

## What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded over \$406 million to more than 8,791 initiatives.

### SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

### SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.



[www.sare.org](http://www.sare.org)

## SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

# Illinois

### Project Highlight: *Bringing Fresh Foods to Illinois Schools and Institutions*

While fresh, local foods have become very popular in grocery stores, restaurants, and farmers' markets, "institutionalized food is the forgotten part of the food revolution," says Ann Swanson, the farm director at Hendrick House. This private business offers housing, catering, and dining hall services for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The institutions that provide dining services for grade schools and higher education tend to favor pre-packaged, processed foods over fresh, homemade foods because they are cheaper to source and nutritional guidelines are easier to track. Also, food service employees often lack the training to prepare fresh foods. To ensure the Hendrick House Farm's long-term survival and create new opportunities for other local farmers, Swanson set out to bring the local food revolution to her company and schools in her community.

Supported by a three-year SARE Farmer/Rancher grant, Swanson launched a series of educational activities for multiple audiences based out of Hendrick House's kitchens and at its 10-acre farm, which includes a one-acre demonstration area. She created a guidebook and held workshops for food service staff on storage and preparation of fresh foods, and worked with chefs on how to plan for and procure local, seasonal produce.

Swanson also teamed up with area nonprofits and schools to bring youths to her demonstration farm so they could see where food comes from and learn how to make healthy food choices. She hosted a range of groups, including kindergarteners, middle and high schoolers, STEM classes, and a group of at-risk boys. During the project, her outreach grew to include the Illinois Master Gardeners and Parkland College, which held horticulture and culinary classes on the farm.

"This project has changed our company immensely over the last two years," says Swanson, citing positive results of new partnerships with area schools and nonprofits.

For more information on this project, see [sare.org/projects](http://sare.org/projects), and search for project number [FNC17-1101](#).

## SARE in Illinois

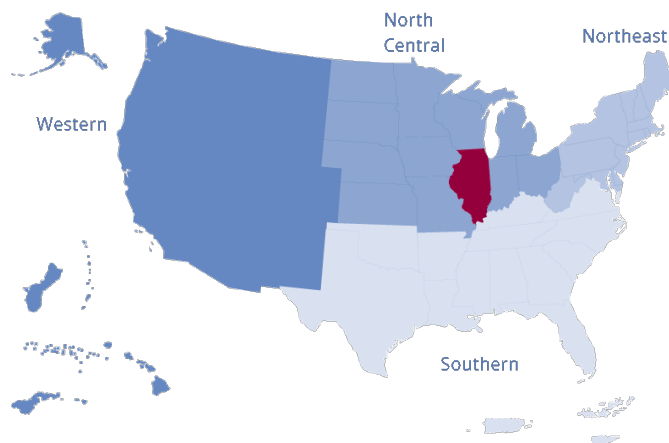
[northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/illinois/](http://northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/illinois/)

**\$2,018,989**  
in total funding

**63 grant project**

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to [www.sare.org/state-summaries](http://www.sare.org/state-summaries)



# SARE in Illinois

## Grants awarded 2019-2024

### Total awards: **63 grants**

- 20 Farmer/Rancher
- 4 Research and Education
- 6 Professional Development Program
- 7 On Farm Research/Partnership
- 11 Graduate Student
- 15 Youth Educator

### Total funding: **\$2,018,989**

\$265,857	Farmer/Rancher
\$842,841	Research and Education
\$389,894	Professional Development Program
\$288,122	On Farm Research/Partnership
\$159,795	Graduate Student
\$72,480	Youth Educator

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

## Farmer and rancher impacts 2019-2024

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

**15,268 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project**

**1,145 farmers reported a change in knowledge, awareness, skills or attitude**

**888 farmers changed a practice**



Learn about local impacts at:  
[northcentral.sare.org/state-programs/illinois/](http://northcentral.sare.org/state-programs/illinois/)

## Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit [northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/illinois/](http://northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/illinois/) to learn more.

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SARE is funded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

This report includes summaries of competitive grant programs only. Some competitive grant programs that are no longer offered may be included or excluded from the totals in this report depending on the grant program and SARE region.

