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AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN VIRGINIA

by USDA's
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program
1988-2019

Virginia has been awarded \$5,210,948 grants to support 116 projects, including but not limited to, 18 research and/or education projects, 7 professional development projects and 44 producer-led projects. Virginia has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
LS16-268	Integrating Row Covers Into Sustainable Production Systems to Strengthen the Sustainability of Specialty Crops Farmers	\$252,542	Dr.Mark Reiter Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Dr.Ramon Arancibia University of Missouri Extension
LS13-255	Made in the Shade – Using Silvopasture Research and On-farm Demonstrations to Advance These Sustainable Agroforestry Systems	\$190,000	John Fike Va Tech
LS13-258	Towards ecologically-based fertilizer recommendations that improve soil quality in high-density apple orchards	\$140,000	Dr.Gregory Peck Cornell University
LS08-206	Sustainable agriculture in Virginia and North Carolina: a multi-state assessment of the economic, social and political context	\$155,481	Dr.Jonah Fogel Virginia Cooperative Extension
LS07-195	How farmers learn: improving sustainable agriculture education	\$205,000	Dr.Nancy Franz Virginia Tech
LS06-191	Promoting the development of economically and ecologically sustainable pasture-fed beef markets	\$198,652	Denise Mainville Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics
LS03-149	Enhancing Sustainability of Organic Broccoli Production through Integration of No-tillage and Farmscaping	\$163,741	Ronald Morse Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
LS03-156	Saving our Seed: A program to train farmers	\$204,500	Tony Kleese Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Brian Cricket Rakita Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
LS99-099	Economic and Environmental effects of Compost use for Sustainable Vegetable Production	\$153,969	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech
LS97-083	The Hometown Creamery Revival	\$145,474	Vicki Dunaway Dairy Farm Cooperators
LS97-084	Regionally Centered Sustainable	\$173,240	Anthony Flaccavento

