

### 2023 NCR-SARE Partnership Grant Projects Recommended for Funding

Project #	Title	PI Name	Primary Grantee	Project State	\$\$ Amt Funded	Cumulative	Brief Description
ONC23-116	Fencing in Silvopasture for Sheep and Goat Production Across Missouri	Mohan Acharya	Lincoln University	MO	\$ 49,896	\$ 49,896	Silvopasture is the production practice that integrates trees, pasture, and livestock production together to maximizes income from multiple harvests at the same time. The goal of this project is to train farmers for building fences in the silvopasture for sheep and goat production across Missouri.
ONC23-117	The Cultivar Check Program: Utilizing the Midwestern Hemp Database (MHD) and Grower-Cooperators to Assess Variety Performance of High Cannabinoid Hemp	Phillip Alberti	University of Wisconsin-Madison	WI	\$ 49,339	\$ 99,235	Applied research and outreach across the North Central region assessing variety performance of high cannabinoid hemp through university research trials and on-farm data collection via grower-cooperator networks and private laboratory partnerships.
ONC23-118	Circles of Resilience, by and for Farmers	Rachel Armstrong	Farm Commons	MN	\$ 45,757	\$ 144,992	This project empowers farmers to lead Circles of Resilience for their peers, resulting in improved quality of life for the farmer through stronger relationships and deeper networks, as well as improved legal resilience for the farm operation.
ONC23-119	On-Farm Testing of Johnson-Su Compost Extract as a Biological Inoculant in Wheat and Soybeans	Melissa Carlson	MN Wheat Research and Promotion Council	MN	\$ 49,846	\$ 194,838	Compost extract from a Johnson-Su bioreactor will be tested in small-plot and on-farm trials to determine if applying the biological inoculant in-furrow at planting can reduce the amount of N and/or P fertilizer needed to produce a profitable wheat or soybean crop at the level of a commercial farm.
ONC23-120	Weeding workshops: Building weed management skills and networks with diverse farmers	Anne Pfeiffer	University of Wisconsin - Madison Division of Extension	WI	\$ 49,707	\$ 244,545	Weed control deeply impacts farm profitability and the environment. Growers understand weeding tools best by experimenting with them hands-on. This project partners with disadvantaged farmers to trial tools and share their experience at four on-farm, hands-on mechanical weed management workshops.
ONC23-121	The Seed to Kitchen Collaborative: Identifying Improved Vegetable Varieties for Organic Direct-Market Growers	James DeDecker	Michigan State University AgBioResearch and Extension	MI	\$ 49,391	\$ 293,936	The Seed to Kitchen Collaborative brings together vegetable breeders, seed companies, researchers, direct-market organic growers and professional chefs from Wisconsin and Michigan to evaluate the productivity and quality of elite vegetable varieties in organic research station and on-farm trials.

ONC23-122	Water Catchment to Sustain Food Production in the Midst of Climate Crisis	Alicia Ellingsworth	The Farm School at Gibbs Road Inc.	KS	\$ 49,401	\$ 343,337	This project will demonstrate rainwater harvesting techniques on high tunnels at 3 small farms and a demonstration site on a building in Wyandotte and Miami Counties in Kansas to train farmers and backyard growers about the use of RWH to sustain food production in the midst of climate crisis.
ONC23-123	Rematriation Partnership: Orchard Establishment and Care	Cindy Goodner	Seed Savers Exchange	IA	\$ 45,238	\$ 388,575	The Rematriation Partnership: Orchard Establishment and Care project, will allow Seed Savers Exchange (SSE) to educate and support three indigenous partner farms with establishing heritage apple orchards.
ONC23-124	Feasibility of Organic Strip-till with Cover Crops	Mark Gutierrez	Minnesota Soil Health Coalition	MN	\$ 48,002	\$ 436,577	This project focuses on feasibility and developing best practices for strip-tilling in an organic row crop system. We will look at equipment modification, cover crops, mowing, rolling/crimping and cultivating between rows. We will measure yields, temperatures, residue, weed pressure and timing.
ONC23-125	Seeds of Change: Building Capacity among New Urban Growers with Educational Seed Grants	Katie Houck	Urban Harvest STL	MO	\$ 48,690	\$ 485,267	BIPOC urban growers face many barriers to entering the food system. Our project aims to address those barriers through partnerships with established BIPOC urban farmers that will offer educational workshops and work days at each of their unique farms, Seed Grants, and community bed scholarships.
ONC23-126	Keeping vegetable farmers growing through one-on-one professional peer coaching	Sarah Janes Ugoretz	FairShare CSA Coalition	WI	\$ 49,970	\$ 535,237	From climate change to labor shortages to questionable quality of life, staying in farming is not easy. In partnership with the farmers who have requested this service, this project will explore peer-to-peer farm coaching as an innovative tool to support established farmers and keep them farming.
ONC23-127	Beekeeper Learning Circles	Julia McGuire	Julia McGuire	IA	\$ 29,741	\$ 564,978	Learning circles for beekeepers consists of groups of beekeepers attending field days and monthly zoom calls that are highly focused on topics that require time and resources above and beyond a monthly club meeting or unit in a month-long general beekeeping course.