For detailed information on SARE projects, go to  
**[www.SARE.org](http://www.SARE.org)**



# AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN ILLINOIS

by USDA's  
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

Illinois has been awarded \$4,844,417 grants to support 184 projects, including but not limited to, 21 research and/or education projects, 13 professional development projects and 79 producer-led projects. Illinois has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
LNC22-465	Collaborative Outreach and Demonstration of Farm-based Tile-Treatment Wetlands for Water Quality Improvement	\$143,480	Jill Kostel, Ph.D. The Wetlands Initiative
LNC22-473	Novice-to-Producer Agroforestry Education: Linking demonstration farms to online learning, apprenticeships, & communities of practice	\$249,597	Kate Wersan Savanna Institute
LNC20-432	Precision Winter Cereal Rye Cover Cropping for Improving Farm Profitability and Environmental Stewardship	\$249,871	Dr.Shalamar Armstrong Purdue University
LNC19-429	Establishing a Network of Agroforestry Research & Demonstration Farms	\$199,893	Kaitie Adams Savanna Institute
LNC18-402	A Decision Support Tool for Adaptive Management of Cereal Rye in No-till Organic and Conventional Soybeans	\$199,507	Dr.Martin Williams, II USDA-Agricultural Research Service
LNC18-407	Midwestern Initiative to Discern and Overcome Identity-Based Barriers to Adopting Regenerative Practices in Commercial Grain Farming	\$197,909	Cassidy Dellorto-Blackwell The Land Connection
LNC10-321	Suppression of Soybean Diseases Through the Use of Cover Crops	\$174,823	Dr.Darin Eastburn University of Illinois
LNC10-327	Translating Sustainable Agriculture to the Backyard Garden in Metropolitan Chicago	\$86,963	Anya Maziak Chicago Botanic Garden

LNC08-298	Alternative Oilseeds for Sustainable, High-Quality Biodiesel	\$127,635	Frederick Iutzi Western Illinois University
LNC07-282	Best Sustainable Management Practices For Perennial Weeds	\$144,003	Dan Anderson University of Illinois John Masiunas University of Illinois
LNC03-228	New Strategies for Management of Vegetable Diseases in Organic and Traditional Farms	\$99,289	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois
LNC02-205	Soil Testing and Information for Organic Transition	\$49,042	Michelle Wander University of Illinois
LNC01-190	The Use of Farmer Directed Teams to Improve Milk Quality on Family Dairy Farms	\$98,052	Pamela Ruegg University of Wisconsin Madison
LNC00-169	Assisting Farmers in Crisis to Adopt Sustainable Marketing Alternatives	\$98,590	John Masiunas University of Illinois
LNC00-174	Sustaining Farms and Biodiversity through Woodland Cultivation of High-Value Crops	\$49,859	Colin Donohue Rural Action
LNC98-137	Nutrient and Pesticide Loads in Subsurface Drainage from Organic and Conventional Cropping Practices	\$104,777	Gregory McIsaac Dept of Natural and Environmental Resources, University of Illinois
LNC96-101	Microbial Indices of Soil Quality	\$54,000	Gerald Sims University of Illinois
LNC93-056	On-Farm Adaptation of Integrated Crop and Livestock Systems in Illinois	\$92,994	Robert Hornbaker Dept of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois
LNC92-042	Regional Workshop for Educators on the use of Cover Crops in Sustainable Farming Systems	\$10,000	Nick Robertson Illinois Sustainable Ag Society
LNC92-050	Social and Cultural Factors Affecting Sustainable Farming Systems and the Barriers to Adoption	\$72,018	Sonya Salamon University of Illinois
LNC91-040	Participatory Research and Education Network for Sustainable Agriculture in Illinois	\$110,500	Robert Hornbaker Dept of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS**

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
ENC23-231	Climate Decision Tool Workshops for Ag/Natural Resource Professionals in Illinois	\$31,699	Duane Friend University of Illinois Extension
ENC22-212	Soil Matters in Illinois	\$80,463	Dr.Travis Burke Illinois Extension
ENC21-202	Building Deeper Connections: Advanced Regenerative Grazing Training For Agriculture Advisors in Eastern Illinois	\$89,093	Erin Gundy Soil Health Institute Katie Lynn Bell
ENC20-188	Intensivo Biodinamico: Piloting Spanish Language Training in Biodynamics	\$19,288	Kerri Quinlan Biodynamic Association
ENC20-191	Online Agroforestry Course for Professionals	\$79,620	Dr.Keefe Keeley Savanna Institute
ENC20-192	Innovating Education of Agricultural Professionals on Organic Field Crop Production with a Flipped Classroom Approach	\$89,731	Mallory Krieger Organic Trade Association
ENC15-143	From the Classroom to the Field: Advanced Soil Health Training for Illinois Ag Service Providers	\$74,602	Jennifer Filipiak Driftless Area Land Conservancy
ENC13-138	Developing and Disseminating Legal Issues Curricula to Educators Who Assist Sustainable Farmers	\$70,714	Cara Cummings
ENC10-117	Expanding Large-Scale Manure Composting Expertise in Illinois and Wisconsin	\$6,588	Randy Fonner Univ of IL Extension Ellen Phillips University of Illinois Extension Dr.Ted Funk University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
ENC04-082	Professional Development Project: Working with Latino Agricultural Communities	\$66,586	Stu Jacobson University of Illinois at Springfield
ENC03-072	Professional Development Program in Apiculture and Pollination	\$81,412	Stu Jacobson University of Illinois at Springfield
ENC00-049	Sustainable Approaches to Aquaculture Production and Marketing	\$12,750	John Glover USDA

