

2004-2008 WI Value Added Producer Grant Recipients

CC's Jersey Creme Ltd. (2004)

\$28700

Grant funds will be used for working capital expenses for marketing seven new yogurt products.

Wisconsin Dairy Graziers Cooperative (2004)

\$38540

Grant funds will be used for working capital expenses for marketing cold pack cheese products.

(2004 Total)

\$337867

Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery (2005)

\$150000

Rural Development funds are made available to agricultural commodity producers who refine their products in order to increase the value of these products to customers/users. Grant funds will be used for working capital expenses for marketing "gas flush" cheese curds.

Shepard Song Farm (2005)

\$49789

Funds will be used to assess the feasibility of producing fresh lamb and kid meat, certified as kosher-halal, and USDA "all natural" in order to tap into an emerging trend in health and humane conscious meat consumption.

Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board, Inc. (2005)

\$50000

Funds will be used to assess feasibility of converting soybeans to biodiesel at local facility

Alto Dairy Cooperative (2006)

\$230000

To pay for working capital expenses associated with marketing Black Creek Aged Cheddar.

Coulee Area Renewable Energy Cooperative (2006)

\$100000

To develop a business plan for marketing ethanol.

Hsu's Ginseng (2006)

\$250000

To pay for working capital expenses associated with marketing ginseng products.

MacFarlane Pheasants, Inc. (2006)

\$300000

To pay for working capital expenses associated with marketing branded pheasant meat.

Soberg, Renne (2006)

\$24500

To assess the feasibility of and develop a business plan for marketing nine encapsulated herbs to practitioners of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Bee Forest Products, Inc., Nelson, WI (2007)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to expand the value-added manufacturing and marketing activities at the saw mill; specifically by adding a wood processing system to its current operations.

Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association, Beloit, WI (2007)

\$12400

Grant funds will be used for planning purposes, specifically to conduct a feasibility study to expand the marketing options of a new cheese, Braun Suisse Kase, as well as complete a business plan that incorporates the expansion of markets and needed organizational changes necessary to make the cheese prototype a self-sustaining business. The applicant is a national organization with 807 independent producer/members that have the Brown Swiss animal as a primary source of income.

Central Wisconsin Lumber, Inc., Marathon, WI (2007)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital for value-added manufacturing and marketing activities, including expanded production of rough green lumber for a small sawmill operation in Marathon County. The primary project goal is to improve revenues by increasing production to 9 million board feet per year. This can be accomplished by purchasing larger lots of timber and increasing work hours at the mill; therefore, expanding delivered log supply output by 43 percent. The business is owned by an independent producer.

Great Lakes Renewable Energy, Inc., Rice Lake, WI (2007)

\$290000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital for a new wood pellet manufacturing business located in Northwestern Wisconsin. The company plans to sell approximately 36,000 tons of residential-sized wood pellets on an annual basis, targeting the growing biomass stove market. They anticipate hiring 10-12 employees for harvest, as well as an additional 5 employees to provide trucking services for the product.

Johnson Timber Corporation, Hayward, WI (2007)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to produce value-added products, such as peeled and aged aspen for its major client, as well as wood chips for other mills as demand increases. The borrower is a small business located in northwestern Wisconsin. Project costs will also include purchasing the standing timber (owned by the company) and paying processing costs.

Millet Supply, LLC, Plainfield, WI (2007)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital for value-added manufacturing and marketing activities, including the addition of a caged small animal pet food line, to its current operations. The overall project goal is to broaden and create a more diverse customer base by expanding sales from the

current pet bird food line to include a millet-based pet food product line for caged small animal pets, as well. The business is owned and operated by 8 producers in the Plainfield area.

Saxon Homestead Creamery, LLC, Cleveland, WI (2007)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital for a family-owned creamery located in rural Brown County. The grant will be used to market new cheese products that are distinctly different from the European tradition.

Whole Trees, LLC, Stoddard, WI (2007)

\$150000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to an agricultural producer specializing in the use of small diameter timber in whole tree structures. The owners will expand their value-added manufacturing and marketing activities to allow for an increase in raw materials production and inventory to meet the growing demands of Whole Tree building structures. Unlike conventional lumber processing, Whole Tree building uses thinnings from small diameter trees that are often invasive, wind damaged or diseased. The use of these thinnings also increases the health of local forests.

Agrecol Corp. (2008)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to add value to native seeds by processing them into branded mixtures. This should increase the profitability of the company's current native seed commodity production. The applicant is a corporation founded in 1991 and the project will create 5 new jobs for the company.

Cool Water Farms (2008)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to increase production and size (from six inches to nine inches) of farm-raised yellow perch fish and directly market the fresh and frozen fish fillets to restaurants, fish wholesalers, fish markets, and other retail outlets.

Ginseng & Herb (2008)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to add value to Wisconsin ginseng root by processing ginseng into a trademarked, branded Wisconsin Ginseng, thereby increasing the profitability of the current ginseng commodity production. The goal is to expand sales to China. The applicant is a co-op that includes 124 farmers.

Hedrick, Larry & Clara (2008)

\$17840

Grant funds will be used to provide planning grant for producing aged goat cheese.

Kelley Farm (2008)

\$17910

Grant funds will be used to provide planning grant to determine the feasibility study on the production and marketability of premium non-homogenized ice cream. Funds will also be used for legal consultation and business plan development. Implementation of this value-added project may allow the Farm an increase of \$3-5 per hundred weight of milk.

Next Generation Organic Dairy (2008)

\$25000

Grant funds will be used to provide a planning grant to access business opportunity for production and marketing of a range of branded value-added products, including a line of organic, artisanal and raw milk cheese, yogurt and probiotic dairy based drinks. The project will increase the value-added line; therefore, increasing revenues.

Premier Cooperative (2008)

\$50000

Grant funds will be used to provide a planning grant for feasibility studies, business planning and other business development activities related to the aggregation and processing of biomass (wood chips, corn stove and switch grass) to assist with the expansion of co-firing with coal for the production of electricity in a proposed 300mW plant expansion in Cassville, WI.

Sassy Cow Creamery (2008)

\$300000

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital for a small, start-up organic and conventional milk processor and bottler project.

Zimmer-Otter Creek Organic Farm (2008)

\$146916

Grant funds will be used to provide working capital to establish a working inventory of branded single source seasonal organic cheese; therefore increasing revenues for the Farm. The project will create between 3-5 new jobs for the company.

(Grand Total)

\$9474985