



# AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN VIRGINIA

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

Virginia has been awarded \$5,109,820 grants to support 112 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.

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## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<a href="#">LS16-268</a>	Integrating Row Covers Into Sustainable Production Systems to Strengthen the Sustainability of Specialty Crops Farmers	\$252,542	Dr.Ramon Arancibia Virginia Tech
<a href="#">LS13-255</a>	Made in the Shade – Using Silvopasture Research and On-farm Demonstrations to Advance These Sustainable Agroforestry Systems	\$190,000	John Fike Va Tech
<a href="#">LS13-258</a>	Towards ecologically-based fertilizer recommendations that improve soil quality in high-density apple orchards	\$140,000	Dr.Gregory Peck Cornell University
<a href="#">LS08-206</a>	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
<a href="#">LS07-195</a>	How farmers learn: improving sustainable agriculture education	\$205,000	Dr.Nancy Franz Virginia Tech
<a href="#">LS06-191</a>	Promoting the development of economically and ecologically sustainable pasture-fed beef markets	\$198,652	Denise Mainville Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics
<a href="#">LS03-149</a>	Enhancing Sustainability of Organic Broccoli Production through Integration of No-tillage and Farmscaping	\$163,741	Ronald Morse Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
<a href="#">LS03-156</a>	Saving our Seed: A program to train farmers	\$204,500	Tony Kleese Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Brian Cricket Rakita Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
<a href="#">LS99-099</a>	Economic and Environmental effects of Compost use for Sustainable Vegetable Production	\$153,969	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech

<a href="#">LS97-083</a>	The Hometown Creamery Revival	\$145,474	Vicki Dunaway Dairy Farm Cooperators
<a href="#">LS97-084</a>	Regionally Centered Sustainable Agriculture System	\$173,240	Anthony Flaccavento Clinch Powell Sustainable Development Initiative
<a href="#">LS96-080</a>	Alternative Agriculture Strategies for Rural Community Sustainable Development Northampton County, Virginia	\$228,516.91	Terry Thompson The Nature Conservancy Virginia Coast Reserve
<a href="#">LS95-070</a>	Effects of Organic and Chemical Fertility Inputs on Soil Quality in Limited Resource Vegetable Farms	\$184,319	Greg Evanylo Virginia Tech
<a href="#">LS95-071</a>	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
<a href="#">LS91-037</a>	Low-Input Crop and Livestock Systems for the Southeastern United States	\$360,000	J.P. Fontenot Virginia Tech
<a href="#">LS90-029</a>	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
<a href="#">LS88-008</a>	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
<a href="#">LS88-008.2</a>	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
<a href="#">ES18-144</a>	Sharing the Wealth of Cover Crops: Improved cover crop and soil health knowledge sharing and networking	\$79,091	Wade Thomason Virginia Tech
<a href="#">ES11-109</a>	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
<a href="#">ES11-110</a>	Comprehensive Training in Direct Marketing of Meat and Meat Products for Coopertative Extension Agents and Agricultural Professionals	\$90,573	Scott Greiner Virginia Tech
<a href="#">ES06-085</a>	Sustainable Organic No-Till Systems: A Training Program for CES and NRCS Field Professionals	\$104,623	Ronald Morse Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
<a href="#">ES03-071</a>	Developing a Hair Sheep Production Systems for Southwest Virginia	\$51,879	Martha Mewbourne
<a href="#">ES01-053</a>	Innovative Cropping Systems SARE-	\$49,913	Brian Noyes

