



Applying for a Northeast SARE 2022 Farmer Grant

October 5, 2021

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Northeast SARE
South Burlington, Vermont

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Letterbox Farm
Hudson, NY
Northeast SARE Farmer grant recipient:
FNE20-953, FNE16-844



StreamText Link: www.streamtext.net/player?event=sarefarmergrantwebinar



Northeast SARE serves:

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, & Washington, D.C.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

2021 Northeast SARE Grants Portfolio

Grant Type	# Proposals Submitted	# Projects Funded	Application Success Rate	Total Amount Funded
Research and Education	33	10	30%	\$1,897,115
Research for Novel Approaches	25	10	40%	\$1,669,729
Professional Development	16	7	44%	\$909,484
Farmer	61	29	48%	\$352,241
Partnership	49	27	55%	\$708,624
Graduate Student	74	28	39%	\$408,780
Total 2021				\$5,945,973

A competitive grant program –
NEW FOR 2022, maximum amount is \$30,000

Farmer Grant Basics

- Commercial farmers in the Northeast region eligible to apply.
- The topic must address opportunities to improve the sustainability of farms.
- Technical advisor required.
- Detailed budget required: Maximum amount to request is \$30,000. Award funds are disbursed on reimbursement basis.
- Projects typically run from 1-3 years (contracts begin March 1).
- Applicants may only submit one proposal per year.
- Proposal deadline is Nov. 16, 2021 at 5 p.m.; submitted online.
- Detailed instructions found in Call for Proposals at: [**northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant**](https://northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant).



Northeast SARE's Outcome Statement

Agriculture in the Northeast will be diversified and profitable, providing healthful products to customers. Farmers and the people they work with will steward resources to ensure sustainability and resilience, and foster conditions where farmers have high quality of life and communities can thrive.

Today, we will cover:

**Who can
apply and
on what
topics?**



**What makes
a good
proposal?**



**How to
submit a
proposal?**

Improving poultry farm sustainability through pollinator buffers
Tina Hill, Hill Farms, Inc., Houston, DE (FNE17-873)



Who can apply?

- All commercial farm business owners and farm employees in the Northeast region.
- Farm employees need farm owner's authorization.
- Farmers on farms affiliated with an institution or a nonprofit organization .
- Farm must have financial capacity to manage expenses – paid on reimbursement basis.



**Economic viability for the farmer,
fresh food for low-income families:
A manual**
Leah Penniman, Soul Fire Farm,
Petersburg, NY (FNE17-879)

Northeast SARE's definition of a farm

“Any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.”

Northeast SARE's Definition of a Farm found at:
northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant



Economic Analysis of Oyster Mushroom Production in an Unused Poultry House
Ramrattan Sagram, Seaford, DE (FNE13-786)

Grant proposals address at least one of the themes of sustainable agriculture:

- Reduction of environmental and/ or health risks in agriculture.
- Improved productivity, reduction of costs and/or increase of net farm income.
- Conservation of soil, improvement of water quality, and protection of natural resources.
- Enhancement of employment in farm communities.
- Improvement of quality of life for farmers, their employees, and the farming community.

Results of the project will benefit farmers.



Wide range of farms, topics and methods funded

Some examples:

- **Aquaculture** – oyster, seaweed production
- **Bees** – hive health; pollination
- **Business management** – purchasing cooperative
- **Crop production** – vegetables, fruits, hemp
- **Education** – production manual for beginning farmers; demonstrations for cut-flower weed control
- **Livestock** – cows, goats, sheep, pigs, poultry

Resource: projects.sare.org/search-projects/



Developing Management Options for
Staph aureus on Organic Dairies
Katie Webb Clark, Reed Farm, Windsor,
ME (FNE19-946)

Wide range of farms, topics and methods funded

More examples:

- **Market Development**
- **Natural Resources** – energy efficiency
- **Nutrient Management** – composting, cover crops
- **Pest Management** – weed, disease and insect control
- **Prototypes** – kosher poultry processing, grain pearling machine
- **Season extension** – caterpillar tunnels



**Economic Feasibility of Caterpillar
Tunnels on Urban and Small-scale Farms**
Mayda Pozantides, Groundwork Market
Garden, Buffalo, NY (FNE20-961)
Photo credit: Mayda Pozantides

Resource: projects.sare.org/search-projects/

Product Development – Product Testing

Product Development:

Building a new tool and testing it for effectiveness and improvements.

- Prototype plans and material lists are part of project outreach and reporting.

Product Testing:

To see if a treatment or process works or can be applied in a new way

- Does not require sharing of product design.



