FACT’s New Fund-a-Farmer Grantees

We have terrific news to share! In February, FACT awarded Fund-a-Farmer Grants to 28 independent family farmers located across the country. With over 210 eligible applications, it was a very competitive process with many strong applications to consider. FACT’s Fund-a-Farmer Grants help farmers improve animal welfare on their farms.

FACT offered two types of Fund-a-Farmer Grants; one priority focused on farm improvements to result in successful animal welfare certification, the second on improving and expanding pasture-based farming. For the second year in a row, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® (ASPCA) is generously underwriting FACT’s Animal Welfare Certification Grants to enable farmers to attain animal welfare certification from Animal Welfare Approved, Certified Humane, or Global Animal Partnership (GAP).

The 28 new grants were awarded to farms located in 19 different states, with 18 Pasture Improvement Grants and 10 Animal Welfare Certification Grants. With these new grantees, FACT has now cumulatively awarded 119 grants to deserving family farmers across 31 states, directly impacting more than 83,000 animals since our grant program began in 2012.

Krista Raymond of Five Sprouts Family Farm in Alexandria, OH received a Animal Welfare Certification Grant this year to install fencing for rotational grazing of her pigs, turkeys, and chickens. In addition to keeping the animals safe and protected on pasture, this project will help the farm attain Animal Welfare Approved certification.

“We greatly look forward to being able to add Animal Welfare Approved to our label as we feel it suggests a commitment to quality and not something that every farm has to offer. it will set us apart.” Raymond said.

Mark Brady and Kathe Kennedy of Timberfeast: Illinois Grass-Fed Meats in Chatsworth, IL received a Pasture Improvement Grant to build a portable “egg mobile” chicken coop and portable fencing system to safely house and rotationally graze 300 laying hens. This project will provide a predator-proof home for their hens to roost in the evening while allowing them to be free-range and outdoors during the day safely inside portable electric netting. In addition its animal welfare benefits, the project will serve as an educational resource for beginning farmers.

“We are planning to release a prototype plan for our egg mobile and pasture system so other farms and consumers can experience the pleasure of rotationally grazed, humanely raised, happy, pastured hens and eggs,” said Brady.

Sol Seeker considers the project a success. “We have finally safeguarded our laying flock and have access to the 20+ acres of the walnut orchard pasture.”

Kaley and Edgar intend to maintain their high standards of care for their birds as the farm continues to grow. Instead of increasing in size, the farmers hope to diversify their products and maintain financial viability. In five years they hope to own their own farmland and use the property for tours and public education.

2018 Animal Welfare Certification Grant recipients:

1. Baseline Farm in Dexter, MI
2. Beaver Creek Farm in Lawrenceburg, KY
3. Briscoe Farms in Arab, AL
4. CATHIS Farm in Lillington, NC
5. Five Sprouts Family Farm in Alexandria, OH
6. Home Place Pastures in Como, MS
7. Old Dutch Hops in Hillsboro, OH
8. Pink Elephant Farm & Kitchen in Smithfield, KY
9. Shady Ridge Farm in Port Matilda, PA
10. ShireFolk Farm in Palmrya, VA

2018 Pasture Improvement Grant recipients:

1. 4 Winds Farm in Valentine, NE
2. Apple Creek Farm in Bowdoinham, ME
3. Broad Brook Acres in Preston, CT
4. Buglussie Farm in Gamaliel, KY
5. Cartermere Farms in Celina, TX
6. Deary Creek Dorpers in Deary, ID
7. Derdydale Farm in Belle Plaine, MN
8. Fallen Aspen Farm in Volant, PA
9. Ferne Cliffe Farm in Buncombe, IL
10. Fresh Coast Farms in Eau Claire, MI
11. Leaning Pine Farm in Mount Savage, MD
12. Pasture 42 in Guinda, CA
13. Red Bird Acres in Corvallis, OR
14. Rising Phoenix Farm in Moming View, KY
15. The G Farm in Larsen, WI
16. Timberfeast in Chatsworth, IL
17. Uwharrie Farm in Asheboro, NC
18. Willow Way Farm in Kerrick, MN

Stay tuned for news on our farmers and their animals. We will be sure to keep you updated as their projects progress throughout the coming year!
Old Dutch Hops Farm

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shows signs of illness, or giving an antibiotic to a single sick animal. In either case, safe and humane animals to be treated. This may mean feeding antibiotics to a whole pen of animals when some are showing signs of illness, or giving an antibiotic to a single sick animal. In either case, safe and humane farms give antibiotics only when they know it will benefit sick animals. In contrast, factory farms often administer antibiotics before there are any signs of illness. Until recently, this was often just to make animals grow faster with less feed. In the U.S, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) now prohibits this for antibiotics related to those used in human medicine. Despite this, factory farms still routinely give antibiotics when there are no signs of illness, because the farms anticipate illness due to unhealthy and inhumane conditions.

