

# Cheeps & Chirps

..... *Points for Poultry Profitability*

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## COST SHARE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS

Kentucky farm families can access new cost-share funds to help pay for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects on the farm. The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved a program of incentives in January for the **2012 On-Farm Energy Efficiency & Production Program**. Successful applicants can receive up to 25 percent reimbursement of the actual cost of qualified energy saving items, up to a \$10,000 maximum limit. Expenditures incurred after March 11, 2011 are eligible for consideration, but projects beginning after January 1, 2012 are given bonus scoring.

This program is a good opportunity for poultry growers who are considering items such as insulation, closing sidewall curtains, attic inlets, or tunnel inlet doors. Changing from incandescent to fluorescent or other energy efficient lighting is also an excellent cost-share item for this program. In some cases, electronic ventilation controllers, heating system changes, and automated vent doors may qualify for cost sharing. Other upgrades that reduce fuel or electricity use also could be considered.

Application forms and more information are available from the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

\* online at <http://ag-energy.ky.gov/>

\* phone: (502) 564-4627

\* e-mail: [angela.justice@ky.gov](mailto:angela.justice@ky.gov)

Local Agricultural Development Councils and UK Cooperative Extension Service offices may be able to assist with questions, contacts, or information.

A third party energy audit or assessment is needed as part of an application. Assessments can be done by a professional engineer, a certified energy manager, gas or electric utilities, or other qualified energy management personnel. Energy

audits are also available through the UK Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department.

For more information about the UK energy audit program:

\* online at [www.bae.uky.edu/ext/energyaudit](http://www.bae.uky.edu/ext/energyaudit)

\* Contact Michael Hagan

» Phone: 270.685.8480

» [Michael.Hagan@uky.edu](mailto:Michael.Hagan@uky.edu)

\* Contact Doug Overhults

» Phone: (270.365.7541 ext 211

» [Doug.Overhults@uky.edu](mailto:Doug.Overhults@uky.edu)

Applications will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Applications must be postmarked or returned to the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy no later than one of the following dates in 2012: **April 30, June 30, Sept. 30 and Dec. 31**. All applications received by each deadline will be scored, ranked and awarded at the same time. Approvals are dependent on the availability of funds.



*It is usually cost effective to add 3-5 more inches of insulation to ceilings when the existing insulation is less than 3 inches thick.*