Laser Scarecrow Prototype
Ken Elliot, Elliot Farm, Lakeville, MA
(FNE18-893)

Technical Advisor Required

- Extension or University specialist
- Nonprofit staff
- Private Consultant
- Veterinarian
- State or Federal Agency staff
- Company representative
- Experienced farmer

Resource:

www.northeastsare.org/technicaladvisor



**Effectiveness of Aerated Static Pile to
Windrow Composting on Small-Scale
Farms**

Emma Jagoz, Moon Valley Farm,
Cockeysville, MD (FNE14-803)

LETTERBOX FARM COLLECTIVE



HUDSON, NY

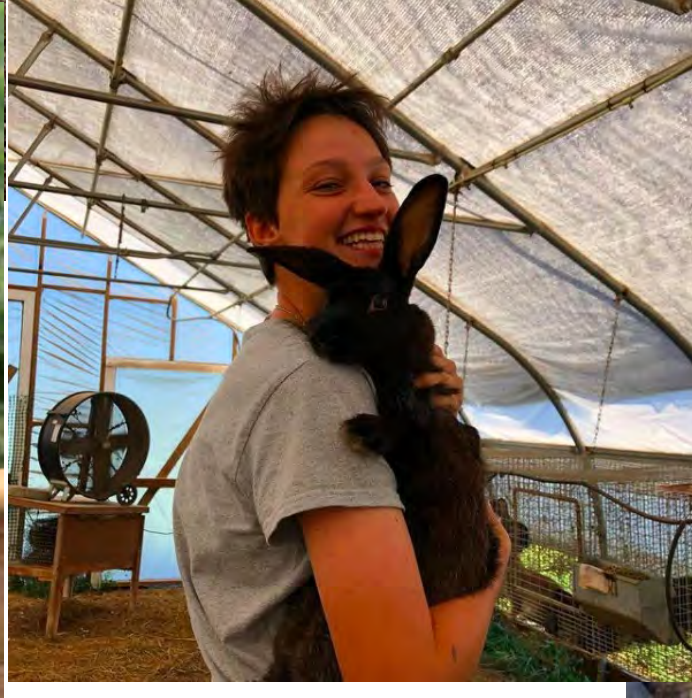
LETTERBOX FARM COLLECTIVE

We are an 9-year old diversified market farm collectively owned by three farmer-owners (Faith, Nichki and Laz).

We raise: vegetables, herbs, flowers, pork, chicken, eggs, and rabbit using best practices in animal welfare and organic management.

We distribute our goods through: 2 farmers markets, an on-site farm stand, a few distributors, and a 70-member full-diet CSA that runs April to Christmas.

To support our business, we also host a few private events per year and run a farm stay program. We also take on grant-funded research, education and organizing projects that benefit the farm community.

















