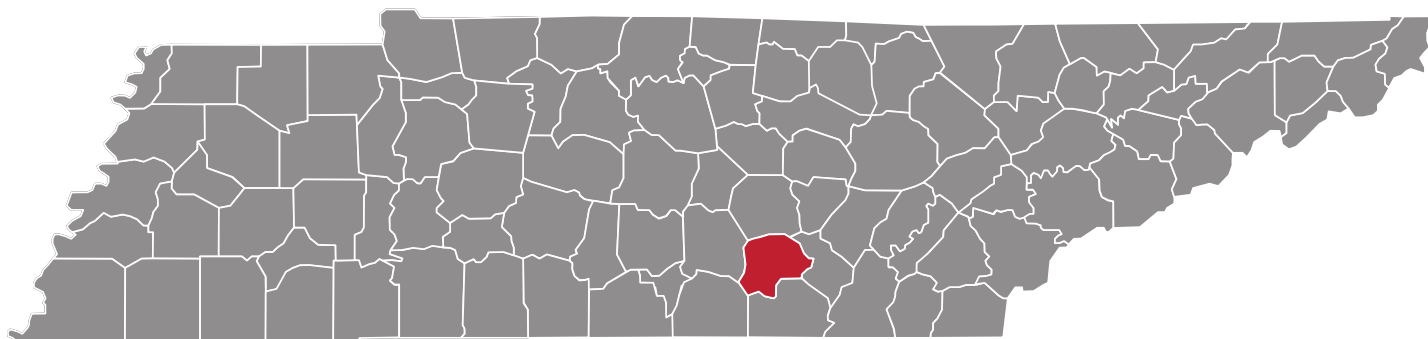


Mapping the Agricultural Assets of Grundy County Tennessee

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Introduction

Presented here is an agricultural asset mapping report for Grundy County, Tennessee. The report is based on a combination of focus group meetings with local agricultural leaders and secondary data. The primary goal is to help local leaders identify agricultural assets that could be used to support economic growth and development of the county. A secondary goal is to increase the understanding of local agriculture. Several other counties [Hancock (Hughes et al., 2019b and Hardeman, Hughes et al., 2019c)] have undergone the same effort. We believe that this replicating approach could be beneficial for other interested counties.

Initially provided here is a discussion regarding general information about Grundy County, followed by information regarding the asset mapping exercise with local agribusiness leaders. The follow-up data-based analysis is then discussed, including recommendations based on that analysis. We then discuss the agribusiness targets that were identified by local leaders followed by summary and conclusions including a call for further action.

Background on Grundy County

Considered the crown jewel of the Cumberland Plateau, Grundy County is rich in scenic beauty and local history. The county is located in south central Tennessee. It is 360.5 square miles (US Census, 2020) with Interstate 24 and highways 41, 50, 56, 108, 111 and 399 crossing the county (Grundy County, 2020). The town of Altamont is the county seat with Beersheba Springs, Coalmont, Gruetli-Laager, Palmer and Tracy City as other incorporated towns completely in the county and Monteagle at the confluence of Grundy, Franklin and Marion counties. Pelham is an unincorporated community (State of Tennessee, Department of Economic and Community Development, 2011) within Grundy County.