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

Grant ID	Project Description	Amount	Recipient
			Hillsborough Farm, Inc.
<a href="#">FS08-227</a>	Optimizing management of manure composts to yield high value mushroom crops and soil amendments	\$6,317	Mark Jones Sharondale Farm
<a href="#">FS08-229</a>	Enhanced genetic selection of dairy sheep for the Southern US	\$9,486	Marcia McDuffie Allen's Creek Farm
<a href="#">FS08-231</a>	Financial analysis of growing no till organic field corn and wheat using cover crops for weed suppression	\$8,827	Joel Thomas Yowell
<a href="#">FS07-217</a>	Low Input No-Till Vegetable Production in the Shenandoah Valley	\$9,988	Michael Phillips
<a href="#">FS07-218</a>	Biodegradable Mulch	\$3,457	Eric Plaksin
<a href="#">FS06-210</a>	Which Edamame Variety is best for a Market Garden?	\$4,459	Patricia Stansbury Epic Gardens
<a href="#">FS05-186</a>	Growing Alternative Crops in Tobacco Greenhouses	\$4,085	Charlie Broadwater Clinch Mountain Farmers, Inc
<a href="#">FS05-192</a>	Managing Cover Crops Under-The-Trellis: A Vital Step Toward Vineyard Sustainability	\$9,958	Jason Murray Virginia Cooperative Extension
<a href="#">FS05-194</a>	On Farm Hatchery for Fingerling Catfish	\$9,450	James O. Shands
<a href="#">FS04-179</a>	Production Cost vs. Market Value Comparison of Rare Breed and Commercial Swine	\$10,000	Darin Buse
<a href="#">FS04-180</a>	A Varroa Mite Management Project	\$13,271	Billy M. Davis Loudoun Beekeepers Association
<a href="#">FS03-169</a>	Using Compost Tea to Enhance Growth of Pasture for Livestock Grazing	\$8,784	George Nolting
<a href="#">FS03-173</a>	Pasture-based Goat and Sheep Producer to Processor Transfer Station Project	\$15,000	Marilyn Sanford Mid-Atlantic Meat Goat & Lamb Marketing Cooperativ
<a href="#">FS03-177</a>	Nigerian Dwarf Goats for Value-added Dairy Products to Provide Sustainable Off-season Farm Income	\$7,317	Liane Young Kush-Hara Organic Farm
<a href="#">FS02-147</a>	Appropriate-Scale, Inexpensive Cheese Vat for the Farmstead Cheesemaker	\$6,430	Vicki Dunaway
<a href="#">FS02-153</a>	Making Honey Bee Pollination More Sustainable by Reducing Miticides to Control Varroa Mites	\$9,340	Wyatt A. Mangum

<a href="#">FS02-154</a>	Scott County Hair Sheep Faire	\$3,068	Martha Mewbourne
<a href="#">FS02-158</a>	Winter Green Manure Crops for Organic Vegetable Production in the Tidewater Virginia Region	\$4,785	J. W. Phillips
<a href="#">FS01-136</a>	A Natural Control for Algae in Virginia Farm Ponds	\$5,140	Linda Layne Virginia Fish Farmers Association
<a href="#">FS00-108</a>	Community Supported Agriculture Marketing Program	\$14,975	Alice Coles Bayview Citizens for Social Justice Inc.
<a href="#">FS00-115</a>	Agricultural Entrepreneur Course	\$14,500	Sharon Keith Farmer Market Association
<a href="#">FS00-117</a>	Building a Successful Small-Farmer Marketing Group When Customers are Geographically Dispersed	\$14,800	Ned Johnson Highlands Bioproduce, Inc.
<a href="#">FS00-119</a>	Developing a Producers' Cooperative and Market for Free-Range Poultry	\$9,672	Andy Lee Good Earth Organic Farm
<a href="#">FS00-120</a>	Cut Flowers: Tilapia Aquaponics Study	\$5,111	Bert McLaughlin
<a href="#">FS00-124</a>	Marketing Open-Pollinated Garden Seed as an Alternative Crop	\$4,486	Brian Rakita Acorn Farm
<a href="#">FS98-081</a>	Soil Nutrient Balancing in Vegetable Production	\$7,325	Mark W. Schonbeck Virginia Association for Biological Farming
<a href="#">FS98-073</a>	Developing a Dairy Hair Sheep: Assessing the Potentials	\$4,377	Amy Hayner
<a href="#">FS98-077</a>	Test Marketing and Financial Analysis of Fresh Cut Flowers	\$5,416	Emmet Lowe
<a href="#">FS95-020</a>	No-Tillage Production of Transplanted Crops in High Cover Crop Residues	\$8,300	Linford Belcher
<a href="#">FS95-024</a>	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
<a href="#">GS18-187</a>	Farmers' Market Leadership: Factors contributing to success and failure	\$11,823	Eric Kaufman Virginia Tech Jama Coartney
<a href="#">GS18-188</a>	Ecology and Impact of Chauliognathus	\$15,234	Dr. Thomas Kuhar

	spp. as Beneficial Insects in Agricultural Integrated Pest Management		Virginia Tech Katlyn Catron Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS17-167</a>	Development of a Novel Approach for Monitoring the Samurai Wasp, <i>Trissolcus japonicus</i> (Ashmead), an Effective Parasitoid of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, <i>Halyomorpha halys</i> (Stal)	\$14,813	Chris Bergh Virginia Tech Nicole Quinn Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS17-176</a>	Enhancing Biological Control in Vegetable Production in Eastern Virginia and Maryland	\$16,105	Megan O'Rourke Virginia Tech Christopher McCullough Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS17-177</a>	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
<a href="#">GS16-153</a>	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 Virginia Tech Samantha Taggart Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS16-162</a>	Designing and Evaluating Complex Cover Crop Mixtures	\$10,994	Dr.Mark Reiter Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Bethany Wolters
<a href="#">GS16-164</a>	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
<a href="#">GS15-144</a>	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
<a href="#">GS15-150</a>	Non chemical methods of weed control in strawberry annual plasticulture system	\$11,000	Dr.Jayesh Samtani Virginia Tech. University Sanghamitra Das
<a href="#">GS14-130</a>	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
<a href="#">GS14-131</a>	Making Pest Management More Sustainable in Cucurbit Production	\$10,922	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech James Wilson Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS13-120</a>	Management of Mexican Bean Beetle, <i>Epilachna varivestis</i> Mulsant, in Snap Beans Using Cultural Control Strategies	\$10,622	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech Louis Nottingham Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS12-113</a>	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