ONC23-128	Income through conservation: Training farmers to produce plant materials for specialist butterflies.	Meghan Milbrath	Michigan State University	MI	\$ 48,416	\$ 613,394	Training for farmers to grow native plants to be used in conservation projects to support rare specialist butterflies. Growers will partner with conservation experts and native plant specialists to learn how to grow native plants for sale.
ONC23-129	Increasing rye cover crop adoption through novel, practical, and farmer-driven management practices	Amir Sadeghpour	Southern Illinois University Carbondale	IL	\$ 49,350	\$ 662,744	This farmer-driven proposal evaluates perpendicular planting of winter rye with seeding rate adjustments as an alternative practical management to precision planting of winter rye to increase farm resiliency and cover crop adoption prior to planting corn.
ONC23-130	Harvesting Our Potential: Mentoring New Sustainable Farmers	Juliann Salinas	WFAN	IA	\$ 50,000	\$ 712,744	WFAN will train successful, regenerative farmers/ ranchers to act as mentors and match them with aspiring and beginning women and non-binary farmers/ ranchers. Paid mentorships will include individualized, experiential education plans, virtual education events, and in-person farm tours.
ONC23-131	Agricultural Transformations in the Red Cedar Learning Hub	John Strauser	University of Wisconsin-Madison	WI	\$ 47,733	\$ 760,477	Implementing transformative agricultural landscape change is complex and requires collaborative efforts that reach beyond the boundaries of any particular farm. The Red Cedar Learning Hub is being developed to work collaboratively on attaining shared water quality and soil health goals.
ONC23-132	Nitrogen Credits and Fertilizer Dollars Saved: Identifying benefits for seeding diverse legume-based cover mixes into or after winter small grains	Nicole Tautges	Michael Fields Agricultural Institute	WI	\$ 49,054	\$ 809,531	Measuring soil health, nitrogen credits, and fertilizer costs saved by growing winter small grains with legume-based cover crop mixes underseeded or planted after grain harvest, in corn-soy-wheat/rye rotations on 3 farms in the Upper Midwest.
ONC23-133	Adaptive Pruning of Cold-Hardy Commercial Wine Grape Cultivars	Randall Vos	Iowa State University Extension and Outreach	IA	\$ 48,166	\$ 857,697	New cold-hardy grape cultivars have little information on cultivar-specific production practices. Pruning is one of the most labor-intensive practices. This study will quantify cane traits of these cultivars and explore mechanical pruning options to reduce labor to increase vineyard sustainability.
ONC23-134	Food, Farming and Sustainability: A Whole Systems Approach for Farm-to-School Education for the Future of Food Security.	Therese Zimmerman	Good Shepherd Montessori School	IN	\$ 38,192	\$ 895,889	Farmers and teachers collaborate to present a professional development and training conference for replicating a proven whole systems approach to growing sustainable farmers and consumers for the future of food security.

ONC23-135	Finding the sweet spot: rye termination timing to balance weed suppression and yield reduction in green planted no-till soybean.	James Stute	Stute Farms	WI	\$ 49,892	\$ 945,781	This project is investigating termination timing of a cereal rye cover crop to maximize weed suppression without sacrificing yield in a green planted no-till soybean system. Results from this on-farm trial will inform management recommendations and contribute to herbicide resistance management.
ONC23-136	Regenerative Farming Policy Fellowship Program	Jessica D'Ambrosio	Agraria Center for Regenerative Practice	OH	\$ 50,000	\$ 995,781	The Regenerative Farming Policy Fellowship is an educational project focused on farm policy for small-scale regenerative BIPOC farmers located in the Greater Dayton-Springfield metropolitan region. The goal of the fellowship is to create policy literacy and grant literacy for BIPOC farmers.