton

A grant for \$6,000 to assist with the expansion of the Grown in Montana kombucha, kimchi and sauerkraut company. <https://www.facebook.com/fermentology>

Apple Bar Enterprises – Helena

A grant for \$16,000 for the cold-hardy fruit company to grow haskaps.

Info on Haskaps: http://agresearch.montana.edu/warc/warc_research/WARC_haskaps.html

Farver Farms – Scobey

A grant for \$20,000 to expand the Farm to Fork wheat and lentil-based company including a lentil-brownie product. <http://www.farverfarms.com/>

Blue Ridge Brewing – Malta

A grant for \$25,000 to assist with the start-up of the brewery in Malta.

<http://www.blueridgebrewing.com/>

High Horizon Gardens and Tomato 1, 2, 3, LLC – Havre

A grant for \$19,000 to start a hydroponic leafy green operation and greenhouse along with other soil based, flowering plant operations such as bedding plants.

Prairie Grass Ranch – Havre

A grant for \$8,000 to assist with the expansion of the value-added family ranch operation.

<https://www.facebook.com/PrairieGrassRanchMT/>