<a href="#">GS12-118</a>	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
<a href="#">GS09-079</a>	Optimal Nutritive Value of Honeylocust Seed Pods Within Temperate Silvopasture	\$9,894	John Fike Va Tech Jacob Johnson Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
<a href="#">GS09-081</a>	Trap cropping for management of Harlequin bug in cole crops	\$9,523	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech Anna Wallingford Virginia Tech
<a href="#">GS05-050</a>	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.
<a href="#">GS04-031</a>	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
<a href="#">GS03-024</a>	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
<a href="#">OS18-111</a>	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
<a href="#">OS18-122</a>	Sustainable Varroa Mite Management in Honey Bee Queen Production	\$14,998	James Wilson Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS17-107</a>	Use of Protective Covers to Reduce Fungicide Usages in Organic Wine Grape Production in Virginia	\$15,000	Mizuho Nita Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS17-103</a>	Integrating Cropping Practices to Improve Nutrient Management Plans and Ensure Environmental and Economic Sustainability in Dairy Farming Systems	\$15,000	Gonzalo Ferreira Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS13-069</a>	Developing jujube (Ziziphus jujube Mill) or Chinese date as an alternative fruit tree crop to improve sustainability of small farmers in Mississippi	\$15,000	Dr.Ramon Arancibia Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS12-065</a>	Sustainable practices for the management of the invasive brown marmorated stink bug, Halyomorpha halys (Stal), on vegetables	\$14,820	Dr.Thomas Kuhar Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS10-051</a>	Appalachian Forest Farming Network for Native Medicinal Plant Production	\$15,000	Dr.James Chamberlain, III Research Scientist

<a href="#">OS07-037</a>	Allelopathic potential of a biculture cover cropping system utilizing Fabaceae and Brassicaceae cover crops	\$12,840	Janet Spencer Virginia Cooperative Extension
<a href="#">OS06-030</a>	Reducing soil erosion and nitrogen leaching through sustainable cropping systems	\$6,271	Wade Thomason Virginia Tech
<a href="#">OS02-007</a>	Developing Sustainable Internal Parasite Control Programs for Small Ruminants	\$14,995	Joseph Tritschler Virginia State University
<a href="#">OS02-001</a>	Production, Marketing and Financial Analysis of Seedless Watermelons Growing in Tobacco Transplant Greenhouses	\$12,118	Scott Jessee Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ.
<a href="#">OS02-005</a>	Direct Marketing Assessment for the Potential of Ethnic Crops	\$9,775	Jason Murray Virginia Cooperative Extension

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<a href="#">CS12-090</a>	The Montgomery County Farm to Community Planning Project	\$9,997	Ellen Stewart Friends of the Farmers Market
<a href="#">CS12-091</a>	Refugee Farm Worker Training Program	\$10,000	Adrianna Vargo Local Food Hub
<a href="#">CS08-066</a>	Growing Food & Community: 2009 Initiatives	\$10,000	Dawn Story Growing Food & Community
<a href="#">CS06-047</a>	Value-added Sustainable Agriculture Initiative	\$40,000	Kathryn Chupik Appalachian Sustainable Development
<a href="#">CS06-043</a>	Building sustainable communities through agricultural and food-based entrepreneurship	\$10,000	Julie Brown Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
<a href="#">CS03-011</a>	Making the Connection: Enhancing Agricultural Understanding in an Urbanizing Area	\$7,200	Suzanne Heflin Prince William County Farm Tour
<a href="#">CS03-015</a>	Community Development through a Regional Food System Plan	\$10,000	Barbara Schwenk Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission
<a href="#">CS02-001</a>	Agri-tourism: A Strategy Toward Sustainable Farm, Business, Family and Community	\$8,230	Brian Calhoun Virginia Cooperative Extension
<a href="#">CS02-003</a>	Making the Connection: Enhancing Agricultural Understanding in an Urbanizing Area	\$7,300	Suzanne Heflin Prince William County Farm Tour

### PDP STATE PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE support	Project Leaders
<a href="#">SVA17-001</a>	SVA17-001 Model State Program	\$55,511	Eric Bendfeldt Virginia Cooperative Extension



Chris Mullins  
Virginia State University

[SVA16-001](#) 2016-2017 Model State Program  
Virginia Tech

\$22,210

Eric Bendfeldt  
Virginia Cooperative Extension

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**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to  
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\$5,109,820**

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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](mailto:cpollock@uga.edu).

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