



AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN INDIANA

by USDA's
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program
1988-2018

Indiana has been awarded \$3,957,690 grants to support 128 projects, including but not limited to, 20 research and/or education projects, 7 professional development projects and 64 producer-led projects. Indiana has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator:

Roy Ballard
Purdue Extension
rballard@purdue.edu
(317) 462-1113

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
LNC18-399	Increasing the Sustainable Production and Access of Fresh Produce in Urban Areas of NW Indiana	\$199,676	Dr.Tamara Benjamin Purdue University
LNC18-408	Biological Approaches to Sustainable Mint Production	\$199,994	Dr.Petrus Lanngenhoven Purdue University
LNC17-390	Improving Seedless Cucumber Production to Diversify High Tunnel Crops in the North Central Region	\$200,000	Wenjing Guan Purdue University
LNC17-397	Organic Transition and Certification: Supporting Indiana Grain Farmers' Capacity to Meet Market Demand	\$194,663	Dr.Tamara Benjamin Purdue University
LNC16-377	Transitioning farm and ranch land from one family to another: Evaluating new strategies for profitable transfers and sustainable agriculture partnerships	\$199,566	Dr.James Farmer Indiana University Dr.Julia Valliant Indiana University
LNC15-374	Economic Viability of Shared-Use Kitchens in the North Central Region	\$135,819	Dr.Rhonda Phillips Purdue University Jodee Ellett Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
LNC14-359	Evaluating the Impact of Biochar on Soil Fertility and Crop Productivity through Farmer Participatory Research and a Student Internship Program	\$194,732	Kevin Gibson Purdue University
LNC08-295	Improving honey Bee Health and Pollination Sustainability with Mite-Resistant Bees	\$117,861	Dr.Greg Hunt Purdue University
LNC06-266	Research and Education Project, Region: North Central. The management of watermelon vine decline	\$98,500	Dr.dan Egel Purdue University

	through sustainable management practices		
LNC03-225	Microbial Processes Underlying the Natural Weed Suppressiveness of Soils	\$103,623	Steven Hallet Purdue University
LNC02-220	Weed Community Shifts and Management Options in the Conversion to Organic Production Systems	\$93,375	Kevin Gibson Purdue University
LNC99-154	Optimum Genetic Selection of Cattle for Pasture-Based Dairies	\$55,881	Michael Schutz Purdue University, Dept of Animal Sciences
LNC98-131	Traveling Food Processing/Educational Trailer	\$41,138	Susan Houghton Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance
LNC98-140	Soil Quality Improvement with Cover Crop Mixtures	\$93,256	Kladivko Eileen Purdue University
LNC97-122	Development of Market Infrastructure to Support Local and Regional Food Systems	\$86,200	Steve Bonney Sustainable Earth Inc
LNC96-095	Multiple-Use Borderlands: An Educational and Demonstration Project	\$83,832	Bruno Moser Dept of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University
LNC96-100	Evaluation of Composted Manure as a Growth and Delivery Substrate for the Biological Weed Control Agent <i>Gliocladium virens</i> in Sustainable Vegetable Production Systems	\$70,000	Stephen Weller Dept of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University
LNC94-072	Sustaining Row Crop and Fine Hardwood Productivity through Alley Cropping: On-Farm Demonstration, Research, and Economic Evaluation of an Integrated System	\$123,948	Andrew Gillespie Purdue University
LNC90-029	Sustainable Production Systems for Vegetables	\$78,321	Stephen Weller Dept of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University
LNC89-024	Crop Rotation, Legume Intercropping, and Cultural Pest Control as Substitutes for Purchased Inputs in a Cash Grain Cropping System	\$53,000	David Mengel Purdue University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
ENC18-167	Adapting Soil Health Curriculum to Ag Retailer Training	\$74,875	Lisa Holscher Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
ENC17-159	Midwest Cover Crops Council – Cover Crop Decision Tool	\$74,680	Kladivko Eileen Purdue University Anna Morrow Purdue University
ENC16-152	Soil Health Education Resources for Teachers	\$72,701	Dr.Natalie Carroll Purdue University