<b>ENC98-034</b>	Introduction to Management Intensive Grazing Systems Workshops and Resource Manual for Educators	\$32,308	Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign, Agroecology/Sustainable Agriculture Program
<b>FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS</b>			
<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>SARE Support</b>	<b>Project Leaders</b>
<b>FNC24-1409</b>	Title: Sustainable urban agriculture entrepreneurship incubation for BIPOC and underserved communities in Springfield, Illinois	\$15,000	Yves Doumen The Motherland Gardens Community Project
<b>FNC24-1410</b>	Establish and Evaluate a Two- Dimensional Peach Training System Using Three Different Peach Rootstocks and Three Different In-Row Spacings	\$5,030	james eckert Eckert orchards
<b>FNC24-1421</b>	Comparison of Non-herbicide Methods for Control of Invasive Bush Honeysuckle as Preparation for a Prescribed Burn	\$15,000	Dr.Shirley Johnson Johnson Farm
<b>FNC24-1426</b>	Investigating the Effects of Basalt Rock Fertilizer on Diversified Market Farmed Crops	\$14,172	Eric Luu Mr.
<b>FNC24-1431</b>	Leaf Pellets as Soil Amendment, Weed Control, and Revenue Stream in Agroforestry.	\$22,276	John Plescia Hazel Hill Orchard
<b>FNC24-1438</b>	Empowering our community through education: Making Regenerative Farming Accessible for All	\$29,067	Marty Thomas Kakadoodle
<b>FNC23-1379</b>	Getting Big Milk Out of Small Dairy: A Milking Parlor Construction Guide For Herdshares, Creameries and Those Bootstrapping on Rented Land	\$15,000	Travis Hurt North Sky Farm
<b>FNC23-1387</b>	Growing a profitable urban farming cooperative in a low- income neighborhood	\$7,522	Matthew Norris OTIS Fresh Farm
<b>FNC22-1358</b>	Cultivating mushrooms and producing soil amendments using underutilized waste materials to increase profitability in an agroforestry system.	\$15,000	Alexis Weintraub Zumwalt Acres

<a href="#">FNC21-1269</a>	Smooth and Social Root's Youth Urban Agriculture Education Pilot Program	\$8,920	David Edwards Smooth and Social Roots
<a href="#">FNC21-1279</a>	Pioneering assessment of a woodchip bioreactor with an organic cropping system	\$8,997	Dr.Shirley Johnson Johnson Farm
<a href="#">FNC21-1287</a>	Double Crop Organic Sunflowers in Northern Illinois	\$6,570	Jacob Landis JL Acres LLC
<a href="#">FNC21-1315</a>	Investigating the Ecological Impact of Pairing Agroforestry Establishment with Biochar Production	\$7,609	Gavrielle Welbel Zumwalt Acres
<a href="#">FNC20-1209</a>	Simultaneous Interseeding of Corn and Cover Crops at Various Row Spacings	\$18,000	Andrew Bowman Bowman Farm
<a href="#">FNC20-1219</a>	Exploring Flavor and Yield of Heirloom Corn Varieties for Spirit Production	\$17,530	Will Glazik Cow Creek Farm
<a href="#">FNC20-1237</a>	Impact of Commercial Fungal Inoculant on Tomato Yield and Disease Resistance in Deep Composted Raised Beds	\$8,907	Shannon McBride Liberty Prairie Foundation
<a href="#">FNC19-1178</a>	Establishing a perennial living mulch for weed control in sweet corn	\$8,088	Charles Martin Willow Creek Farm
<a href="#">FNC19-1182</a>	Moving Beyond Anecdotes: Making Data Driven Decisions to Adapt to Climate Change	\$7,859	Jeff Miller Prairie Wind Family Farm
<a href="#">FNC19-1199</a>	The cultivation of wild yeast strains to add value to farmhouse fermentation	\$26,370	Maggie Wachter Second Nature Honey
<a href="#">FNC19-1200</a>	Enhancing berry farm profitability through perennial alley crops	\$8,940	Dr.Kevin Wolz, PhD Midwest Agroforestry Solutions
<a href="#">FNC18-1137</a>	Finding the right mix of Cover Crops in a Sweetcorn and Snap Bean operation in the Midwest	\$7,500	Mark O'Rourke O'Rourke Family Gardens
<a href="#">FNC18-1141</a>	Soil Remediation Techniques in Urban Agriculture	\$14,975	Casey Sabatka Dirty Boots Flowers