Letterbox Farm
Collective

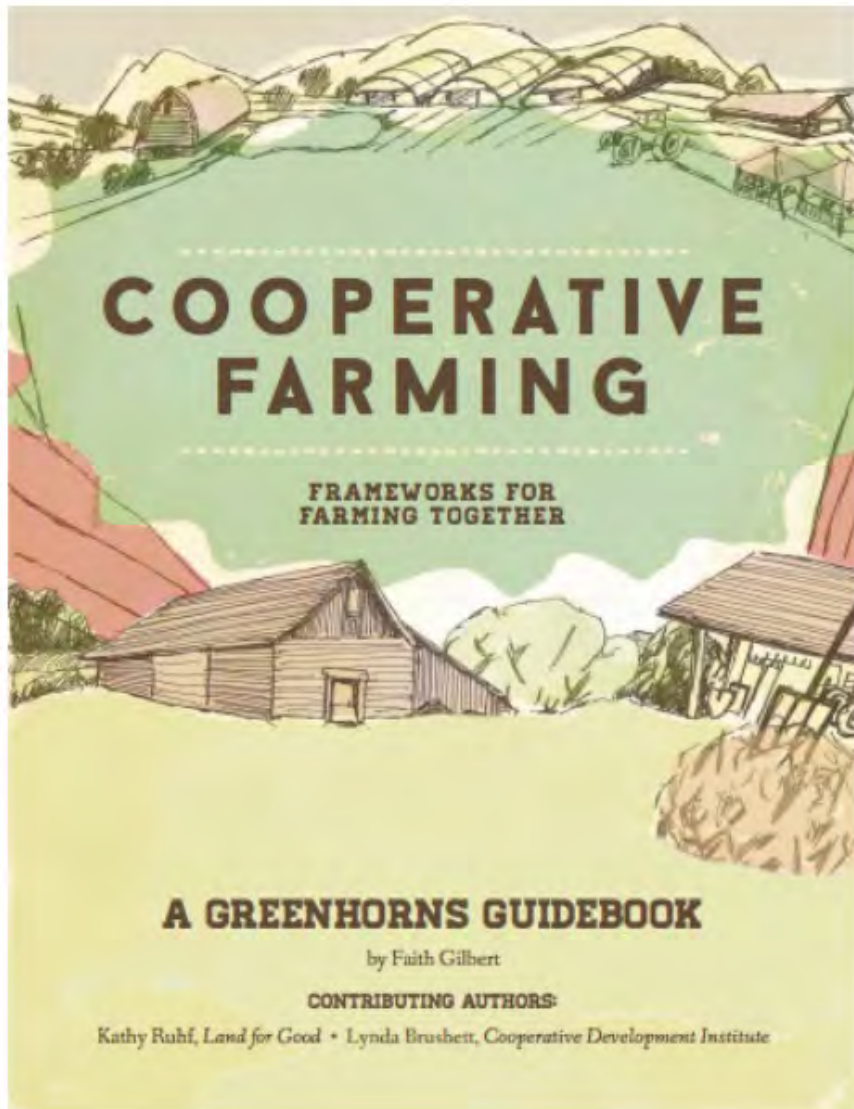
Google

Map

Navigation controls including a compass, 3D view toggle, zoom in (+) and zoom out (-) buttons, and a street view pegman icon.

Top navigation icons including a grid icon, a notification bell, and a profile icon with the letter 'F'.

Research business & management topics that were most interesting to us, and produce guides for others to use.

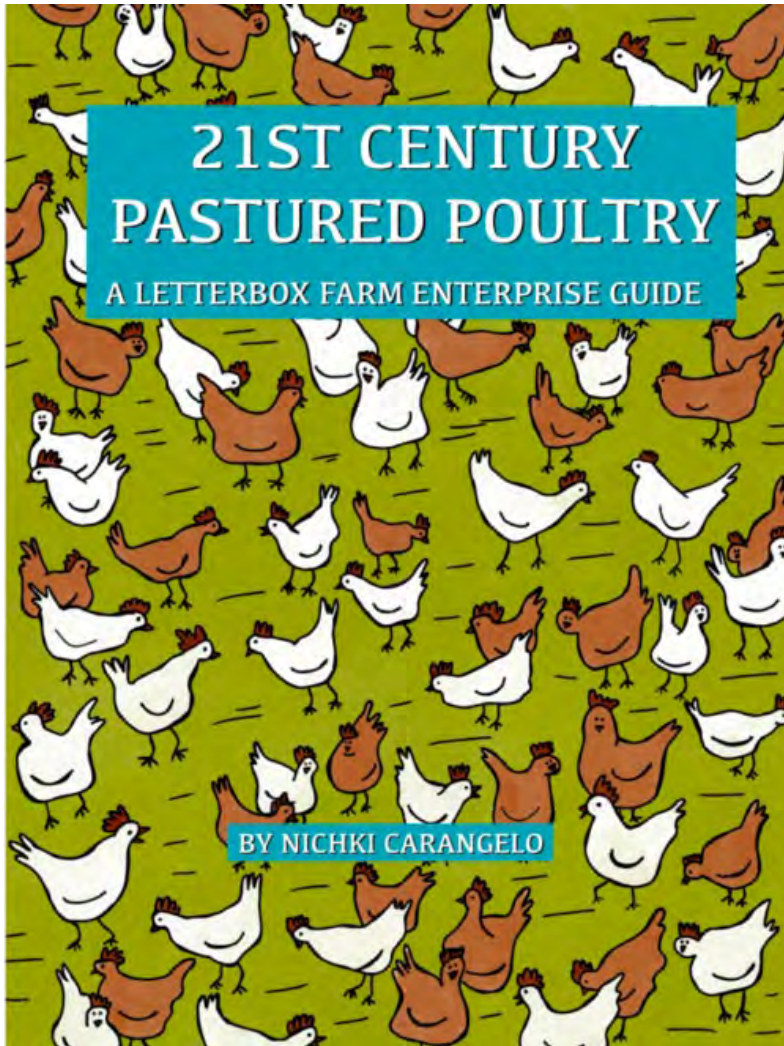


[Helping farmers create group-owned farm businesses](#) (CNE13-105)

