

Alternative Pollinators

Honeybee losses, compounded with rising rental rates for pollination, are a concern for many producers. Not only are growers looking for alternative pollinators to improve crop security, but they also want to learn how to manage on-farm habitats for native bees and other pollinators. Since 1988, NCR-SARE has supported researchers, educators, and producers who are researching, rearing, and managing species that provide pollination alternatives to the declining honey bee.

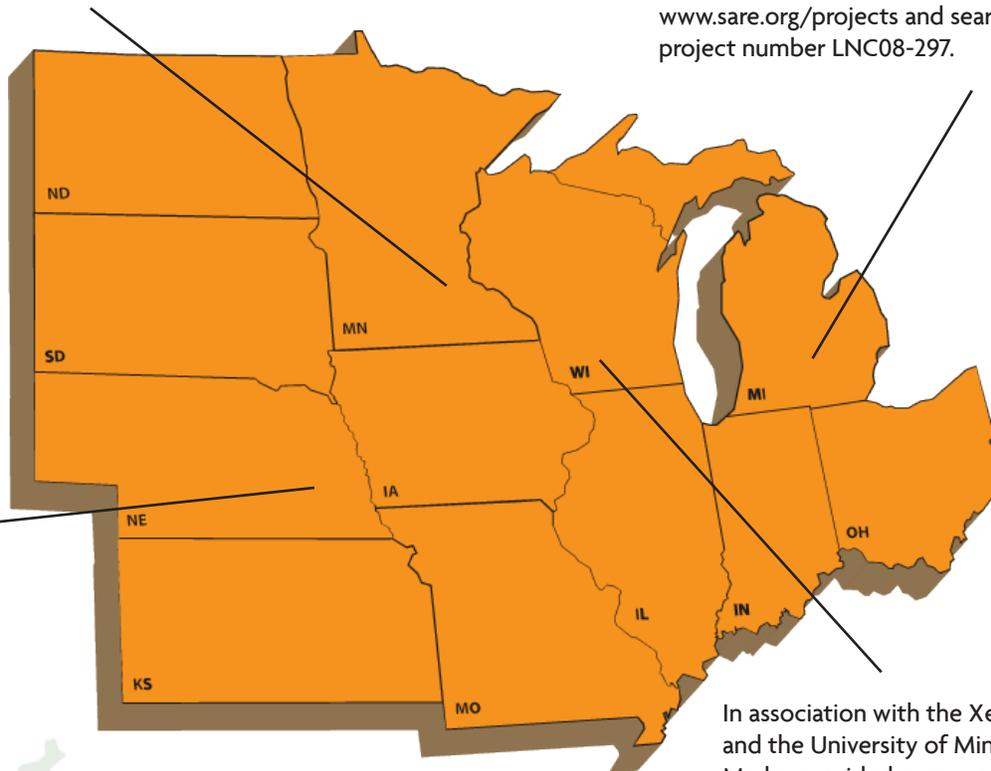
NCR-SARE Project

To view SARE's entire alternative pollinator portfolio, or just the North Central region's, visit www.sare.org/projects. For selected NCR organic farming grants, see the reverse side.

Renata Borba worked to collect behavioral defenses that could produce a pollinator colony level immunity. To help examine the relative immunity she looked at the overall health benefits of the natural propolis envelope from the scale of the individual bee to the level of the entire colony. See www.sare.org/projects and search for project number

Researchers at Michigan State University worked to increase pollination and public awareness, improve producer knowledge of insect identification, and develop guidelines for insect conservation strips in farmland. See their results by visiting www.sare.org/projects and search for project number LNC08-297.

To incorporate farming into the lives of urban children, CROPS used their grant to teach participants about no-till farming, sustainability, and alternative pollination from bee hives. See www.sare.org/projects and search for project number YENC10-035.



In association with the Xerces Society and the University of Minnesota, Eric Mader provided a course in "Pollinator Conservation Planning." His short courses educated agricultural professionals all over the midwest on pollinator biology, conservation practices, and much more. See www.sare.org/projects and search for project number ENC09-111.



SARE's four regional programs and outreach office work to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in ground-breaking research and education.

NCR-SARE's Alternative Pollinator Portfolio

Selected Grants

FARMER AND RANCHER GRANTS

Demonstrating Russian Queen Bees Resistance to Mites to Benefit Midwest Beekeepers

Jason Foley, Des Moines, IA, FNC13-910 \$22,491

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

Claire Hintz, Herbster, WI, FNC12-864, \$17,530

Maintaining Companion Planting Techniques while Mechanizing in Diverse, Small- Farm Vegetable Operations

Rob Faux, Tripoli, IA, FNC10-814, \$6,000

Filling the Niche and Closing the Loop: Developing a Wildflower Nursery for the Restoration Market Using Forest Biomass By-Products as the Garden Foundation

Cindy Ramseyer, Blancharville, WI, FNC09-763 \$5,430

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS
Translating Sustainable Agriculture to the Backyard Garden in Metropolitan Chicago

Anya Maziak, Glencoe, IL, LNC10-327, \$86,963

The Role of Imidacloprid Systemic Insecticide on Colony Collapse Disorder of Honey Bees and Decline of Bumble Bee Pollinators

Vera Krischik, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, LNC09-316, \$175,000

Mixing Reconstructed Prairie with Cropland to Balance Food and Biofuel Production with Environmental Quality

Dr. Matthew Helmers, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, LNC09-314, \$174,722

Native Plant Conservation Strips for Sustainable Pollination and Pest Control in Fruit Crops

Brett Blaauw, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, LNC08-297, \$148,837

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
Agricultural Educators that Increase Economically and Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture in Michigan

Erin Lizotte, Cadillac, MI, ENC12-130, \$72,484

Pollinator Conservation Training

Eric Mader, Xerces Society, Portland, OR, ENC09-111, \$72,168

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS
Integrating Flowering Windbreaks for Insect Management in Cucumbers

Nicole Quinn, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, GNC14-194, \$9989

Effects of Pest Management and Conservation Plantings of Bee Communities in Highbush Blueberry

Emily May, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, GNC13-177, \$9,962

Benefits of Propolis to Honey Bee Health and Immunity

Renata Borba, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, GNC12-153, \$9,900

Measuring the Ecological and Economic Costs & Benefits of Native Perennial Floral Strip Addition on Beneficial Insect Abundance & Arthropod-mediated Ecosystem Services within Ohio

Ben Phillips, Ohio State University, Wooster, OH, GNC10-143, \$9,527

YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS
Youth Beekeeping & Entrepreneurship Building a National Model

Jennica Skoug, Madison, WI, YENC14-079, \$2,000

Shiawassee Camper's Sustainable Garden and Sustainable Agriculture Education

Melissa Higbee, Owosso, MI, YENC12-045, \$2,000

Young Urban Farmers

Ingrid Kirst, Community Crops, Lincoln, NE, YENC10-035, \$2,000

For information on more SARE-funded alternative pollinator grants, search the SARE project database: www.sare.org/projects.



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