<a href="#">FNC17-1101</a>	Increasing the Use of Farm Fresh Food in Institutional Settings by Educating Chefs, Youth, and Local Farmers through Demonstrations, Workshops, and Visual References	\$7,448	Ann Swanson Hendrick House
<a href="#">FNC17-1106</a>	Creating a Resource on How to Build an Urban Farm in Chicago with a Modest Budget	\$7,500	Catherine Williams Chicago Patchwork Farms
<a href="#">FNC15-1018</a>	Utilizing precision application of cover crops to minimize planting challenges while maximizing benefits to corn	\$7,289	Ralph Upton, Jr. Upton farms
<a href="#">FNC15-1019</a>	Developing a method to capture and authenticate single varietal honey on diverse landscapes	\$11,734	Maggie Wachter Second Nature Honey
<a href="#">FNC13-905</a>	Growing hydroponic fodder for dairy goats on a limited acreage farm	\$7,500	Linda DuShane Heart's Quest Dairy Goats
<a href="#">FNC13-918</a>	Marcoot Jersey Creamery Comprehensive Food Safety Program	\$7,495	Beth Marcoot Marcoot Jersey Creamery
<a href="#">FNC13-920</a>	Establishing a Year-round Urban Greenhouse Herb Garden	\$7,500	Emmanuel Pratt
<a href="#">FNC13-930</a>	Developing Vertically Integrated Edible Bio-systems in a USDA Hardiness Zone 5 Environment	\$6,923	Dave Bishop PrairieEarth Farm
<a href="#">FNC10-822</a>	Sustainable beekeeping: increasing production and utilization of northern-adapted, disease and mite resistant honey bee queens	\$15,431	stewart jacobson Illinois Queen Initiative
<a href="#">FNC10-835</a>	Four-Season Vegetable Production Utilizing High Tunnels, Floating Row Cover, and a Compost Heat Exchanger.	\$5,994	Phillip Swartz beyondsustainable.farm
<a href="#">FNC09-773</a>	Adding Value to Our Seventh Generation Dairy Farm by Turning Our Milk into Farmstead and Artisan Cheeses	\$6,000	Amy Marcoot



FNC09-779	Bringing the store to the customer. Increasing the farm's direct marketing capability and increasing retail income from meats, eggs, and produce with a mobile store	\$5,980	Dave Bishop PrairieEarth Farm
FNC09-790	The mentoring of young adults with non-farm background in the production and local marketing of organic vegetable crops	\$2,956	Clarence Burton
FNC08-705	Increasing the production and use of disease and mite resistant queens adapted to northern conditions	\$11,478	stewart jacobson Illinois Queen Initiative
FNC08-715	Roller-Crimper Construction and No-Till Organic Weed Control Trials	\$12,730	Jacquelyn DeBatista Irish Grove Farms, Inc.
FNC07-671	Marketing of Small Amounts of Organic Grains through Alternative Broiler Feeds and Direct to Consumer Sales	\$3,226	Lisa Haynes
FNC07-685	Establishment of an Organic, Sustainable Small-Scale Farm Producing Livestock (Goats/Chickens) and Vegetables for Niche Markets in Chicago	\$5,991	Godwin Akpan
FNC06-606	Water Conservation and Grey Water Recycling at Three Rivers Community Farm	\$5,000	Amy Cloud
FNC06-611	Bringing the Retail Dollar Home- Increasing Profitability of Small Scale Meat Production Through Direct Marketing	\$5,938	Beth Osmund Cedar Valley Sustainable Farm
FNC06-632	To Be Able to Introduce Healthy and Economical Agricultural to a New and Lost Generation	\$16,830	Reginald Stewart
FNC06-641	Northern Production of Disease and Mite Resistant Queen Honey Bees	\$4,409	stewart jacobson Illinois Queen Initiative
FNC05-565	Okra [Abelmoschus esculentus] an Oilseed for Stressful Conditions of the Midwest	\$5,850	Michael Vincent