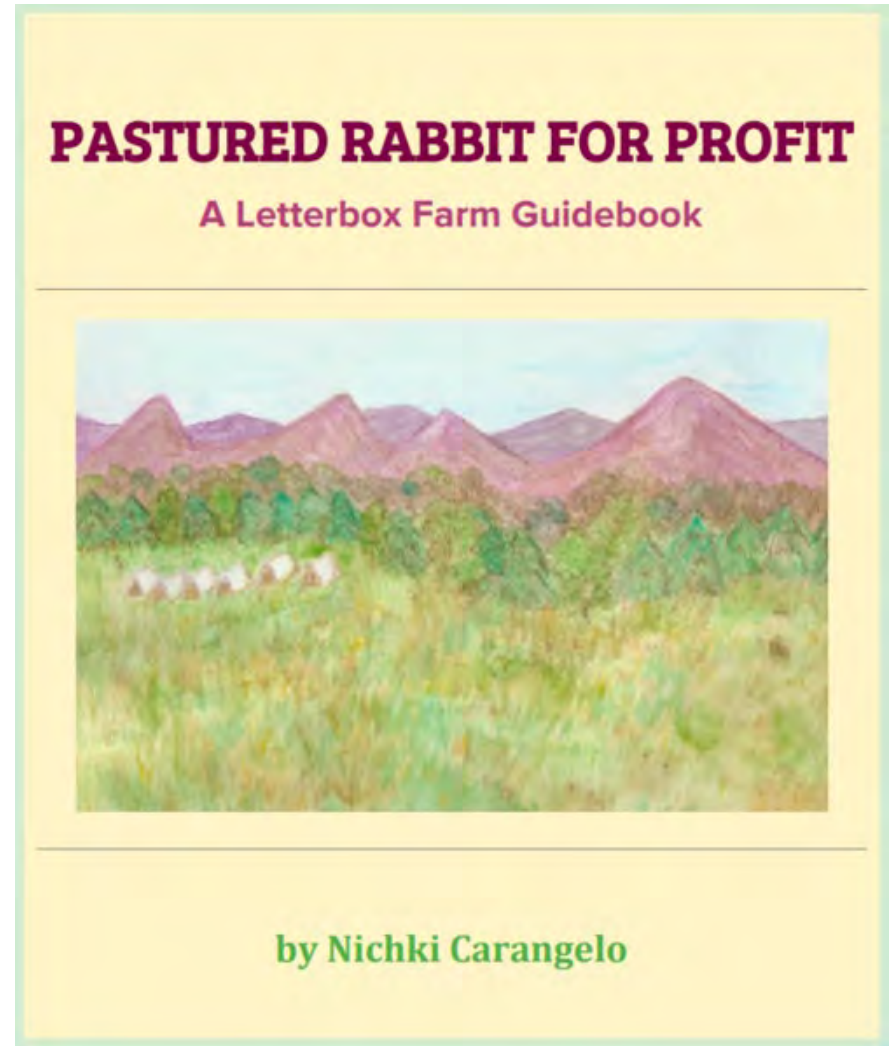


[Understanding equipment sharing: A farmer toolkit](#) (FNE16-844)

Track and document economic viability of different enterprises, on our farms and other farms.



[Twenty-first Century Pastured Poultry](#)
(FNE18-889)



[Pastured Rabbit for Profit](#) (FNE15-822)



...And to pilot services that we wanted to have available in our farm community.

[Increasing Hudson Valley Farm Viability Through Cooperative Bulk Purchasing \(FNE20-953\)](#)

GENERATING IDEAS

- What are the problems I'm experiencing, and how can I solve them for myself and others?
- What tools or information are not available to me, that I wish were available?
- What kind of problem solving am I good at?

WRITING PROPOSALS

- Have your concept ready a month in advance (i.e. October)
- Reach out to a technical advisor first with a sketch of the concept (may take 1-2 weeks to get a commitment)
- Set aside a day to draft a proposal (in a google or word doc)
- Good proposals are detailed, actionable work plans - you should be ready to carry out the project as proposed
- Timeline should line up with your farming duties (i.e., much of the work is scheduled Nov - April)
- Send proposal for feedback to TA, any other trusted advisors you may have
- Clear your calendar the day before proposals are due to edit, final edit & submit before midnight deadline

EXECUTING THE GRANT

- Organize yourself: Create a living document with your work plan, budget, time/mileage tracking, and any other needed information specific to your project
- Make a plan for how to keep track of grant-related receipts
- Spreadsheet example

Questions?



Evaluation of Nursery Methods on Plant Development and Grain Yield of Rice
Dawn Hoyt, Ever-Growing Family Farm, Ulster Park, NY (FNE19-933). Photo credit: Dawn Hoyt

How to design your project

- Work with technical advisor.
- Read the Call for Proposals.
- Identify your objectives and project design.
- Identify the costs involved.

Resource: “How to Conduct Research on Your Farm or Ranch” at
northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant.



**Viability of Hogging Down Corn and Peas
as Swine Feedstock**
Ben Coerper, Wild Harmony Farm,
Exeter, RI (FNE19-923)
Photo credit: Ben Coerper

Develop a realistic budget

- Determine what you will need to do the proposed work. The budget should be realistic and complete.
- Provide your best estimate for each of the expenses you expect to encounter; use Excel template.
- All grant expenses must be incurred during the contract period.
- Cap is **\$30,000**.