ENC08-106	Indiana High Tunnel Initiative: Developing Extension-Farmer Partnerships for Education	\$74,981.68	Amy Thompson Purdue Extension
ENC04-079	Indiana Agritourism Training Initiative	\$70,000	Jerry Nelson Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
ENC97-021	Combining Holistic Resource Management and Strategic Planning to Improve Farm Resource Planning	\$9,500	Craig Dobbins Dept of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University
ENC95-007	Experiential Co-Learning for Professional Development in Sustainable Agriculture	\$60,400	Craig Dobbins Dept of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University

FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
FNC18-1117	Pasture-Crop Tests without Chemical Termination	\$3,300	Timothy Carter Honey Creek Farm
FNC18-1120	Creating a Micro Farm: Using Everything, Wasting Nothing, and Inspiring Young People to Do the Same	\$6,499	Brevan DeWeese Country Boy Farm & Garden
FNC18-1129	Designing a Cost-Efficient Salad Greens Wash Area for Small-Scale Growers	\$46,225	Matthew Jose Big City Farms
FNC18-1150	The Hoosier Harvest 365 Hospital Delivery Program	\$22,500	John Woodbury
FNC18-1111	Improving Worker Welfare and Grower Profitability in Small-scale Strawberry Production	\$22,474	Richard Barnes Tanglewood Berry Farm
FNC18-1115	Planning for a Farmer-to-Farmer Butcher Shop	\$15,000	Liz Brownlee Nightfall Farm
FNC18-1116	Increasing yields, plant vigor and soil health with the use of woodchips	\$7,493	Karen Carlisle small farm
FNC17-1073	Measure the Effectiveness of Interseeded Cover Crops for Proactive Weed prevention in a Chemical-free, Low-till Vegetable Market Garden Operation	\$7,500	James Catron Hallelujah Acres Farm LLC
FNC17-1086	Investigating the Possibilities of Cooperative Sorghum Syrup Production and Marketing for Strengthening Small Farm Sustainability in Northern Indiana	\$22,477	Jane Loomis Old Loon Farm
FNC17-1088	Differential Impacts of Growing Medium on Micro Greens Productivity	\$7,458	Thomas McEvelly McEvelly Gardens LLC
FNC17-1089	Hoosier Young Farmer Coalition	\$6,244	Genesis McKiernan-Allen Hoosier Young Farmer Coalition

FNC17-1095	Success with Stockdogs: Herding Workshops and Continuing Skills Development for Livestock Producers	\$21,714	Denice Rackley Clearfield Stockdogs and Lamb
FNC16-1030	Improving Small Garden Farm Productivity by Extending the Growing Season and Avoiding the Uncertainty of the Weather Conditions	\$7,392	Karen Carlisle small farm
FNC16-1054	Benefiting the Symbiotic Relationship Between Farmers, Ranchers and Honeybees through Consumer Education with an Emphasis on Beekeeping and Pollinators	\$7,500	Megan Ryan Southwest Honey Co.
FNC15-1010	On-Farm Recipe Trials and Yield Impact from fermented compost (bochasi) for vegetables	\$5,680	Daniel Perkins Perkins' Good Earth Farm
FNC15-1015	Investigation into a year round complimentary broiler and vegetable farm enterprise using mobile high tunnels	\$7,476	Amy Surburg Berry Goods Farm LLC
FNC15-990	Selecting a New Array of Crisp Apples for Increased Consumer Demand and Grower Profit	\$21,735	Dr.Steven Doud Doud Orchards
FNC15-997	The Economic Impact of Fall Planting vs Spring Planting Hops	\$7,397	Stephen Howe Howe Farms
FNC14-954	Economics of Growing Hops In Indiana: Planting Rhizomes versus Fully Rooted Plants	\$7,465	Justin Kratoska Hoosier Hops Farm LLC
FNC14-956	The Economic Value of Grazing and Harvesting Cover Crops for Livestock Forage in Between Grain Crops	\$19,826	Jennifer Lattire Lattire Farms
FNC14-957	Improving Honey Bee Survival and long-term Sustainability in Indiana by Using Three Deep Brood Boxes vs. Traditional Two Deep Boxes	\$14,771	Steven Lesniak Peace Bees, LLC
FNC14-967	Development of Cost and Labor Effective Produce Sanitation Methods for Small Farms	\$7,300	Dr.Carolyn Orr Strawridge Farm
FNC13-902	Hydroponic Fodder in an Organic Pastured Poultry System: Can feed costs be reduced?	\$7,500	Lisa Burke Farming Engineers LLC
FNC13-904	Promoting sustainable beekeeping and genetic diversity through drone comb trapping	\$7,480.39	Ginger Davidson Geez Beez
FNC12-880	Alternative Feeds for Mid- to Large-size Pasture Raised Layer Operations	\$7,203	Isaac Moody Moody Farm
FNC12-896	An Internship Curriculum for Food Farmers in the North Central Region	\$22,319	Therese Zimmerman-Niemier Bertrand Farm Inc
FNC12-850	Commercial Meat Rabbitry Feasibility	\$13,246	Nick Carter

