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ANIMAL WELFARE APPROVED FUNDS THE FUTURE OF FARMING 2011-2012 GOOD HUSBANDRY GRANTS

ALEXANDRIA, VA – Animal Welfare Approved is pleased to announce the 2011-2012 Good Husbandry Grants which help promote innovative, forward thinking farming techniques. Thirty-six grants have been awarded to farms across the nation to improve animal welfare and allow pasture-based farmers to increase productivity for their operations.

In announcing this year's grants, Program Director Andrew Gunther remarked, "We are thrilled to be able to continue this program into its fourth year. The interest has been overwhelming, and our review panel continues to have a tough time selecting proposals from the many worthy applicants." He continued, "As farmers discover the benefits of high-welfare, pasture-based farming, more are giving it a try, and we are grateful to be a part of that transition. At the heart of it, our program provides an alternative to industrial agriculture - one which not only improves animal welfare but sustains farming families and provides healthy, nutritious food for the rest of us."

Good Husbandry Grants have been awarded for projects such as mobile housing, outdoor access, and breeding programs which facilitate pasture-based management. These grants allow farms to improve pasture-based management techniques and are especially useful to farmers seeking a low-risk transition to sustainable, outdoor methods. The 2011-2012 Good Husbandry Grants were open to current Animal Welfare Approved farmers and those who have applied to join the program, and funding priorities included genetic improvement for pasture-based systems; outdoor access and mobile housing; non-lethal predator control and other innovative projects that improve the welfare of animals.

More information about the Animal Welfare Approved Good Husbandry Grants, including profiles of grants given in the past, is available at <http://www.animalwelfareapproved.org/farmers>. Stay informed about grant opportunities by signing up for the AWA mailing list at www.AnimalWelfareApproved.org.

Farms Awarded 2011-2012 Good Husbandry Grants include:

1dr Acres Farm, Prairie du Sac, WI: *portable fencing, improved genetics, non-lethal predator control*

Albert D. Jones Farm, Chinquapin, NC: *mobile housing, pigs*

Beedy Tree Farm, Calhan, CO: *mobile housing, chickens*

Circle O Livestock, Vale, OR: *infrastructure improvements, goats, pigs, turkeys, chickens, cattle*

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Clover Creek Farm, Jonesborough, TN: *mobile housing and shelter, sheep*
Consider Bardwell Farm, West Pawlet, VT: *mobile housing, goats and chickens*
Cris-Co Farms, Gray, TN: *mobile housing and shelter, sheep*
CT Biological Weed and Brush Control, Inc., Wilder, ID: *portable fencing, goats*
Deck Family Farm, Junction City, OR: *genetic improvement, beef cattle*
Ebersole Cattle Co., Kellerton, IA: *portable watering system, beef cattle*
Edwards' Goat Ranch, Knob Noster, MO: *genetic improvement, goats*
GingerSnap Hollow Farm, Harlem, GA: *mobile housing, poultry*
Harmony Sheep, La Cygne, KS: *mobile housing and shelter, sheep and chickens*
Hemmer Hill Farm, Crestwood, KY: *increased outdoor access, sheep*
Hog Heaven Farms, LLC, Avon Park, FL: *infrastructure improvements, pigs*
Indian Creek Angus, Carnesville, GA: *mobile shelter, beef cattle*
Jamie Jacobs Farm, Clinton, NC: *improved pasture access, pigs*
Kingbird Farm, Berkshire, NY: *genetic improvement, poultry*
Leigh's Pork and Beef, Plymouth, NC: *mobile housing, pigs*
Lindner Bison, CA: *breeding stock, bison*
Lovers Retreat Farm & Dairy, Saluda, VA: *infrastructure improvements, goats*
Meili Farm, Amenia, NY: *mobile housing, laying hens*
Millsaps Farm, Middleton, ID: *genetic improvement, poultry*
Minka Farm, Efland, NC: *genetic improvement, poultry*
Okfuskee Farm, Silk Hope, NC: *infrastructure improvements, pigs*
Palmetto Creek Farms, LLC, Avon Park, FL: *mobile housing, pigs*
Pereira Pastures Dairy, Abernathy, TX: *infrastructure improvements, dairy cattle*
Pine Hill, Hemmingford, Quebec : *mobile housing, chickens*
Sequatchie Cove Farm, Sequatchie, TN: *genetic improvement, dairy cattle*
SMI Farm, Sidney Center, NY: *mobile housing, chickens*
The Dixon Goat Ranch, Paris, KY: *mobile housing, goats*
The Gypsy Ranch, Altoona , AL: *genetic improvement, poultry*
This Lil' Piggy Farm, Weirsdale, FL: *mobile housing, pigs*
Windy N Ranch, LLC, Ellensburg, WA: *mobile housing, poultry*
Windy Ridge Natural Farms, Alfred, NY: *infrastructure improvements, poultry*
Zitvogel Farms, Bridgeville, DE: *mobile housing, chickens*

[Animal Welfare Approved](#) is a national nonprofit organization that audits, certifies and supports farmers raising their animals according to the highest welfare standards, outdoors on pasture or range. Called a "badge of honor for farmers" and the "gold standard," AWA has come to be the most highly regarded food label when it comes to animal welfare, pasture-based farming, and sustainability. All AWA standards, policies and procedures are available on the AWA website, making it one of the most transparent certifications available.

Animal Welfare Approved's [Online Directory of AWA farms, restaurants and products](#) enables the public to search for AWA farms, restaurants and products by zipcode, keywords, products and type of establishment.