	Agriculture System		Clinch Powell Sustainable Development Initiative
LS96-080	Alternative Agriculture Strategies for Rural Community Sustainable Development Northampton County, Virginia	\$228,516.91	Terry Thompson The Nature Conservancy Virginia Coast Reserve
LS95-070	Effects of Organic and Chemical Fertility Inputs on Soil Quality in Limited Resource Vegetable Farms	\$184,319	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech
LS95-071	Developing Municipal/On-Farm Linkages for On-Farm Composting and Utilization of Yard Wastes: A Regional Resource Issue Project	\$69,167	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech
LS91-037	Low-Input Crop and Livestock Systems for the Southeastern United States	\$360,000	J.P. Fontenot Virginia Tech
LS90-029	An Expert Crop Rotation Planning System (CROPS) for Implementing and Evaluating Low-input Crop and Livestock Systems	\$60,000	Nicholas Stone Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
LS88-008	Development, Implementation and Evaluation of Low-input Crop and Livestock Systems for the Southern Region (88-96-2)	\$390,000	John Luna Oregon State University
LS88-008.2	Low-Input Crop and Livestock Systems for the Southeastern United States	\$360,000	John Luna Oregon State University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
ES18-144	Sharing the Wealth of Cover Crops: Improved cover crop and soil health knowledge sharing and networking	\$79,091	Wade Thomason Virginia Tech
ES11-109	Expanding the Expertise of Agricultural Professionals to Serve New Constituents: Practical Training on Organic Horticulture and Hoophouses	\$99,980	Jim Lukens Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group Pamela Kingfisher Southern SAWG
ES11-110	Comprehensive Training in Direct Marketing of Meat and Meat Products for Cooperative Extension Agents and Agricultural Professionals	\$90,573	Scott Greiner Virginia Tech
ES06-085	Sustainable Organic No-Till Systems: A Training Program for CES and NRCS Field Professionals	\$104,623	Ronald Morse Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
ES03-071	Developing a Hair Sheep Production Systems for Southwest Virginia	\$51,879	Martha Mewbourne
ES01-053	Innovative Cropping Systems SARE-PDP Project, Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District	\$49,913	Brian Noyes Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District
ES01-059	Training for the Pasture Land Management Research Extension & Education Program	\$49,981	John Galbraith Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<u>FS18-308</u>	Evaluating the Effectiveness of Locally Available Woodchips for Weed Control	\$9,756	Patrick Johnson NANIH Farm and Garden, Inc.
<u>FS16-287</u>	Retro Fitting an Existing Orchard	\$9,837	Marianne Cicala Farmer
<u>FS16-289</u>	Analyzing Baby Ginger as a Profitable Crop Through Organic Certification and Value-Added Processing	\$9,978	William Crenshaw Farmer
<u>FS16-291</u>	Winter Squash Evaluation and Improvement for Downy Mildew Resistance and Fruit Quality	\$14,862	Edmund Frost Common Wealth Seed Growers / Twin Oaks Seed Farm
<u>FS16-292</u>	Comparing Methods for No-Till Lespedeza Pasture Establishment	\$8,688	Gail Hobbs-Page Farmer
<u>FS14-280</u>	Controls on vegetable growth, flowering, and production of Hops in the Southeastern USA	\$8,834	Justen Dick Kelly Ridge Farms, LLC
<u>FS14-285</u>	Development of a Clean Hay Mulch System for a Diverse, Biologically Managed CSA Vegetable Farm	\$5,866	Arthur and Carol Upshur Copper Cricket Farm
<u>FS13-273</u>	Identifying and Marketing Quality Open-Pollinated and Organic Cucurbit Seedstocks for Virginia	\$9,963	Edmund Frost Common Wealth Seed Growers / Twin Oaks Seed Farm
<u>FS12-261</u>	Are beeswax cappings contaminated with pesticides?	\$3,500	Elizabeth LeGall Meadows Edge Farm
<u>FS10-243</u>	Winter Production of Nucleus Honeybee Colonies	\$9,944	John Fraser
<u>FS09-238</u>	Development of a novel grazing system for sustainability of a cow-calf operation	\$9,500	Jason Carter VA Cooperative Extension Joe Shomo
<u>FS09-241</u>	Developing a Sustainable Commercial Production System for the Goji berry	\$7,349	Norma Wilson
<u>FS08-231</u>	Financial analysis of growing no till organic field corn and wheat using cover crops for weed suppression	\$8,827	Joel Thomas Yowell
<u>FS08-223</u>	Promoting Sustainable Beekeeping Practices through local production of nucs (nucleus colonies) and local queen honeybees	\$14,736	Karla Eisen Prince William Regional Beekeepers Association
<u>FS08-225</u>	Improving Sustainability of A Long-term Certified Organic Cash Grain Production System	\$8,828	W. Todd Henry Hillsborough Farm Kathy Henley Hillsborough Farm, Inc.

