

2023 NCR-SARE Research & Education Projects Recommended for Funding

Project #	Focus	Title	PI Name	Primary Grantee	Primary State	Amount Funded	Cumulative	Brief Description	Systems Category	Commodity Category
LNC23-477	R	Exploring innovations in climate resilient organic vegetable production systems through collaborative research and knowledge building	Rue Genger	University of Wisconsin-Madison	WI	\$248,864	\$ 248,864	Climate resilience of organic vegetable production systems using reduced tillage methods will be evaluated for production metrics and soil health indicators through collaboratively designed research and on-farm studies.	Crop Production	Vegetables
LNC23-478	E/O	Demonstration of a new method to eliminate bovine leukemia virus from your dairy herd by targeting culling of the most infectious cattle	Tasia Kendrick	Michigan State University	MI	\$249,999	\$ 498,863	A demonstration project on ~10 Organic Valley member farms will reduce their prevalence of bovine leukemia virus by selectively removing only those cows with the highest BLV proviral load.	Animal Production	Animals
LNC23-479	E/O	Ethnobotany Education Project	Marla Bull Bear	Lakota Youth Development	SD	\$ 66,442	\$ 565,305	Pilot project to develop an ethnobotany curriculum specific to a four-state area of the North Central Region and organize a three-day ethnobotany immersion-based education workshop to connect farmers with Indigenous elders who have generational knowledge of sustainable/regenerative agriculture.	Education & Training	Other plants (herbs, natives, etc.)
LNC23-480	E/O	Midwest Small Ruminant Educational Program Initiative (Midwest-SREPI)	Homero Salinas Gonzalez	Lincoln University	MO	\$249,285	\$ 814,590	This Midwest Educational Initiative (Midwest-SREPI) will provide farmers with the education and training tools in sustainable pasture and animal management innovation through webinars and face-to-face trainings (English & Spanish) with the collaboration of other small ruminant producer associations.	Animal Production	Animals
LNC23-481	E/O	Exploring Underutilized Weed Management Methods on Indiana Small Farms Through On-Farm Research, Community Learning, and Farmer-to-Farmer Education	Stephen Meyers	Purdue University	IN	\$249,669	\$ 1,064,259	Small farm operators will evaluate on-farm weed management strategies that reduce plastic mulch, tillage, and herbicide use and share findings with the small farm community.	Pest Management	Vegetables
LNC23-482	R	Advancing sustainable agriculture through insect farming	Sarah Adcock	University of Wisconsin-Madison	WI	\$250,000	\$ 1,314,259	This project aims to develop a research and extension program for Black Soldier Fly production to facilitate this insect's use as a novel feed ingredient and waste bioconversion tool in the North Central region.	Animal Production	Animals

