

FY 2000 FSMIP Projects

Total Funding: \$1,200,000

Average Grant: \$46,154

26 Projects in 24 States

Arkansas - \$59,600 to conduct research and provide technical assistance to limited-resource farmers in the Eastern Arkansas Delta area to help these farmers market alternative and value-added farm products in nearby urban centers.

Arizona - \$42,000 for an evaluation of the tourism industry as an alternative marketing channel for Arizona agricultural products.

Colorado - \$40,000 to identify an appropriate organizational model for facilitating the distribution of fresh produce between local farmers markets and restaurants.

Hawaii - \$64,000 to develop a comprehensive market information system about Hawaiian-grown agricultural commodities to help small farmers, processors, and handlers of tropical and specialty farm products make better informed business decisions.

Idaho - \$65,000 to study the economic viability of establishing a commercial rebaling system for timothy and other grass hays that would produce 60- to 80-pound packages of hay and potentially expand the customer base for baled hay products.

Illinois - \$58,000 to identify the specific product preferences of organic grain processors and end users and help small farmers pool their organic grain supplies so that they can better meet the volume requirements and quality characteristics demanded by specialty grain customers.

Indiana - \$78,000 to assist in developing a unique production and marketing system that will enhance the profitability and sustainability of small to midsize beef producers and processors in the Eastern Corn Belt region. **Terminated by AMS for non-performance.**

Iowa - \$55,000 for a multifaceted project aimed at expanding local food systems through direct marketing to Iowa institutions.

Kansas - \$55,000 to identify additional market opportunities for new varieties of hard white wheat and assess alternative business organization structures that could be used by Kansas producers in supplying those markets.

Louisiana - \$65,300 to study the accuracy of an electronic traceback system for livestock and determine whether information obtained from the traceback system will allow small producers to make adjustments in their breeding programs, thereby obtaining greater profits from their cattle sales.

Massachusetts - \$55,000 for marketing research and organizational assistance to develop an innovative approach to marketing for small-farm livestock producers in the Northeast.

Michigan - \$40,000 to examine consumer interest and develop product quality criteria for marketing Midwest-grown edible chestnuts.

Missouri - \$27,500 to increase direct market access, communication, and nutrition by connecting producers to consumers and producers to producers.

Missouri - \$25,000 to develop and assess demand for locally manufactured fruit brandy and port products and examine the extent to which sales of fruit brandy and port could be expected to enhance the potential income of small Missouri-based fruit producers.

Montana - \$48,000 to assess market opportunities and strategic directions for specialty herbs and essential oils crops in western Montana.

Nebraska - ~~\$33,000 to conduct export seminars at major destination ports in South America and Asia for Nebraska farm commodities and compile a resource guide aimed at helping novice exporters understand marketing and distribution practices in primary export markets.~~ **Terminated by the grantee.**

North Carolina - \$20,000 to assist in developing an information base to evaluate the current competitive position of the Fraser Fir Christmas tree industry and in formulating a marketing plan for growers in western North Carolina and surrounding areas.

North Dakota - \$35,000 to explore the feasibility of creating a central order fulfillment capability as part of the further development of the Internet Shopping Mall for North Dakota products.

Ohio - \$60,000 to identify desired product specifications for beef products and develop a grid pricing system that would reward the small cow-calf producers for supplying the market with animals that meet strict genetic and management history standards and yield carcasses with consistent quality characteristics.

Oklahoma - \$80,000 to examine marketing practices at current and former farmers markets in Oklahoma and evaluate the economic and non-economic factors that appear to impede or contribute to the financial success of farmers market operations.

Pennsylvania - \$31,000 to develop and implement a comprehensive business plan for a community farmers market on the south side of Pittsburgh.

South Dakota - \$24,000 to determine the market potential for locally produced honey mead.

Vermont - \$31,000 to further develop an infrastructure for collecting and marketing high quality sheep and goat genetic material.

Washington - \$60,000 for market research and development of an interactive data base that will allow oyster farmers to more easily form cooperative networks and develop strategies for business success.

Washington - \$17,800 to identify which factors appear to contribute most significantly to the success or failure of Internet-based marketing ventures launched by small farm operations.

Wisconsin - \$30,800 to strengthen marketing linkages between small producers of hormone-free, antibiotic-free, or pasture-fed meat items and wholesale/retail customers willing to pay a premium for these specialty meat products.