



Southeast Dairy Business Innovation Initiative Arkansas and Louisiana

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 states of Arkansas and Louisiana in 2022 and further expanded to offer production-focused opportunities in 2023. Since funding opportunities have been available in Arkansas and Louisiana, SDBII has awarded \$0.59 million across 7 grants for production and business planning.

4

Farm-focused infrastructure awards across 3 distinct dairy farm operations

1

Farm-focused precision technology award

2

Capacity, feasibility, and succession planning grants across 2 distinct operations

Arkansas and Louisiana Partnerships:

- SDBII partners:
 - Kentucky Dairy Development Council (KDDC)
 - Program contact for Arkansas
 - University of Tennessee
 - Program contact for Louisiana
 - Assists with application development, technical assistance, and training for dairy businesses within the region

Previously Funded Processing Projects in AR & LA:

- Purchase and installation of fans, curtains, thermostats, cow mats, and lighting to improve cattle health and comfort
- Purchase of a feed management system, sort gate, and scales to supply, track and diagnose dietary needs of the herd
- Utilization of funds to hire a farm consultant to develop a feasibility study and marketing materials for an on-farm creamery

