

GROWTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE GRANT/LOAN PROGRAM

Project Summary for Fiscal Year 2019

(July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)

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

[Montana Craft Malt Company](#) – Butte

Grant for \$50,000 to assist with the purchase of equipment for the new grain malting innovation center.

[Montana Sheep Company](#) – Fort Shaw

Grant for \$8,500 marketing and equipment costs for the value-added wool business.

[Living Root Farm](#) – Hardin

Grant for \$14,500 to assist with equipment purchases to expand vegetable farm.

[Trout Culture](#) – Virginia City

Grant for \$35,000 in construction costs and trout processing equipment for the expansion of the trout ranch.

[Cowboy Cricket Farms](#) – Belgrade

Grant for \$12,800 to assist with the purchase and installation of cricket processing equipment including processing, bagging, packaging, and cutting equipment.

[KJ'n Ranch & Sheep Mountain Creamery](#) – Helena

Grant for \$7,000 to assist with the purchase of sheep creamery equipment to expand the sheep milk and cheese production facility.

[Sunflower Bakery](#) – Helena

Grant for \$15,000 to assist with the expansion of the bakery sourcing Montana-grown ingredients.

[Willow Mountain Winery](#) – Corvallis

Grant for \$50,000 to assist with the purchase of vines, infrastructure and winemaking equipment and marketing for the winery expansion.

[Cream of the West](#) - Harlowton

Grant for \$10,000 to assist the purchase of a metal detector to help the company meet international third party audit requirements for new export opportunities.

Strike Farms – Bozeman

Grant for \$30,000 to assist with the expansion of the vegetable farm with the purchase of vegetable production and processing equipment.

Bell Crossing Farms – Stevensville

Grant for \$28,600 to purchase equipment for the creation of a regional hops processing facility in the Bitterroot Valley with the purchase of equipment.

Crooked Yard Hops – Bozeman

Grant for \$13,000 to assist with the expansion of the hops farm with the purchase of a hops harvesting and processing equipment.

Native Seed Foundation – Polson

Grant for \$16,500 to assist with the purchase of seed processing equipment and training costs.

Fat Robin Orchard – Polson

Grant for \$17,700 to assist with the construction of a new value-added cherry processing facility.

Western Cider Company – Missoula

Grant for \$25,000 for the purchase of equipment to expand the fruit cider production facility.

Meier Farm and Orchards – Dillon

Grant for \$25,000 to assist with the construction and expansion costs for the saskatoon and haskap – high antioxidant berry production farm and processing facility.

Mountain Kind Farm – Somers

Grant for \$35,000 to assist with the expansion and processing equipment costs for the vegetable farm and livestock operation.

Ray Holes Leather Care Products – Butte

Grant for \$4,700 to assist with the marketing costs and materials to expand the use of agricultural by-products in the company's leather care products.

Limberlost Brewing Company – Thompson Falls

Grant for \$19,000 to assist with construction costs for the new brewery sourcing Montana-grown ingredients.

Rivulet Apiaries – Alberton

Grant for \$30,000 to assist with marketing and the purchase of equipment and materials to expand the honey farm production and honey product manufacturing facility.