



Agriculture Development Division

Support and develop Vermont's agricultural industry by providing community and organizational leadership, technical and business expertise, marketing and financial assistance

Our goal is to meet the market development and business viability needs of our agricultural community and food system

**Agriculture
and food
business
focused
assistance**

- PROMOTION
- CONNECTIONS
- DEVELOPMENT
- ACCESS
- GROWTH

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Specific programs and focused attention areas



- Administer Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Program, funding, and Board
- Educate, support and offer tools to the state's fruit and vegetable industry to compete & comply with FSMA
- Lead marketing efforts to promote maple, dairy, meat, produce, and value-added food
- Support Farm to Schools program and educational connections to our local farmers
- Established Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center and long term funding

Fund investments in FY20

FY 2020 Ag Dev Grant Program Investments		
Grant Program	# recipients	\$ invested
DBIC	3	\$91,175
Fair & Field Days Capital grants	13	\$320,000
Farm to School & Childcare grants	19	\$132,000
Local Food in Your Community	15	\$69,280
Local Food Market Development	7	\$30,243
Produce Safety Improvement Grants	18	\$103,551
Specialty Crop Block Grant	8	\$305,930
Trade Show Assistance Grant*	22	\$28,109
UVM Extension Produce Safety Subaward	2	\$86,396
Working Lands Enterprise Initiative*	48	\$1,493,080
TOTALS	155	\$2,659,764

**TSAG are a part of the \$1.5M FY20 WLEB appropriation*

Ag Development Division investments to date (since 2012):
984 recipients receiving \$17.8M in awards

Legislative Collaborations

- Farm to Plate Ag and Food System Plan (2020) and key recommendations
- Working Lands, Farm to School, VT building at the Big E appropriations
- Marketing and messaging around local food, impact assessments,
- VCAAP investments and impacts
- Agricultural industry trends and post-pandemic data