



# **Agriculture Development Division**

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

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**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
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>\$2,659,764</b>

*\*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

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- 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