



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release

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Beef Network Awarded Grant

Agricultural Development Board Invests \$862,634 in statewide program

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 8, 2009) -The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, chaired by Gov. Steve Beshear, approved the **Kentucky Beef Network LLC** (KBN) for \$862,634 in state Agricultural Development Funds to implement several production and marketing programs for cattle producers and to provide educational programs that enhance profitability.

“The Kentucky Beef Network continues to play a vital role in the growth and success of Kentucky’s multi-million dollar beef cattle industry,” said Gov. Beshear. “Projects such as this one, supported by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, provide opportunities for Kentucky’s farm families to increase net farm income.”

The primary objective of this project is to enhance net returns to cattle producers through increased marketing opportunities, data management, education and comprehensive farm management systems.

Since 2001, KBN has worked to enhance producer profitability through education, management and marketing. There are 11 area facilitators to provide regional assistance in production and marketing to producers.

This project was one of 18 proposals approved at the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board’s August business meeting.

For more information about the Kentucky Beef Network, contact Becky Bennett at (859) 278-0899 or bbennett@kycattle.org.

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Governor Steve Beshear and the Kentucky Legislature continue to make great strides toward lessening Kentucky's dependence on tobacco production while revitalizing the farm economy by investing 50 percent of Kentucky's Master Settlement Agreement into the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

To date, Kentucky has invested more than \$293.6 million to an array of county, regional and state projects designed to increase net farm income and create sustainable new farm-based business enterprises. This project represents one of more than 3,565 projects that have been funded through the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, since the inception of the program in January 2001.