	Study		Meat The Rabbit, LLC
FNC12-856	Sustainable Beekeeping in Indiana – Challenging the Old Paradigm of Buying Bees in the Early Spring	\$14,824.80	James Steven Doty Indiana Beekeepers Association
FNC12-868	Urban Farmers Marketing Cooperative	\$21,070	Matthew Jose Big City Farms
FNC10-799	Scaling Up Production by Improving Worker Comfort and Efficiency in No-till Organic Seed Garlic Production System	\$3,705	Daniel Perkins Perkins' Good Earth Farm
FNC09-767	Seeding Cover Crops into Standing Corn Using Highboy Air Seeder	\$18,000	Gary Ambriole Blake Hitzfield Andy Ambriole
FNC08-724	Evaluating weed control strategies in organic vegetable production	\$6,000	Dale Rhoads Rhoads Farm
FNC08-726	Evaluation of the declining honey bee health and education of participating beekeepers	\$17,810	James Steven Doty Indiana Beekeepers Association
FNC07-696	Marketing an Organic CSA	\$6,000	Michael Hollcraft
FNC07-655	Enhancing Year-Round Sales of Quality Farm Product through the Use of On-Farm Geothermal Climate Controlled Storage Facilities	\$6,000	Anna Welch
FNC06-609	Field Trials of Organic Herbicides in Vegetable Production	\$17,600	Dale Rhoads Rhoads Farm
FNC06-620	Developing Direct Marketing and Educational Campaigns to Promote Locally Grown Products to Consumers	\$18,000	Earl Smith
FNC06-644	Analyzing the Effectiveness and Decreasing the Use of Dewormers in Meat Goats by Using FAMACHA and Fecal Samples to Implement Integrated Pest Management	\$6,000	Steven Osborne
FNC06-645	Developing Sound Financial Data for the GrassRoots Discussion Group	\$3,840	Steve Hooley
FNC05-549	Value-added Sustainable Animal Production with Natural and Organic Leathers	\$5,500	Brent Ladd
FNC05-568	Innovative Field to Market Processes for Small Produce Farms	\$5,901	Kevin Cooley
FNC05-582	Development of Organic Weed Control Strategies	\$17,896	Dale Rhoads Rhoads Farm

FNC04-517	Benefits & Evaluation of the Application of Compost Tea in Growing Organic Vegetables	\$5,297	Dan Flotow Country Garden & Farm Market
FNC03-476	Investigating the Use of Compost Tea for Rapid Restoration of Soil Ecology on Four Indiana Farms	\$17,959	Jim Tarnowski
FNC02-389	Reasibility and Effect of Grass-Based Dairying on the Family Farm	\$5,970	Roger Garland
FNC02-402	Vaporizer for Mite Control in Beehives	\$3,441	Kenny Schneider
FNC02-419	Low-Tech Season Extended Production: Yield and Marketability of Salad Greens Varieties	\$5,132	Ivor Chodkowski
FNC01-367	Clearspring Produce Auction	\$15,000	Harvey Bontrager
FNC01-380	Advancing Organic Orchardng Through the Use of Kaolin Clay	\$4,860	Dale Rhoads Rhoads Farm
FNC00-308	Clearspring Produce Auction	\$14,595	Harvey Bontrager
FNC00-291	White Violet Farm Fiber Research Project	\$5,000	Ann Sullivan White Violet Center
FNC99-286	Lettuce Season Extension Trials	\$3,450	Dale Rhoads Rhoads Farm
FNC99-271	Jacksonville Vineyard	\$3,432	Steve Crabtree
FNC98-206	Alternative Use for Small Tobacco Acreage in Southeastern Indiana	\$3,270	Denise Dailey
FNC97-191	Great Circle FAr, CSA/Permaculture Demonstration Site	\$5,000	Beth Neff
FNC97-195	Ornamental Bittersweet Production for Small Woodland Farms	\$2,915	Klueh John
FNC96-129	Community Farm Project	\$5,000	Emily Schabacker
FNC96-151	Matted Mulch as an Alternative to Herbicide in Strawberries, Melons and Tomatoes	\$4,393	Steve Fouts
FNC96-160	Livestock Re-establishment Research	\$5,000	Ann Sullivan

