



Southeast Dairy Business Innovation Initiative

Florida and Puerto Rico

While SDBII grant opportunities were originally available to Tennessee processors at the start of the program in 2020, the program reach expanded to include the state of Florida and territory of Puerto Rico in 2022 and further expanded to offer production-focused opportunities in 2023. Since funding opportunities have been available in Florida and Puerto Rico, SDBII has awarded \$1.12 million across 12 grants for production and processing.

6

Farm-focused awards across 6 distinct dairy farm operations

3

Processing-focused awards across 3 distinct farmstead processors

3

Capacity, feasibility, and succession planning grants across 3 distinct operations

Florida and Puerto Rico Partnerships:

- SDBII partner: University of Tennessee
 - Program contact for Florida and Puerto Rico
 - Assists with application development, technical assistance, and training for dairy businesses within the region
- SDBII contacts
 - University of Florida



Previously Funded Processing Projects in FL & PR:

- Purchase of a health monitoring system to enhance animal welfare and increase milk production
- Purchase and installation of consultation services, filler and capper, bottle conveyor, and other equipment to update a filler line for drinkable yogurt
- Purchase and installation of automatic takeoff units to modernize the parlor and improve milk harvest
- Utilization of funds to hire a business consultant to assist in developing new SOPs, and business and management plans