There are any reasons why antibiotics are used in factory-farmed animals this way. Factory farms often remove baby pigs from their mothers before their digestive tracts are ready for solid food. Farms anticipate the stomach problems this causes by adding antibiotics to their feed after weaning. Factory farms often ship pigs in from multiple sow farms and then mix the pigs up in crowded buildings with poor air quality where disease can spread. Preventive antibiotics are used to reduce the respiratory and intestinal disease this may cause. Similarly for cattle, calves are removed from their mothers and shipped across the country sometimes passing through multiple sale barns on the way. Not surprisingly many calves get sick and feedlots will put antibiotics in their feed to keep disease at a controllable level. Feedlots do not give cattle enough grass or hay in their diets. This leads to health problems, which feedlot operators manage with daily doses of antibiotics in their feed.

The farms that FACT supports let baby pigs and calves stay with their mothers, so they do not need preventive antibiotics. Cattle are allowed to graze on grass or eat hay in the winter, so they do not suffer from the health problems caused by too little grass. This means they do not need preventive antibiotics and rarely become sick. Still even under the best conditions, animals will get sick and when that happens antibiotics can save animal lives. In these cases, FACT believes that animals should be treated. FACT’s work on antibiotics ties to push all farms, even factory farms, to come closer to this ideal—healthy conditions so disease is rare and antibiotic use is limited to disease treatment or control.

Because we care about animals, we want sick animals to be treated. This may mean feeding antibiotics to a whole pen of animals when some are showing signs of illness, or giving an antibiotic to a single sick animal. In either case, safe and humane farms give antibiotics only when they know it will benefit sick animals.

FACT advocates using antibiotics on farms only when they are necessary to treat sick or injured animals.

FACT’s work on antibiotics ties to push all farms, even factory farms, to come closer to this ideal—healthy conditions so disease is rare and antibiotic use is limited to disease treatment or control.

FACT believes that antibiotics should never be used for growth promotion. Antibiotic use for disease prevention may be appropriate in an injured animal or in an animal undergoing surgery, but medically important antibiotics should not be used for prevention in groups of animals. Instead, farms should provide prevent disease by providing healthy conditions on farm and by administering vaccines.

FACT believes that antibiotics should never be used for growth promotion.
Thank you.

FACT would like to honor those who continued their commitment to our cause over the past year through generous legacy, honorarium, and memorial gifts. We honor these donors daily as FACT works toward our vision that all food-producing animals will be raised in a healthy and humane manner so that everyone will have access to safe and humanely produced food.

Without the loyal and generous support of our donors, both past and present, FACT would not be able to achieve the work that we do promoting humane farming and food safety for us all. Thank you. We are grateful for the support that we receive, and thank each of you for the impact that your generosity allow us to make.

Planned Giving and Bequests
Rosaline M. Grashaw, FACT Supporter since 1989
James Hummer, FACT Supporter since 1988
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Richard and Rita Blacker
Karen Ruth Bartnick Memorial Fund
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Ron Coleman
Margaret Springer
Tina Salandra
Joanne Tavis

Your support improves the welfare of thousands of farm animals.

Planned Giving and Bequests
As you plan your philanthropic legacy, please consider including a provision in your will that includes FACT as a beneficiary. This bequest language is suggested:

I bequeath to Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located in Chicago, IL, the sum of $_________ and/or (specifically described property).

Donations to FACT, a not-for-profit corporation exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), are tax-deductible (EIN: 36-3172605). Please contact us if you have any specific questions regarding including FACT in your planned giving.

Matching Gifts
Your employer, or your spouse’s employer, may match your donation to FACT—sometimes even triple the amount that you donate. Typically a matching gift entails a short form that you fill out through your Human Resources Department and then mail to FACT for our staff to complete and submit—thus doubling or tripling your generous gift!

Company Giving
Some companies allow employees to submit organizations or causes they personally support to be considered for company-wide gifts, which can include local grants, holiday give-backs, or employee funding drives.

Without people like you, FACT would not be able to achieve the impact that we have on thousands of farm animals, dozens of farmers, and countless consumers who deserve to have safe, healthy, and ethical food.

If you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact Sidney Freitag-Fey at sfey@foodanimalconcerns.org or at 773-525-4952 ext. 23. Thank you again for your generosity and kind support of our humane farming and food safety programs.
FACT is pleased to share that we have the Gold Seal of Transparency from Guidestar, a nationally recognized charity watchdog. You can rest assured that FACT maintains a high level of accountability and transparency. Few nonprofits attain this high level of recognition.

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