LNC23-483	R	Meeting needs at the margins: Building networks to support "missed" land stewards	Andrea Basche	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	NE	\$249,284	\$ 1,563,543	We build upon preliminary research in eastern Nebraska and Michigan's Upper Peninsula to create and study social networks among those often left-out of mainstream agricultural outreach—women who are landowners and small-scale farmers—to study interventions for long-term sustained on-farm actions.	Sustainable Communities	Not Commodity Specific
LNC23-484	R	How much water can be saved, or cash crop yield can be gained by continuous use of cover crops in West Central Nebraska cropping systems?	Nicolas Cafaro La Menza	University of Nebraska-West Central Research Extension and Education Center	NE	\$249,828	\$ 1,813,371	This project aims to investigate the effect of continuous cover crop on water use in West Central Nebraska dryland and irrigated cropping systems by establishing mid to long-term areas with continuous cover crop, using different levels of irrigation, and tracking soil water.	Crop Production	Agronomic
LNC23-485	R	Assessing and Improving Lakota Land-User Social-Ecological Interactions and Impacts on Sustainability	Francisco Munoz-Arriola	University of Nebraska-Lincoln, School of Natural Resources	SD	\$249,768	\$ 2,063,139	We will assess and improve Lakota land-user social-ecological interactions and identify their priorities for and impacts on sustainability in Northern Great Plains rangelands.	Sustainable Communities	Not Commodity Specific
LNC23-486	R	Development of species-specific yeast RNAi attractive targeted sugar baits for spotted wing Drosophila control	Molly Duman Scheel	The Trustees of Indiana University	IN	\$249,928	\$ 2,313,067	A new class of species-specific yeast pesticides will be deployed in an attractive targeted sugar bait (ATSB) to lure and kill spotted wing Drosophila (SWD).	Pest Management	Fruits
LNC23-487	R	A Sustainable, Non-Chemical Thinning Method for US Midwestern Apple Producers: Novel Use of Anti-Hail, Insect-Exclusion Netting	Todd Einhorn	Michigan State University	MI	\$247,265	\$ 2,560,332	Timely application of over-the-row netting will exclude pollinators from setting excess fruit, substantially reduce chemical use, and protect trees from biotic and abiotic stress.	Crop Production	Fruits
LNC23-488	R	Sustainable root-zone management for organic vegetable production in containers	Uttara Samarakoon	The Ohio State University	OH	\$249,953	\$ 2,810,285	The project will identify soilless substrates that offer optimum root growth and development with the use of liquid organic fertilizers in containerized production. Outcomes will enable farmers in protected culture to source materials based on local availability and sustainability.	Crop Production	Vegetables
LNC23-489	R	Enhancing sustainable pollination on urban farms using native plant conservation strips and outreach	Zsafia Szendrei	Michigan State University	MI	\$250,000	\$ 3,060,285	Our project will evaluate bee communities and farmer perceptions of pollinator management in cucurbits and implement conservation strategies and outreach based on farmer feedback. This study will yield findings to enhance economical, environmental and social sustainability in urban farming.	Crop Production	Vegetables

LNC23-490	R	Improving sustainability of solanaceous crop farming through increased effectiveness of biocontrol methods against Fusarium diseases	Peng Tian	The University of Missouri	MO	\$248,459	\$ 3,308,744	This project will identify local pathogenic Fusarium spp., develop biocontrol methods to reduce yield loss, and extend results to farmers	Pest Management	Vegetables
LNC23-491	E/O	Organic Agroforestry Knowledge Diffusion: Documenting and sharing best practices on demonstration farms through on-farm education and training	Keefe Keeley	Savanna Institute	WI	\$163,750	\$ 3,472,494	We are building and delivering farmer-led educational content based on demonstration farms in Wisconsin. We will share knowledge about organic management of agroforestry systems and apprentices will be trained to support other farmers looking to adopt agroforestry.	Education & Training	Not Commodity Specific
LNC23-492	E/O	Grazing Technologies to Enhance Integrated Crop Livestock Systems in the Northern Great Plains	Miranda Meehan	North Dakota State University	ND	\$248,102	\$ 3,720,596	Grazing practices and technologies have the potential to improve grazing efficiency and soil health within integrated crop livestock systems (ICLS). The objectives of this study are to evaluate strip grazing and grazing technologies on soil health, animal performance and behavior, and economics.	Production Systems	Animals
LNC23-493	R	Evaluating sustainability of dairy production systems in South Dakota: Relationship between milk carbon footprint and farm profitability	Maristela Rovai	South Dakota State University	SD	\$249,824	\$ 3,970,420	Dairy production systems, Sustainability, North Central Region, South Dakota, Economic performances, Farm profitability, Enteric methane, Greenhouse gas, Mitigation strategy, Viable strategy, Climate change, Life cycle assessment, Holistic approach	Production Systems	Animals
LNC23-494	R	Exploring the efficacy of prairie strips as a soil health promoting practice	Christine Sprunger	Michigan State University	MI	\$119,055	\$ 4,089,475	This study proposes to assess the impact that prairie strips have on soil health, while optimizing economic profitability within row-crop agriculture.	Soil Management	Agronomic