



# Southeast Dairy Business Innovation Initiative Tennessee Impacts

Within Tennessee, SDBII has awarded \$3.6 million across 43 grants for production and processing, increased the dairy-focused Extension workforce from 1 to 7 individuals, and created new opportunities for applied research, teaching, and outreach across the state.

13

Farm-focused awards  
across 12 distinct dairy  
farm operations

21

Processing-focused  
awards across 16  
distinct farmstead  
processors

9

Capacity, feasibility, and  
succession planning  
grants across 9 distinct  
operations

## New Technologies at UTIA:

- REM Lab on UTIA campus:
  - Research, Extension, and Marketing Lab
  - Eye-tracking equipment
    - Dairy
    - Beef
    - Horticulture
- PDQ Lab on UTIA campus:
  - Precision Dairy Quality Lab
  - NIR & FTIR technology
    - Milk quality
    - Milk components
    - Dairy product components
- Automated Calf Feeders on UTIA AgREC
  - Applied technologies for southern dairy farmers
  - Address unique challenges for our climate, economic region, and management styles

## Future Opportunities for UTIA:

- UTIA Creamery Expansion
  - Raw to finished dairy processing
  - Holistic approach from:
    - Farm management
    - Product development
    - Packaging innovation
    - Marketing and sales
  - Hands-on training for farmers, processors, and students
- Workforce Development
  - Partnership with high schools and 2-year colleges
    - Animal management
    - Food safety
    - Product development
    - Marketing and economics

