GROWTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE GRANT/LOAN PROGRAM Project Summary for Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023)

The <u>Growth Through Agriculture</u> (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 <u>Agriculture Development Council</u> (Council) during scheduled meetings. The Council members 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 Awarded

Kuvu Bio Solutions – Bozeman \$50,000 loan for the commercialization of a novel weed management innovation.

Montana Greenhouse Project 365, LLC – Kalispell \$48,382 grant to build a sunken greenhouse to grow year-round.

<u>Black Dog Farm</u> – Livingston \$34,647 grant for the expansion of chicken and egg production in Livingston.

<u>Good Mama Farm</u> – Harrison \$17,625 grant to extend local produce availability in rural areas using value added products.

Aspen Grove Farm, LLC – Corvallis \$50,000 grant for value added product expansion.

Cold Springs Organics, LLC – Bozeman

\$25,000 grant and \$25,000 loan for the value-added expansion of an organic grain processing operation for a flour mill and bagging machine.

Montana Alfalfa Company – Malta \$35,000 grant and \$25,000 loan for leaf cutter bee processing and storage facility.

<u>SporeAttic LLC</u> – Bozeman \$33,154 grant for SporeAttic Mushroom Farm expansion. Genuine Ice Cream – Bozeman

\$41,571 grant for ice cream manufacturing expansion.

Hoot Owl Farm – Libby \$30,000 grant for improvements to farm infrastructure to increase efficiency and productivity.

Fort Belknap Community Economic Development Corporation – Harlem \$25,000 grant to build a Wasay Wakpa Greenhouse in the snow.

Beauty and the Beef – Helmville \$50,000 grant for business expansion.

Montgomery Distillery – Missoula \$50,000 grant for grain distillery expansion.

JWK Enterprises dba MR. BEEF – Bridger

\$10,000 grant for new market expansions.

<u>41 Grains</u> – Circle \$28,000 grant for business and marketing expansion project.

Ag Processing Solutions, Inc. – Great Falls \$50,000 grant for APS cert, sort, and store medium lot processing.

Daniel's Gourmet Meats and Sausages – Bozeman \$24,783 grant for business expansion and commercialization.

Clark Fork Organics, LLC – Missoula \$50,000 grant for Clark Fork Organics farm store construction.

Sapphire Suri Alpaca Farm & Mill, LLC – Helena \$50,000 grant for alpaca fiber mill construction and equipment.

<u>Planted Foods, Inc. dba Unwaffle</u> – Bozeman \$30,000 grant for manufacturing equipment.

<u>Big Sky Orchards & Hops Farm</u> – Flathead Lake / Polson \$30,000 grant for refrigerated transportation for Montana grown cherries, hops, and apples.

<u>Key to the Mountain</u> – Missoula \$32,039 grant for equipment expansion.

<u>Nature's Enhancement, Inc.</u> – Stevensville \$50,000 grant for transportation system improvement.

YES Compost – Bozeman

\$46,000 loan to upgrade equipment to articulated wheel loader to increase compost production volume.