FS08-227	Optimizing management of manure composts to yield high value mushroom crops and soil amendments	\$6,317	Mark Jones Sharondale Farm
FS08-229	Enhanced genetic selection of dairy sheep for the Southern US	\$9,486	Marcia McDuffie Allen's Creek Farm
FS07-217	Low Input No-Till Vegetable Production in the Shenandoah Valley	\$9,988	Michael Phillips
FS07-218	Biodegradable Mulch	\$3,457	Eric Plaksin
FS06-210	Which Edamame Variety is best for a Market Garden?	\$4,459	Patricia Stansbury Epic Gardens
FS05-194	On Farm Hatchery for Fingerling Catfish	\$9,450	James O. Shands
FS05-186	Growing Alternative Crops in Tobacco Greenhouses	\$4,085	Charlie Broadwater Clinch Mountain Farmers, Inc
FS05-192	Managing Cover Crops Under-The-Trellis: A Vital Step Toward Vineyard Sustainability	\$9,958	Jason Murray Virginia Cooperative Extension
FS04-179	Production Cost vs. Market Value Comparison of Rare Breed and Commercial Swine	\$10,000	Darin Buse
FS04-180	A Varroa Mite Management Project	\$13,271	Billy M. Davis Loudoun Beekeepers Association
FS03-169	Using Compost Tea to Enhance Growth of Pasture for Livestock Grazing	\$8,784	George Nolting
FS03-173	Pasture-based Goat and Sheep Producer to Processor Transfer Station Project	\$15,000	Marilyn Sanford Mid-Atlantic Meat Goat & Lamb Marketing Cooperativ
FS03-177	Nigerian Dwarf Goats for Value-added Dairy Products to Provide Sustainable Off-season Farm Income	\$7,317	Liane Young Kush-Hara Organic Farm
FS02-158	Winter Green Manure Crops for Organic Vegetable Production in the Tidewater Virginia Region	\$4,785	J. W. Phillips
FS02-147	Appropriate-Scale, Inexpensive Cheese Vat for the Farmstead Cheesemaker	\$6,430	Vicki Dunaway
FS02-153	Making Honey Bee Pollination More Sustainable by Reducing Miticides to Control Varroa Mites	\$9,340	Wyatt A. Mangum
FS02-154	Scott County Hair Sheep Faire	\$3,068	Martha Mewbourne

FS01-136	A Natural Control for Algae in Virginia Farm Ponds	\$5,140	Linda Layne Virginia Fish Farmers Association
FS00-117	Building a Successful Small-Farmer Marketing Group When Customers are Geographically Dispersed	\$14,800	Ned Johnson Highlands Bioproduct, Inc.
FS00-119	Developing a Producers' Cooperative and Market for Free-Range Poultry	\$9,672	Andy Lee Good Earth Organic Farm
FS00-120	Cut Flowers: Tilapia Aquaponics Study	\$5,111	Bert McLaughlin
FS00-124	Marketing Open-Pollinated Garden Seed as an Alternative Crop	\$4,486	Brian Rakita Acorn Farm
FS00-108	Community Supported Agriculture Marketing Program	\$14,975	Alice Coles Bayview Citizens for Social Justice Inc.
FS00-115	Agricultural Entrepreneur Course	\$14,500	Sharon Keith Farmer Market Association
FS98-073	Developing a Dairy Hair Sheep: Assessing the Potentials	\$4,377	Amy Hayner
FS98-077	Test Marketing and Financial Analysis of Fresh Cut Flowers	\$5,416	Emmet Lowe
FS98-081	Soil Nutrient Balancing in Vegetable Production	\$7,325	Mark W. Schonbeck Virginia Association for Biological Farming
FS95-020	No-Tillage Production of Transplanted Crops in High Cover Crop Residues	\$8,300	Linford Belcher
FS95-024	Alternative Control of Soil Diseases in Vegetable Production	\$5,625	Dennis C. Dove Buttercup Gardens

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
GS19-204	Production of High Protein Feeds from Brewer's Spent Grain to Replace Fishmeal in Aquaculture Diets	\$16,333	Haibo Huang Yanhong He Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
GS19-201	Investing in Tribal Food Security and Agricultural Recovery	\$15,740	Marcus Comer Teena Hamlin
GS19-202	Cortisol as an Indicator of Stress in Animals Under Different Grazing	\$13,500	John Fike Va Tech