SARE does fund:

- Personnel
- Materials and supplies
- Travel
- Printing and publications
- Other direct costs
 - Equipment rental
 - Testing and analyses
 - Consultant fees and travel
 - Presenting at conferences

All expenses must be specific to the project.



Development of a New Seaweed Growing System for Nori Production in the Northeast
Sarah Redmond, Springtide Seaweed LLC,
Sullivan, ME (FNE19-940)

SARE does not fund:

- Business or enterprise start-up expenses
- Structures and major renovations
- Purchase of farm equipment normal for your operation
- Operating expenses normally present
- Motorized vehicles
- Cell phones/ cell phone charges
- Food unless part of training/meeting
- Promotional giveaways or gifts
- Purchases made before or after the grant contract period



**Defining honeybee pollen sources in
Appalachia, July through October**
Michael Staddon, Honey Glen, Salem, WV
(FNE17-882)

Tips for Creating Your Budget

- Farm labor necessary to the project can be charged at the going rate in your area for the skills involved.
- Funds may be requested for project collaborators but their roles, time on the project and their expenses must be clearly and fully explained.
- Funds required to start a farm or to expand farm operations are not eligible expenses.
- General farm equipment and general operating expenses are not eligible expenses.

Costs for equipment that can be used outside of the project must be pro-rated based on their useful life and the length of the project.

Example:

Purchase of equipment (or the <i>cost of fabrication</i> of equipment)					
<i>Only project specific research equipment with clear justification of need and full use in the project is allowable. General use equipment is not allowed.</i>					
Microscope for insect identification	Purchased from The Microscope Store. Needed to identify insects. Cost is \$1565 plus \$35 shipping. Useful life of 10 years, $\$1600/10 = \160 per year. For two year project = \$320. Farm will pay balance of \$1280.	prorate d cost	1	\$ 320.00	\$ 320.00
Rental of equipment or land-use charges rental.					
Extra land rental for experimental plots	8 acres for two years, being rented from Captain Frank's Farm	acre	16	100	\$ 1,600.00

Funds are reimbursed after purchase of expense or labor expended.

Tips for Creating Your Budget

- Reviewers will look for higher funding requests to be related to more complex projects such as those that:
 - include multi-farm collaboration;
 - provide intensive education for farmers and service providers;
 - conduct applied research that is replicated over multiple years or locations and includes statistical analysis.
- Simpler, straightforward proposals with modest budgets are still encouraged.

Proposal Questions – Prepare offline

1. Proposal summary (250 words)
2. What resources, experience, skills and capacity do you bring to the project? (300 words)
3. What is the problem or opportunity, why is it important, and what is your proposed solution? (750 words)
4. What efforts have been made by others to solve the problem or take advantage of this opportunity? (750 words)
5. Citation list (750 words)
6. What is/are your project's objective(s)? (200 words)
7. Materials and methods (1200 words)
8. Outreach (250 words)
9. Timeline (500 words)

Proposal Attachments

Required for All Proposals:

