

# Elderberries

As opportunities have emerged to increase both the production and processing of elderberries across the value chain, the historically medicinal plant is gaining popularity among farmers. With the resurgence of elderberry cultivation in the North Central Region and the rest of the United States, NCR-SARE has funded a variety of project featuring elderberries.

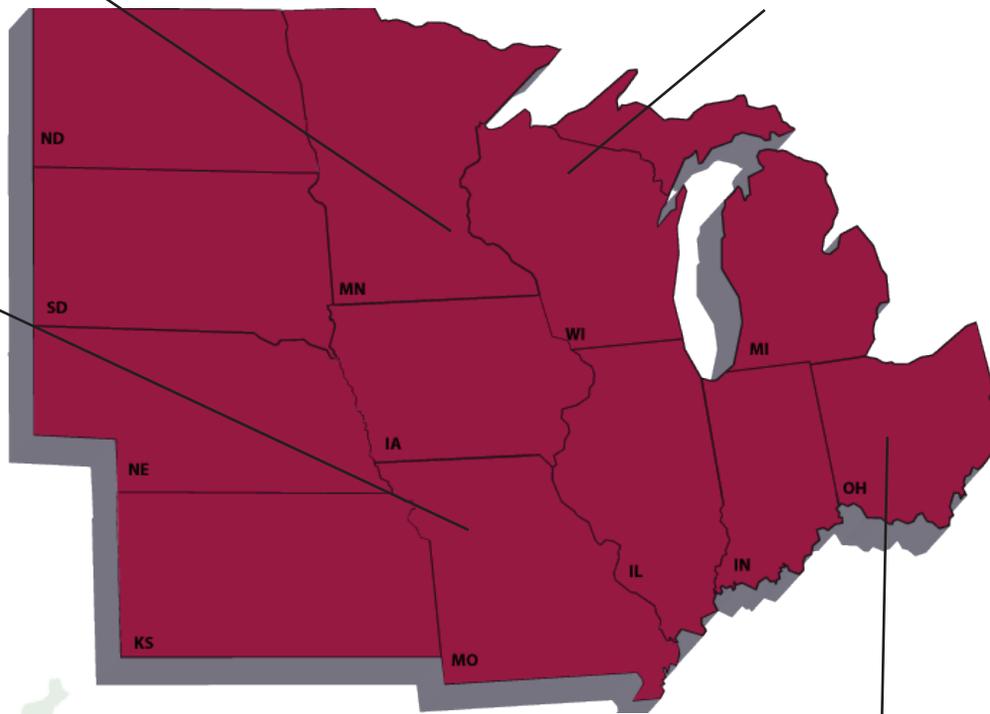
## NCR-SARE Project Sampler

To view SARE's entire elderberry portfolio, or just the North Central Region's, visit <https://projects.sare.org>. For selected NCR elderberry projects, see the reverse side.

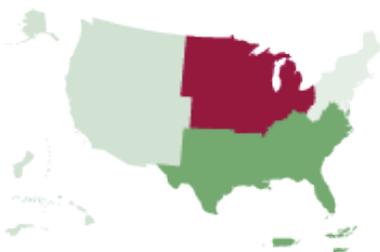
A grower wanted to address whether small sustainable and organic farmers could further diversify their businesses' profitably by growing elderberries in Minnesota. Under market conditions in Missouri, experience-based projections suggested that growers could earn \$500-6,500 per acre net return. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number FNC13-925.

Three women farmers in Wisconsin worked to expand local markets and awareness of delicious and unique perennial berry varieties. Read more about their findings of elderberries within the markets of the North Central region. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number FNC12-864.

Specialty crops are becoming more prevalent in the United States market. Professor Michael Gold wanted to test the creation and development of elderberries as a model for specialty crop development. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number LNC10-324.



In 2008, Hearthstone Berry Farm in Northern Ashland County, Ohio started planting acres of blueberries, blackberries, and peaches. This berry farm wanted to plant a trial plot of elderberries to see if they would grow successfully in their zone. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number FNC09-772.



# –NCR-SARE’s Elderberry Portfolio

Selected Grants

## FARMER AND RANCHER GRANTS

### Developing Commercial Elderberry Production in Minnesota

Christopher Patton, Midwest Elderberry Cooperative  
Minnesota, FNC13-925, \$14,980

### Direct Marketing Non-Traditional Perennial Berry Varieties: Expanding Eater Preferences and Grower Connections

Clare Hintz, Elsewhere Farm, Wisconsin, FNC12-864,  
\$17,530

### Sustainable Agriculture Education and Practicum for Kansas Small Farmers and Ranchers using Permaculture Principles of Ecological Systems Design and Management

Steve Moring, Vajra Farm, Kansas, FNC09-793, \$17,976

### Elderberry Trials for Northern Ohio Growers; Demonstrations and Evaluations to Encourage Diversification

Timothy Mlinich, The Ohio State University Extension,  
Ohio, FNC09-772, \$1,953

## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

### Developing Successful Marketing Strategies for Elderberry Growers and Value Added Processors: A Model for Specialty Crop Development in the U.S. Midwest.

Michael Gold, MU Center for Agroforestry, Missouri,  
LNC10-324, \$105,427

Updated 2018

For information on many more SARE-funded elderberry production projects, search the SARE project database: <https://projects.sare.org>.



*This product was developed with support from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture — National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed within do not necessarily reflect the view of the SARE program or the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*