	Systems		Sanjok Poudel Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
<u>GS18-188</u>	Ecology and Impact of Chauliognathus spp. as Beneficial Insects in Agricultural Integrated Pest Management	\$15,234	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech Katlyn Catron Virginia Tech
<u>GS18-187</u>	Farmers' Market Leadership: Factors contributing to success and failure	\$11,823	Eric Kaufman Virginia Tech Jama Coartney
<u>GS17-167</u>	Development of a Novel Approach for Monitoring the Samurai Wasp, Trissolcus japonicus (Ashmead), an Effective Parasitoid of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, Halyomorpha halys (Stal)	\$14,813	Chris Bergh Virginia Tech Nicole Quinn Virginia Tech
<u>GS17-176</u>	Enhancing Biological Control in Vegetable Production in Eastern Virginia and Maryland	\$16,105	Megan O'Rourke Virginia Tech Christopher McCullough Virginia Tech
<u>GS17-177</u>	Effect of Cultural Practices in Controlling Southern Blight of Potato in the Mid-Atlantic Region	\$16,413	Steven Rideout Virginia Tech Jose Garcia Gonzalez Virginia Tech
<u>GS16-153</u>	Living Soil for a Sustainable Future: Assessing the Effects of Cover Crops and Tillage on the Soil Microbial Community and Health	\$10,995	Dr.Ramon Arancibia University of Missouri Extension Samantha Taggart Virginia Tech
<u>GS16-162</u>	Designing and Evaluating Complex Cover Crop Mixtures	\$10,994	Dr.Mark Reiter Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Bethany Wolters
<u>GS16-164</u>	Shade Effects on Yield, Botanical Composition, Nutritive Value, and Ergot Alkaloid Concentrations of Forage Mixtures for Silvopastures	\$11,000	Dr.Chris Teutsch Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Kelly Mercier
<u>GS15-150</u>	Non chemical methods of weed control in strawberry annual plasticulture system	\$11,000	Dr.Jayesh Samtani Virginia Tech. University Sanghamitra Das
<u>GS15-144</u>	Improved Trapping Strategies for Managing Harlequin Bug: Applying recent research and discovery of its aggregation pheromone as a tool for vegetable growers	\$9,893	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech Anthony Dimeglio Virginia Tech
<u>GS14-130</u>	Acoustic analysis: A novel way to measure livestock grazing behavior	\$10,981	Gabriel Pent Dept. of Crop and Soil Environmental Science, Virginia Tech John Fike Va Tech Gabriel Pent Dept. of Crop and Soil Environmental Science, Virginia Tech
<u>GS14-131</u>	Making Pest Management More Sustainable in Cucurbit Production	\$10,922	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech James Wilson Virginia Tech
<u>GS13-120</u>	Management of Mexican Bean Beetle,	\$10,622	Dr.Thomas Kuhar

	Epilachna varivestis Mulsant, in Snap Beans Using Cultural Control Strategies		Virginia Tech Louis Nottingham Virginia Tech
<u>GS12-113</u>	Mob grazing effects on nutrient runoff in cool season pastures	\$10,974	Dr.W. Cully Hession Virginia Tech Emily Williams Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University
<u>GS12-118</u>	Increasing Fresh Virginia-Grown Edamame Supply through Season Extension Techniques	\$10,731	Dr.Maru Kering Virginia State University Dr.Bo Zhang Virginia State University Shawntae Nolen Virginia State University
<u>GS09-079</u>	Optimal Nutritive Value of Honeylocust Seed Pods Within Temperate Silvopasture	\$9,894	John Fike Va Tech Jacob Johnson Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
<u>GS09-081</u>	Trap cropping for management of Harlequin bug in cole crops	\$9,523	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech Anna Wallingford Virginia Tech
<u>GS05-050</u>	Effect of European Corn Borer on Corn Whole-Plant Yield and Forage Quality	\$6,107	Roger Youngman Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State Univ. Siddharth Tiwari Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State Univ.
<u>GS04-031</u>	Effects of Organic Amendments on Soil Humic Substances Content and Physiological Properties of Water-Stressed Zea mays and Glycine max	\$9,793	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech Chandra Bowden Virginia Tech
<u>GS03-024</u>	Optimizing Forage Production and Quality Within a temperate Silvopasture System	\$9,959	John Fike Va Tech