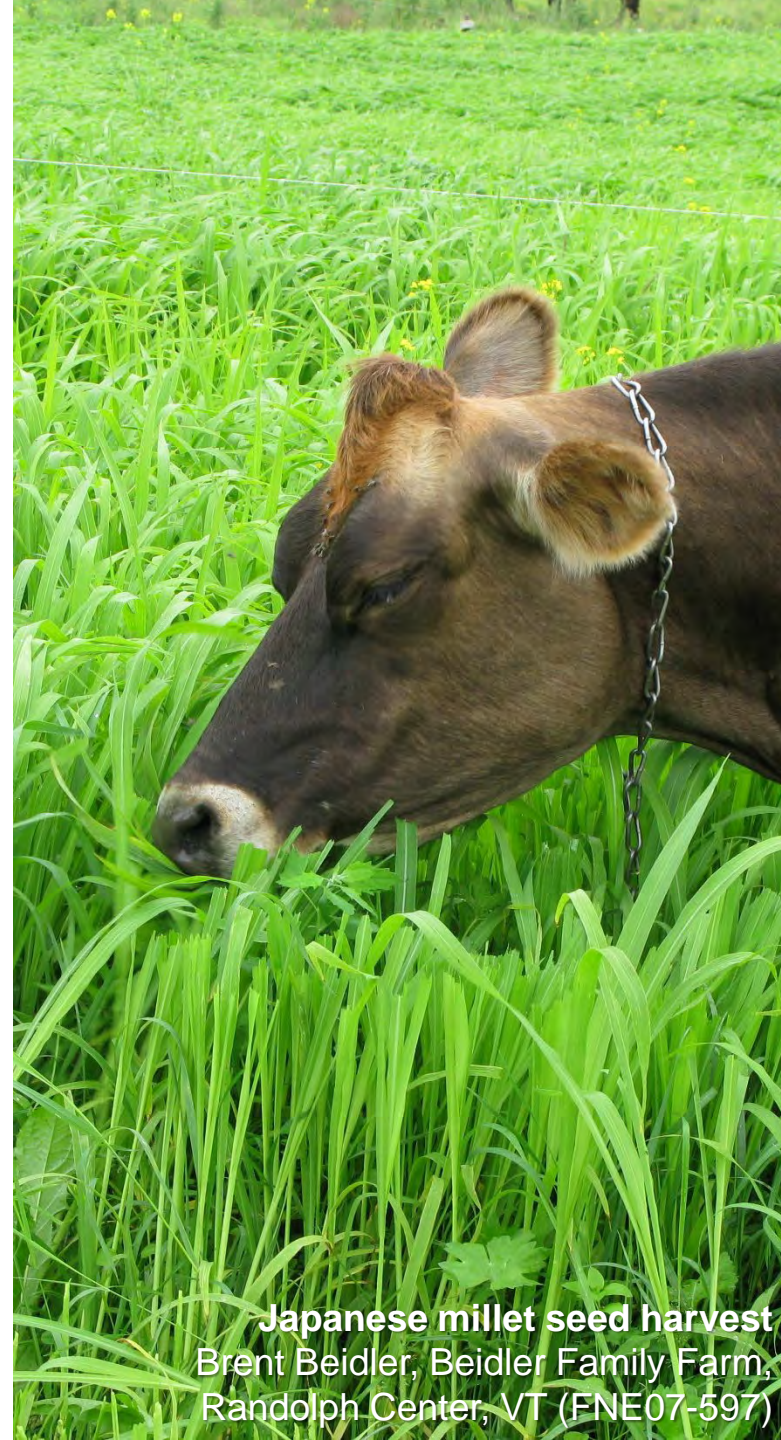
- **Letter of Commitment from Technical Advisor** describing their expertise, role and commitment to the project
- **Budget Justification and Narrative Spreadsheet**

Required for Specific Cases:

- Grant Commitment Form
- Letter(s) of Commitment from Other Collaborators
- Supporting documentation for materials and methods

Human Subjects Research and Livestock Research

If you are gathering data from people or livestock, you will need to describe what types of data and how so that we can be sure that confidentiality/welfare protections are in place (required by USDA NIFA).



Japanese millet seed harvest
Brent Beidler, Beidler Family Farm,
Randolph Center, VT (FNE07-597)

Tips for submitting a strong proposal

- **Consider the match between SARE and you**
- **Start early**
 - Need up to 40 hours?
 - Discuss with technical advisor well in advance.
- **Prepare your proposal offline**
 - Review proposal before entering into on line system.
- **Write with reviewers in mind**
 - Keep your writing clear and straightforward.
- **Develop a realistic budget**
 - Request funds only for allowable expenses.
- **Remember the attachments**

2022 Farmer Grant Timeline

- Proposal Deadline:
November 16, 2021, 5 p.m. ET
Online application only
- Proposals reviewed December 2021 – February 2022
- Awards announced by email in late February 2022
- Contracts issued in March 2022
- Comments sent to non-awarded applicants April 2022



**Design and construction of a low-impact
amphibious vehicle for efficient and
sustainable oyster farming**

Lisa Calvo, Sweet Amalia Oyster Farm,
Newfield, NJ (FNE15-821)

Questions?



Testing the Compost-Heated Greenhouse in an Urban Setting
Jesica Clark, South Pine Street City Farm, Kingston, NY (FNE12-739)

Online submission system

<https://projects.sare.org>

Log in or create an account

[Grants](#) [Project Reports](#) [Learning Center](#) [SARE In Your State](#) [Events](#) [Newsroom](#) [About SARE](#)

SARE Grant Management System

This site is where the results and activities from [SARE](#) funded projects are reported and applications for grants are submitted.

[Search Projects](#) to find information from all [SARE](#) funded projects.

[Log in](#) to submit a grant proposal or a report for a SARE funded grant project.

[Reset your password](#) if you forgot your password.

[Create an account](#) if you would like to submit a grant proposal and do not have an account.

SARE's mission is to advance - to the whole of American agriculture - innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education. [SARE's vision is...](#)

Create account: Fill in form*

Top

Applicant Registration

SARE grants are only available to people and organizations or institutions in the US, it's territories and protectorates.

Email*

Username*

Name prefix

First name*

Last name*

Name Suffix

e.g. DVM or Jr.

Job Title*

Bottom

.....

Demographic Information

The SARE program is committed to an ethic of openness, inclusiveness, and diversity in all of its programs, policies, and procedures. To monitor our performance in these areas, we ask you to provide your demographic information. Demographic information is only displayed or used in aggregate.