<a href="#">FNC04-497</a>	Determination of an Economically Optimal Organic Control of Onion Maggots in Allium Crops	\$1,405	Lisa Haynes
<a href="#">FNC04-518</a>	Resource Center City Farm	\$5,950	Kristine Greiber
<a href="#">FNC04-520</a>	Three Little Fishes	\$5,998	Brenda Lyons
<a href="#">FNC04-524</a>	Conducting a Variety Trial to Find the Best Marketable Organic Tomato Product	\$5,910	Louis Reuschel Ocean Farm
<a href="#">FNC04-533</a>	Growing Fish - Plants in a Aquaponic System	\$4,848	Lori Bahre
<a href="#">FNC04-536</a>	Use of Worm Casting Extract in Ag Production	\$4,048	Don Spiker
<a href="#">FNC04-540</a>	Integrated Cultural Production Methods for Maximum Okra Seed Yields	\$4,933	Michael Vincent
<a href="#">FNC03-441</a>	Raising Tilapia Fish in Tanks Along with Plants and Vegetables in Beds	\$15,930	Irene Seals
<a href="#">FNC03-446</a>	Reinventing the Family Farm	\$5,263	Brenda Lyons
<a href="#">FNC03-457</a>	Student Producers for the Future	\$5,960	Louis Reuschel Ocean Farm
<a href="#">FNC02-409</a>	Year-Round Management Intensive Grazing	\$5,820	Jason Smith
<a href="#">FNC02-428</a>	Future Farming Families	\$14,970	Ida Thurman
<a href="#">FNC01-338</a>	North Central Region Paddlefish Polyculture	\$14,378	Scott Miller
<a href="#">FNC01-375</a>	Re-Introduction of Flax as a Viable Economic and Rotational Crop in an Organic System (Phase II)	\$2,063	Joel Rissman

<a href="#">FNC01-382</a>	Alternative Agriculture in Southern Illinois	\$2,530	Robert Boyd
<a href="#">FNC01-385</a>	Production of Black Bass in Southern Illinois Coal Mine Lakes	\$5,000	Pam Wilkey
<a href="#">FNC00-309</a>	Incorporating Rotational Grazing in the Crop Rotation	\$5,000	Raymond Meisner
<a href="#">FNC99-006</a>	Free Range/Pastured Poultry Laboratory Analysis/Demonstration with an Organic Feed Component	\$3,850	Irene Seals
<a href="#">FNC99-007</a>	Free Range/Pasture Poultry Laboratory Analysis/Demonstration with an Organic Feed Component	\$5,250	Debbie Hudson
<a href="#">FNC99-249</a>	Re-introduction of Flax as a Viable Economic and Rotational Crop in an Organic System	\$875	Joel Rissman
<a href="#">FNC99-270</a>	Breeding Better Apple Varieties for the Midwest	\$13,748	Jim Eckert
<a href="#">FNC99-283</a>	Phase 1 of Reuschel's Sustainable Demonstration Farm	\$3,800	Louis Reuschel Ocean Farm
<a href="#">FNC98-005</a>	Free-Range/Pastured Poultry Comparison Demonstration with an Organic Feed Component	\$10,000	John and Ida Thurman
<a href="#">FNC98-231</a>	Sugar Maple Control and Hardwood Restoration in Central Illinois Woodland	\$5,000	Kevin Green
<a href="#">FNC98-235</a>	Trout and Walleye Production in Freshwater Springs in Illinois	\$4,834	Michael Rahe
<a href="#">FNC98-237</a>	Expansion of Grape Production	\$4,940	Marchell Baehr Rolling Hills Vineyard
<a href="#">FNC98-245</a>	Linking Downstate Illinois Small-Scale Goat and Sheep Producers	\$2,338	Less and Penny Gioja Joy-of-Illinois Farm
<a href="#">FNC97-196</a>	Long-term Benefits of Cover Crops and Crop Rotation	\$4,818	Ralph Upton, Jr. Upton farms