	Project at White Violet Farm		White Violet Center
FNC95-112	On-Farm Food Waste Composting	\$5,000	Larry Whinery
FNC95-093	Composting Poultry and Swine Carcasses	\$4,926	Mark Hart
FNC94-058	Growing Better Crops with IPM	\$3,175	Brian Churchill
FNC93-047	Transition from Confinement to Grazing in Beef Cattle Production	\$4,970	Frances Leuken, Jr
FNC92-014	Hairy Vetch as Weed Control Cover Crop in Vegetable Production	\$3,620	James Rose

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
GNC18-256	Developing Educational Resources on Sustainable Food Systems for High School Students	\$11,354	Neil Knobloch University of Illinois Mingla Charoenmuang
GNC18-262	Developing Financial and Risk Management Tools for Organic Grain Farmers	\$12,000	Ariana Torres Nicholas Lancaster
GNC18-264	Springtails as Bioindicators of Soil Health	\$11,988	Jeffrey Holland Eoghan McCroskey
GNC18-269	Understanding Cereal Rye Nitrogen Decomposition and its Transition into Inorganic and Organic Soil Nitrogen Pools	\$11,999	Dr.Shalamar Armstrong Purdue University Richard Roth Purdue University
GNC16-231	Understanding the Influence of Soil Microbial Diversity on the Synchronization of Cover Crop Residue Nitrogen Mineralization at Critical Growth Stages of Corn and Soybean Cash Crops	\$11,154	Dr.Shalamar Armstrong Purdue University Clayton Nevins Purdue University
GNC15-199	Functional Role of Native Mice in Midwestern Agroecosystems: Unwanted Pests or Friendly Neighbors?	\$9,879	Dr.Robert Swihart Purdue University Dr.Jacob Berl Purdue University
GNC15-203	Quantifying the Impacts of Planting Cover Crops as a Conservation Tool to Reduce Nutrient Loss from Midwestern Farms	\$9,999	Jennifer Tank University of Notre Dame Brittany Hanrahan University of Notre Dame
GNC14-183	Economic Based Decision Support for Sustainable Horse Drawn Farming Enterprises	\$9,538	Nicole Olynk Widmar Purdue University Elizabeth Byrd Purdue University
GNC14-198	Farming in the City: How Does the Altered Urban Environment Influence	\$9,994	Dr.Jack A. Juvik University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