Ethnicity*

Race*

Sex*

Year of birth (optional)

Email verification sent

[Grants](#) [Project Reports](#) [Learning Center](#) [SARE In Your State](#) [Events](#) [Newsroom](#) [About SARE](#)

Applicant Registration

SARE grants are only available to people and organizations or institutions in the US, it's territories and protectorates.

Your account has been created. Please check your email for the link to create your password. If you have any questions or problems, please see our [help pages](#) or contact projects@sare.org.

Email message

Your SARE account has been created. You can login with your username chuber or your email address testaccount@gmail.com.


If this was a mistake, just ignore this email and nothing will happen.

To create your password, visit the following address:

<https://projects.sare.org/wp-login.php?action=rp&key=uxHnC84ZhtdgU3gx5QR&login=test>


For technical questions or problems, see: <https://project.sare.org/help> or contact projects@sare.org.
For questions related to applications, contact the appropriate regional staff person.

Set or reset password



Enter your new password below.

New password

Password1! 

Very weak

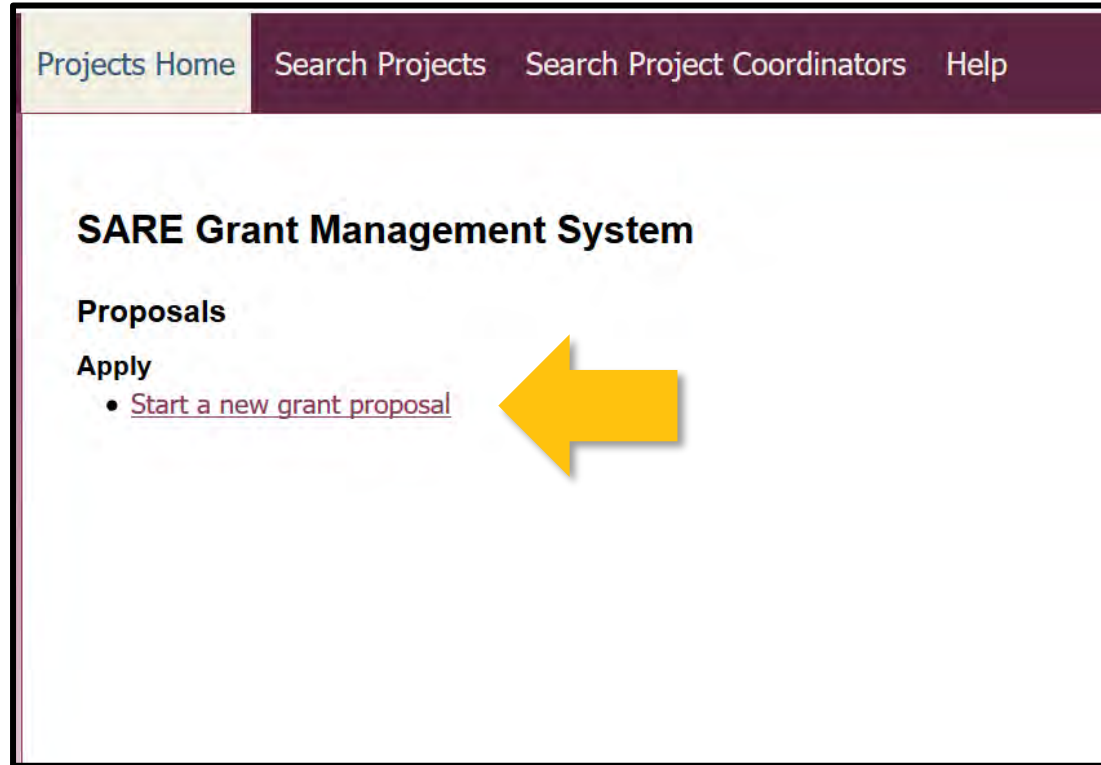
☒ Confirm use of weak password

You can replace the above password with a more memorable password.

The password should be at least eight characters long. To make it stronger, use upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols like ! " ? \$ % ^ &).

[Reset Password](#)

Start a new grant proposal



Select region and grant program

Apply For A Grant

My proposals

+ North Central

IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI

+ Northeast

CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, WV, DC

+ Southern

AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, PR, VI

+ Western

AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY, AS, FM, GU,

- Northeast

CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, WV, DC

2022 Northeast Farmer Grant

[Call for proposals](#)

Closes: November 16th, 2021 at 5:00pm EST

You have [4 existing proposals](#) for this grant

[Begin a new proposal](#)

Start Your Proposal

Manage Grant Applications

« My Proposals

2022 Northeast Farmer Grant

Call for proposals

No Project Title – 454169 *

Edit title

Missing Project Description *

Edit description

Project Leader

Candice Huber

Change

Your new grant application was created

Proposal Questions

Closes:

November 16th, 2021 at
5:00pm EST

* [General Information](#)

* [Verification and
Commitment](#)

* [Proposal Summary and
Applicant Information](#)

* [Introduction](#)

* [Plan of Work](#)

* [Budget](#)

* [Human Subjects
Research](#)

* [Livestock Care](#)

* Proposal missing required answers - these must be completed for submit button to appear

Only Candice Huber can submit this proposal.