<a href="#">FNC95-099</a>	Implementing Sustainable Organic Practices	\$3,620	Larry Kennel
<a href="#">FNC95-117</a>	Cover Crop Management in the Upper Midwest	\$2,332	Kim Burkhart
<a href="#">FNC94-063</a>	Strip Cropping in a Four-Crop Rotation	\$3,428	Larry Kennel
<a href="#">FNC94-079</a>	Low-Cost Waste Management in Beef Cattle Operation	\$3,277	Joel Rissman
<a href="#">FNC93-028</a>	No-Tilling Hairy Vetch into Crop Stubble and CRP Acres	\$3,760	Walt Townsend
<a href="#">FNC93-038</a>	Night Crawlers as Natural Soil Conditioners	\$4,340	Robert VanHoven
<a href="#">FNC92-022</a>	Establishment of Native Warm and Cool Season Grasses on Highly Erodible Land	\$2,951	Michael and Debi Herren

#### GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
<a href="#">GNC23-381</a>	Unearthing the Scent of Soil Health: A Validation of Smell through Odorant VOCs for Farmer Assessment	\$14,492	Dr.Andrew Margenot University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Finnleigh Woodings UIUC
<a href="#">GNC22-344</a>	Mapping the current extent and suitability of agroforestry in the US Midwest	\$14,938	Richard Brazee University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Daniel Miller University of Notre Dame Sarah Castle University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
<a href="#">GNC22-358</a>	The Impact of Buckwheat Plantings on Releases of Parasitoid Wasps on a Dairy Farm	\$14,229	Dr.Bethia King Northern Illinois University Dr.Edwin Burgess, IV University of Florida Elizabeth Taylor Northern Illinois University
<a href="#">GNC22-360</a>	Testing the potential of distilling as an alternative use for DON-contaminated wheat	\$14,764	Matthew Stasiewicz University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Jiaying Wu University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

GNC22-361	Recovering the lost nutrients from subsurface drainage systems towards agricultural sustainability	\$14,844	Rabin Bhattarai university of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Hongxu Zhou University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
GNC21-320	Effects of depth and cover crop treatment on the functioning and diversity of soil microbial communities	\$14,982	Dr.Victoria Borowicz Illinois State University Rob Rhykerd Illinois State University Emily Hansen Illinois State University
GNC21-338	Overcoming Barriers to Grass-Based Agriculture in the Driftless Region	\$11,827	Dr.William Stewart, PhD Dept of Recreation, Sport and Tourism Dr.John Strauser University of Wisconsin-Madison
GNC20-297	Improving apple and peach pollination by advancing knowledge of how forest management affects wild bee functional diversity	\$14,799	Dr.Jennifer Fraterrigo University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Dr.Alexandra Harmon-Threatt University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Marissa Chase University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
GNC20-298	Refining Interseeding Winter Wheat Practices as a Sustainable Approach for Suppressing Common Waterhemp in Soybean	\$15,000	Dr.Karla Gage Southern Illinois University Carbondale Madison Decker Southern Illinois University
GNC19-292	What soil ecosystem services and economic benefits does 50 years of no-till provide in contrast to other tillage practices in Southern Illinois?	\$14,978	Dr.Amir Sadeghpour Southern Illinois University Carbondale Amanda Weidhuner Southern Illinois University Carbondale
GNC19-293	Applying ecological treatments to boost yields among restoration target species of seed production areas	\$14,942	Dr.Jeffrey Matthews University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Jack Zinnen University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
GNC17-238	Understanding aphidophagous hoverfly winter survival strategies in Midwest farmscapes to improve conservation biological control	\$11,993	Dr.Alexandra Harmon-Threatt University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Scott Clem University of Illinois Department of Entomology

GNC15-201	Agricultural, ecological, and Social Responses to an Invasive Grass and its Removal in Working Midwestern Grasslands	\$9,977	Dr.James Miller University of Illinois Dr.Jaime Coon Earlham College
GNC15-217	Developing Effective Treatments for Eradication of Xanthomonas cucurbitae in Pumpkin Seed	\$9,990	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Xiaoyue Zhang University of Illinois
GNC14-198	Farming in the City: How Does the Altered Urban Environment Influence Cropping System Productivity, Ecology, and Profitability?	\$9,994	Dr.Jack A. Juvik University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Sam Wortman University of Nebraska - Lincoln Ross Wagstaff University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
GNC12-160	Effects of Cover Crop combinations and Fertilizer Application Timing on Nitrogen Leaching	\$9,900	Dr.Shalamar Armstrong Purdue University Corey Lacey Illinois State University
GNC10-127	Regulating Feed Intake of Group Housed Gilts by Altering Dietary Cation/Anion Difference	\$9,450	Dr.Paul Walker Illinois State University Arwyn Schumacher Illinois State University
GNC10-139	Effective Management for Fire Blight for Sustainable Apple Production in Illinois	\$10,000	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Andrew Jurgens University of Illinois
GNC10-144	Determining the Host-range and Developing Seed-treatment for Managing Bacterial Spot on Pumpkin	\$10,000	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Abbasali Ravanlou UIUC
GNC08-087	Determining the effectiveness of mustard short-cycle cover crops in managing soil-borne fungal pathogens in cucurbits	\$10,000	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Shaijal Babu Thru Ppoyil University of Illinois
GNC08-094	Assessing Reduced-risk Insecticides and Refining Distribution and Phenology Models to Improve Management of Oriental Fruit Moth (OFM) in Apples and Peaches	\$10,000	Dr.Richard Weinzierl University of Illinois Moneen Jones University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
GNC08-100	Evaluation soil quality and lead in Chicago community and school gardens	\$9,857	Dr.Michelle Wander University of Illinois Laura Witzling UW-Madison