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<u>OS18-111</u>	Evaluating Legume Cover Crops for Sustainable Corn Grain Production in the Virginia Coastal Plain	\$9,747	Keith Balderson Northern Neck Soil and Water Conservation District
<u>OS18-122</u>	Sustainable Varroa Mite Management in Honey Bee Queen Production	\$14,998	James Wilson Virginia Tech
<u>OS17-103</u>	Integrating Cropping Practices to Improve Nutrient Management Plans and Ensure Environmental and Economic Sustainability in Dairy Farming Systems	\$15,000	Gonzalo Ferreira Virginia Tech
<u>OS17-107</u>	Use of Protective Covers to Reduce Fungicide Usages in Organic Wine Grape Production in Virginia	\$15,000	Mizuho Nita Virginia Tech
<u>OS13-069</u>	Developing jujube (Ziziphus jujube Mill) or Chinese date as an alternative fruit	\$15,000	Dr.Ramon Arancibia University of Missouri Extension

	tree crop to improve sustainability of small farmers in Mississippi		
<u>OS12-065</u>	Sustainable practices for the management of the invasive brown marmorated stink bug, <i>Halyomorpha halys</i> (Stal), on vegetables	\$14,820	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech
<u>OS10-051</u>	Appalachian Forest Farming Network for Native Medicinal Plant Production	\$15,000	Dr.James Chamberlain, III Research Scientist
<u>OS07-037</u>	Allelopathic potential of a biculture cover cropping system utilizing Fabaceae and Brassicaceae cover crops	\$12,840	Janet Spencer Virginia Cooperative Extension
<u>OS06-030</u>	Reducing soil erosion and nitrogen leaching through sustainable cropping systems	\$6,271	Wade Thomason Virginia Tech
<u>OS02-001</u>	Production, Marketing and Financial Analysis of Seedless Watermelons Growing in Tobacco Transplant Greenhouses	\$12,118	Scott Jessee Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ.
<u>OS02-005</u>	Direct Marketing Assessment for the Potential of Ethnic Crops	\$9,775	Jason Murray Virginia Cooperative Extension
<u>OS02-007</u>	Developing Sustainable Internal Parasite Control Programs for Small Ruminants	\$14,995	Joseph Tritschler Virginia State University

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<u>CS12-090</u>	The Montgomery County Farm to Community Planning Project	\$9,997	Ellen Stewart Friends of the Farmers Market
<u>CS12-091</u>	Refugee Farm Worker Training Program	\$10,000	Adrianna Vargo Local Food Hub
<u>CS08-066</u>	Growing Food & Community: 2009 Initiatives	\$10,000	Dawn Story Growing Food & Community
<u>CS06-043</u>	Building sustainable communities through agricultural and food-based entrepreneurship	\$10,000	Julie Brown Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
<u>CS06-047</u>	Value-added Sustainable Agriculture Initiative	\$40,000	Kathryn Chupik Appalachian Sustainable Development
<u>CS03-011</u>	Making the Connection: Enhancing Agricultural Understanding in an Urbanizing Area	\$7,200	Suzanne Heflin Prince William County Farm Tour
<u>CS03-015</u>	Community Development through a Regional Food System Plan	\$10,000	Barbara Schwenk Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission
<u>CS02-003</u>	Making the Connection: Enhancing Agricultural Understanding in an	\$7,300	Suzanne Heflin Prince William County Farm Tour

Urbanizing Area

[CS02-001](#)

Agri-tourism: A Strategy Toward
Sustainable Farm, Business, Family and
Community

\$8,230

Brian Calhoun
Virginia Cooperative Extension

PDP STATE PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<u>SVA18-001</u>	2018 Model State Program Report	\$55,555	Eric Bendfeldt Virginia Cooperative Extension
<u>SVA17-001</u>	SVA17-001 Model State Program	\$55,511	Eric Bendfeldt Virginia Cooperative Extension Chris Mullins Virginia State University
<u>SVA16-001</u>	2016-2017 Model State Program Virginia Tech	\$22,210	Eric Bendfeldt Virginia Cooperative Extension

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For further information on projects, contact Candace Pollock, Southern SARE public relations coordinator, at (770) 412-4786 or cpollock@uga.edu.

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