	Cropping System Productivity, Ecology, and Profitability?		Sam Wortman University of Nebraska - Lincoln Ross Wagstaff University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
GNC12-151	Comparing the Effects of Spring and Fall Tillage on Larval Populations of a Beneficial Insect	\$9,916	Dr.Ian Kaplan Purdue University Carmen Blubaugh Purdue University
GNC10-133	Economic Based Decision Support to Promote Sustainable Livestock Enterprises	\$10,000	Joan Fulton Purdue University Anna Allcorn Purdue University
GNC10-140	Engaging Farmers to Improve Communication and Model Representation of Agricultural Ecosystem Services	\$9,997	Dr.Indrajeet Chaubey, Professor Purdue University Dr.Jane Frankenberger Purdue University Rebecca Logsdon Purdue University Margaret Kalcic Elizabeth Trybula
GNC10-122	Evaluation of Grain Amaranth and Quinoa as Forage Crops to Improve the Sustainability and Profitability of Small Livestock Operations	\$9,800	Keith Johnson Purdue University Dr.Tamilee Nennich Purdue University John McMillan Purdue University
GNC10-125	Farmer Access to Regional Meat Processing Capacity in the North Central Region	\$9,997	Dr.Raymond Florax Purdue University Peter Mitchell Purdue University
GNC10-129	Growing Grain, Forage and/or Ethanol Feedstock	\$10,000	Dr.Dennis Buckmaster Purdue University Craig Dobbins Dr.Herbert Ohm Purdue University Dr.Lori Snyder Purdue University Dr.Tony Vyn Purdue University Samantha Shoaf Samantha Shoaf Purdue University
GNC06-066	Improving Agricultural Sustainability through Drainage Water Management Practices	\$10,000	Dr.Jane Frankenberger Purdue University Roxanne Adeuya Agricultural and Biological Engineering
GNC05-045	Using farmer input to develop research projects and outreach activities for organic agriculture	\$10,000	Kevin Gibson Purdue University David Hillger Purdue University
GNC03-020	Development of Appropriate Participatory On-Farm Trial Designs for Sustainable Precision Agriculture Systems	\$10,000	James Lowenberg-DeBoer Purdue University Terry Griffin Purdue University
GNC02-009	The Role of School Gardens in Influencing Attitudes of Students Toward Agriculture, Science, and the Environment while Fostering Academic Achievement in Classrooms	\$10,000	Kathryn Orvis Purdue University Amy Robinson-Dirks Purdue University

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
ONC18-044	Making the Most of Mulch: Strategic Systems for Small Organic Tomato Growers	\$28,394	Dr.Heather Reynolds Indiana University
ONC17-023	Indy Urban Mushrooms: Growing Revenue Through Collaborative Exploration of Mushroom Production	\$29,865	Dr.Julia Angstmann Center for Urban Ecology, Butler University
ONC17-027	Using Grafting Technology to Enhance Greenhouse Cucumber Production in High Tunnels	\$29,791	Wenjing Guan Purdue University
ONC15-008	Scheduling Vegetable Planting for Winter Protected Production in the Midwest	\$29,994	Elizabeth Maynard Purdue University

YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
YENC17-112	The Garbage to Garden Project: Providing Composting Services and Education	\$1,320	Kathy Haste Johnson County Soil & Water Conservation District
YENC17-113	Edible Schoolyard Bedford	\$1,998	Jamie Hooten Lincoln Elementary School/Lincoln Green Thumbs
YENC17-117	School-Farm Partnerships: Creating Natural Systems of Education for Food Production and Environmental Stewardship	\$2,000	Dr.Eric Oglesbee Good Shepherd Montessori School
YENC16-098	Growing Places Indy High School Supervised Agricultural Experience	\$2,000	Tyler Henderson Growing Places Indy
YENC14-071	Youth Conservation Field Day	\$2,000	Janel Meyer Steuben County Soil and Water Conservation District
YENC14-073	Sustainable Agriculture Through Home Composting	\$2,000	Virginia Roberts Purdue University - Marion County Extension Jeffrey Jones Purdue Extension
YENC14-076	Watching Food Grow: a small organic apple orchard at a rural elementary school	\$1,934	Dr.Perry Kirkham Wea Creek Orchard Mike Pinto James A Cole Elementary
YENC14-081	Northeast Indiana sustainable agriculture field day to increase youth interest in sustainable agriculture concepts and careers	\$1,967	Jonathon Zirkle Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College
YENC09-014	Harvest Learning Initiative	\$520	Roberta Janssen Shawnash Institute, Inc. Clara Clark New Prairie High School
YENC09-012	Exploring Sustainability through Conventional Row Crop Farm	\$2,000	Leslie Fairchilde Columbus High School

YOUTH GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
YNC09-032	Testing Fly Control Methods to Encourage Urban Poultry	\$395.50	Libby Beetem
YNC08-007	Impact of Rotational Grazing on Species Composition in a Square Foot Plot During a 21 Day Rotational Grazing Cycle – May through September, 2009	\$263	Graham Rider Thistle Byre Farm
YNC08-008	The Efficiency of Jerusalem Artichokes (Sunchokes) as a Part of a Diversified Pasture Plan for My Free Range Feed Pigs	\$384.50	Andrew Rider

PDP STATE PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
NCIN17-001	Indiana Annual State Report	\$110,000	Roy Ballard Purdue Extension

**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to
Indiana
\$3,957,690**



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

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