GNC07-074	Developing an Effective Strategy for Management of Internal Discoloration of Horseradish Root	\$10,000	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Anas Eranthodi University of Illinois
GNC06-057	Cropping intensity and organic amendments in transitional farming systems	\$9,375	Dr.Darin Eastburn University of Illinois Shin-Yi Lee University of Illinois
GNC05-047	Determining the occurrence and distribution of viruses causing diseases on cucurbit crops for developing effective management strategies.	\$9,890	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Sushma Jossey University of Illinois
GNC05-053	Developing Methods for Determining Survival of Phytophthora capsici in Soil for Establishing Effective Cropping Rotations for Sustainable Vegetable Production	\$9,794	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Carlos Pavan Dept. Crop Science, University of Illinois at U-C
GNC04-028	The Agricultural and Ecological Functioning of a System Integrating Pastured Poultry and Raised-Bed Vegetable Production.	\$9,995	Benjamin Tracy University of Illinois Ben Lubchansky University of Illinois
GNC04-031	Developing Multimedia Resources for Educators in Informal and Formal Agricultural Education Settings	\$9,950	Anne Heinze Silvis University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Neil Knobloch University of Illinois Jennifer Herman University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
GNC02-006	Determining Genotypic and Pathogenic Diversity Among Phytophthora Capsici Isolates for Establishing Sustainable Cropping Rotations	\$10,000	Mohammad Babadoost University of Illinois Donglan Tian University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

#### ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
ONC24-143	Re-Integration of Mixed-Power Systems in Agroecological Intensification	\$49,248	Ruth Burke Illinois State University
ONC23-129	Increasing rye cover crop adoption through novel, practical, and farmer-driven management practices	\$49,350	Dr.Amir Sadeghpour Southern Illinois University Carbondale



ONC21-082	Midwestern Hemp Database: Utilizing Grower-Cooperator Networks to Assess Variety Performance of Industrial Hemp Across the North Central Region	\$39,834	Chelsea Harbach, Ph.D. University of Illinois Extension Phillip Alberti University of Wisconsin-Madison
ONC20-081	The Agroforestry Apprenticeship Program: On-farm and online training for the next generation of agroforestry farmers	\$40,000	Dr. Kevin Wolz, PhD Savanna Institute
ONC20-078	Research and Demonstration of Precision Planting of Cover Crop Mixtures for Improving Farm Profit and Soil Health	\$39,995	Dr. Amir Sadeghpour Southern Illinois University Carbondale
ONC19-064	Management-Associated Risk Factors and Economic Impact of Anaplasmosis in Illinois Beef Herds	\$39,955	Dr. Teresa Steckler University of Illinois
ONC19-057	Field Salad: A No-management Cover Crop to Move Practice Adoption Beyond Just the Innovator Farmer	\$29,740	Catie Gregg Prairie Rivers Network
ONC18-040	Managing continuous living cover in Midwest organic grain production systems to balance productivity with soil health	\$29,753	Will Glazik Cow Creek Farm
ONC17-035	Interseeding Fall Catch Crops in Winter Wheat	\$29,974	Dr. Michelle Wander University of Illinois
ONC16-017	Evaluating and Sharing Techniques in Silvopasture Establishment	\$29,951	Dr. Keefe Keeley Savanna Institute
ONC15-005	Crop Performance, Pests, and Pollinators in Diverse Agroforestry Systems	\$29,957	Dr. Keefe Keeley Savanna Institute

#### YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
YENC24-209	Chicago Grows Food Grow Your Groceries Grow Kits	\$6,000	Elizabeth Berkeley Chicago Grows Food
YENC24-208	Expanded Community Farm Visit Program for Youth	\$5,960	Traci Barkley Sola Gratia Farm