Proposal Overview Page

This is the portal to submit proposals to SARE's Northeast Region for **Farmer** grants. If you are not in the Northeast Region, or you would like to submit to a different Northeast SARE grant, please return to "Apply For A Grant" and scroll down to the appropriate Region and grant program.

Before proceeding, it is very important to read through the [application instructions](#) available on the Northeast SARE website.

You must begin your proposal by entering above a **Project Title** (150 character limit) and a brief **Project Description** (300 character limit). Then to proceed, click on the sections headings on the left to enter your proposal. Press "save" after every entry to store your text.

When you complete the required questions in each section, a "✓" appears next to the title of the section. If an "*" is there, it means a required question has not been completed. Your applications can not be submitted until it is considered complete.

When all proposal questions are answered to your satisfaction, click the "**Submit Proposal**" button (visible when all sections are complete) and select "**I understand**" to confirm the submission. You should receive an email confirmation upon submission. Submit by **Tuesday, November 16th, 2021 at 5:00pm ET.**

Prior to the deadline, you may unsubmit to revise the proposal, but if you do so, don't forget to submit it again when you are done, otherwise it will not go forward to review. Each time you submit or unsubmit the proposal, you will receive an email confirmation.

After you submit the proposal, Northeast SARE will use your email address as the primary method of reaching you as to the status of your proposal. Your email will also be added to our e-mailing list of those wishing to be contacted with Northeast SARE grant announcements and the Northeast SARE newsletter. If you wish to be removed from the announcement and newsletter e-mailing list, you will have the option to do so when you receive the first newsletter.

Edit and Save Entries

* Project start date

Choose a start date from the calendar pop-up. Projects should not start before March 1, 2022. Contract start dates will be March 1, 2022 but projects may begin after that date. Note: SARE cannot pay for expenses incurred before the contract start date.

Edit Answer

✓ Project start date

Choose a start date from the calendar pop-up. Projects should not start before March 1, 2022 but projects may begin after that date. Note: SARE cannot pay for expenses incurred before the contract start date.

March 15, 2022

[Clear answer](#)

Cancel

Save

Answer saved

View draft & submit proposal

[View Draft](#)

Closes:

November 16th, 2021 at
5:00pm EST

✓ [General Information](#)

✓ [Verification and
Commitment](#)

✓ [Proposal Summary and
Applicant Information](#)

✓ [Introduction](#)

✓ [Plan of Work](#)

✓ [Budget](#)

✓ [Human Subjects
Research](#)

✓ [Livestock Care](#)

Submit Proposal

Only Candice Huber can
submit this proposal.

2022 Northeast Farmer Grant

Test proposal

If you are satisfied with your proposal, you may submit it now by **clicking the "Submit proposal" button below**

If you unsubmit your proposal for any reason, it must be re-submitted before the proposal close date (November 16, 2021 at 5:00pm EST) to be considered.

Submit proposal

Confirmation email

From: SARE Grant Management System <projects@sare.org>

Your SARE proposal "[Test proposal](#)" was successfully submitted to the "2022 Northeast Farmer Grant" by Candice Huber

You will be notified whether or not your project will be funded when the grants have been awarded.

Award notifications for the 2022 Northeast SARE Farmer grant program will be sent by February 28, 2022.

Northeast SARE

Unsubmit proposal

Projects Home

Proposal Applicant Links

- [Manage my grant proposals](#)

Pending Approval

[Test proposal – 454169](#)
2022 Northeast Farmer Grant

[Research](#)

✓ [Livestock Care](#)

Unsubmit Proposal

Be sure to resubmit before the deadline!

Web Resources

northeastshare.org/FarmerGrant

- Proposal instructions that give URL link to online submission system

Download the Call



- Budget Narrative & Justification Template

Download Spreadsheet



- Grant Commitment Form

Download Form



Web Resources

northeastsare.org/FarmerGrant

GRANT PROGRAM RESOURCES

Northeast SARE's Definition of a Farm ▶

Tips for Writing a Strong Proposal ▶

Technical Advisor Guide ▶

How to Conduct Research on Your Farm or Ranch ▶

Conducting Online Outreach for Northeast SARE Farmer Grants ▶

Questions?

Candice Huber

Grant Program Coordinator Farmer
and Partnership Projects

802/651-8335 ext. 556

Candice.Huber@uvm.edu



For more information, visit:
www.northeastsare.org