YENC24-221	Urban Agriculture Education through Community Garden	\$5,990	Ben Skipor Freeport High School
YENC24-224	Zumwalt Acres Educational Programming: Apprenticeship, events and mentorship for a diversity of young emerging farmers	\$6,000	Gavrielle Welbel Zumwalt Acres Acacia Berg Zumwalt Acres
YENC23-190	Kendall Agricultural Careers Field Trip Series	\$4,222	Ariel Beauchamp Kendall County Soil and Water Conservation District
YENC23-191	Chicago Lights Urban Farm Indoor Culinary Garden Project	\$6,000	Joi Brooks Chicago Lights Stacy Jackson Chicago Lights Paxton Suggs Chicago Lights
YENC23-207	The Zumwalt Acres Apprenticeship Program: An accessible farming experience for educating and empowering emerging growers	\$6,000	Gavrielle Welbel Zumwalt Acres
YENC22-172	Urban Growers Collective: Youth Corps Teen Education and Employment	\$4,000	Erika Allen Urban Growers Collective
YENC22-174	Rooted in the Community: Sustainable Ag Youth Summer Camp	\$4,605	Ellen Burns Carl Sandburg College
YENC22-189	Using Raspberry Pi technology to remote monitor and control hydroponic systems	\$5,776	Taylor Zurliene Wesclin High School
YENC21-168	Growing Solutions Farm	\$3,905	Barbara McKillop Urban Autism Solutions Tucker Kelly Urban Autism Solutions
YENC20-144	FarmBot Project	\$4,000	Mark Becker University of Illinois 4H Extension Erin Harper University of Illinois Extension
YENC20-149	DCCG Sustainable Agriculture Summer Camp	\$2,160	Dan Kenney DeKalb County Community Gardens Heather Edwards DeKalb County Community Gardens
YENC20-151	Queens: One key to honeybee sustainability	\$3,952	Steve McNair Salem4youth

YENC19-135	Star Farm Chicago's Youth with Special Needs and Developmental Disabilities Sustainability Initiative Summer 2019	\$3,910	Stephanie Dunn Star Farm Chicago Cornelius Hodges Star Farm Chicago
YENC17-109	Prairie Farm Corps Youth Development Program	\$2,000	Shannon McBride Liberty Prairie Foundation
YENC17-119	Sustainable Agriculture Youth Workforce Development Program	\$2,000	Marnie Record Lincoln Land Community College
YENC16-097	Sustainable Agriculture Technology Summer Camp	\$2,000	Thomas Elsey Triton College Tricia Wagner Triton College
YENC16-105	Boys & Girls Club Community Garden	\$2,000	Alana Reynolds Grow Springfield (Illinois Stewardship Alliance)
YENC15-082	Hands-on sustainable agriculture using chestnuts and hazelnuts	\$2,000	Dee Scott Casey-Westfield CUSD #C-4 Bryan Bennett Casey-Westfield High School
YENC15-091	Building Community and Growing Food with the Next Generation	\$2,000	Traci Barkley Sola Gratia Farm
YENC14-075	Urban Agriculture Summer Institute	\$1,997	Dr.Fredric Miller Joliet Junior College
YENC14-080	Manos, Tierra, y Alimento (Hands, Soil, and Food)	\$2,000	Leah Lawson Angelic Organics Learning Center
YENC13-065	PRIDE Garden (Positive, Respectful, Impressive, Disciplined, Educated)	\$1,997	Monica Pierce Freeport High School
YENC12-049	Curriculum and Community Discussion Guide to Accompany the Educational film Deep Roots	\$1,910	Janice Hill Kane County
YENC12-050	Growing a Future	\$1,960	Dan Kenney DeKalb County Community Gardens

#### YOUTH GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
YNC10-052	How can I fit pigs into my family's farm?	\$400	Lydia Gioja Joy of Illinois Farm

YNC10-058	Composting with Red Wiggler Worms	\$400	Emma Ahern Julie Ahern Andrew Cooke Magnet School
YNC10-060	The Aquaponic Journey of A Lifetime	\$400	Ryan Marcelo
YNC08-009	Raising A Heritage Breed of Poultry	\$400	Eric Lehrer
YNC08-012	Compositing Public Waste for the Community Garden	\$400	Louisha Anthony

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**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to  
Illinois  
\$4,844,417**

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For further information on projects, contact North Central SARE at (612) 626-3113 or [ncrsare@umn.edu](mailto:ncrsare@umn.edu).

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