

Alternative Pollinators

Honey bee losses compounded with rising rental rates for pollination are a concern for many producers. Not only are growers looking for alternative pollinators to improve crop security, but they also want to learn how to manage on-farm habitats for native bees and other pollinators. NCR-SARE has supported researchers, educators, and producers who are researching, rearing, and managing species that provide pollination alternatives to the declining honey bee.

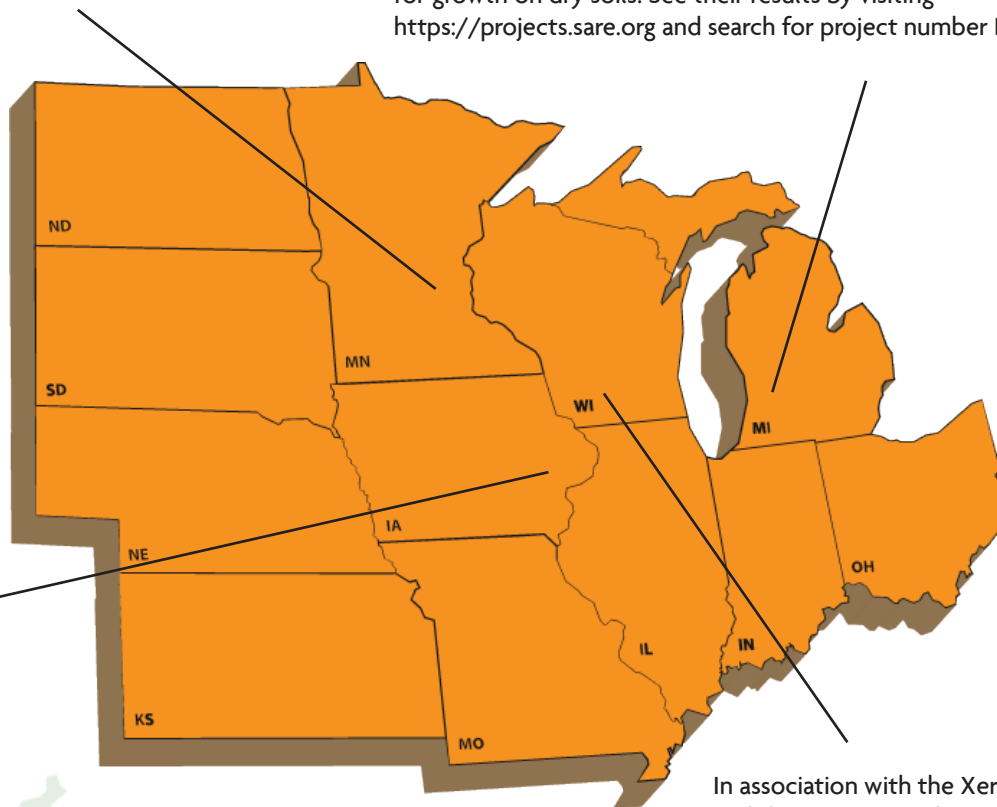
NCR-SARE Project

To view SARE's entire alternative pollinator portfolio, or just the North Central region's, visit <https://projects.sare.org>. For selected NCR alternative pollinator grants, see the reverse side.

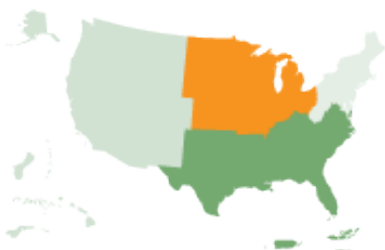
A graduate student demonstrated the value of cavity-nesting bees for urban crop pollination, and examined how to manage urban habitats to support productive bee communities. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number GNC16-233.

Most beneficial insects (predators, parasitoids, and pollinators) require regular access to pollen and nectar to enhance longevity, reproduction, and fuel their pest control and pollination activities. Researchers at Michigan State University worked with native plant producers to select and screen 60 species of flowering plants adapted for growth on dry soils. See their results by visiting <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number LNC14-361.

At Scattergood Friends School, an acre of land was converted to perennial prairie with the goal of supporting pollinators and butterflies. Students helped identify the appropriate native seed mix and planted seeds. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number YENC15-092.



In association with the Xerces Society and the University of Minnesota, Eric Mader hosted “Pollinator Conservation Planning” courses. The short courses educated agricultural professionals all over the Midwest on pollinator biology, conservation practices, and more. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number ENC09-III.



SARE's four regional programs and outreach office work to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in ground-breaking research and education.

NCR-SARE's Alternative Pollinator Portfolio

Selected Grants

FARMER AND RANCHER GRANTS

Bees, Pleez! Adding an Educational Component to a Wildflower Field at a Midwest Blueberry Farm
Frank Corrado, Moss Funnel Farms, Michigan, FNC18-1118, \$7,500

Benefitting the Symbiotic Relationship Between Farmers, Ranchers, and Honey Bees through Consumer Education with an Emphasis on Beekeeping and Pollinators
Megan Ryan, Southwest Honey Co., Indiana, FNC16-1054, \$7,500

Creating a Depository of Local Honey Bee Strains From Feral Swarms and Demonstrating a Sustainable Beekeeping Model using Horizontal Hives and Bee Friendly Management
Leo Sharashkin, Goods From the Woods, Missouri, FNC15-1013, \$7,469

Native Youth Plant a Bee Meadow
Joy Persali, Peta Wakan Tipi/Dream of Wild Health, Minnesota, FNC15-1022, \$7,500

Using Wildflower Strips to Enhance Native Pollinators and Other Beneficial Insects that are at Risk Due to Increased Chemical Interventions Designed to Control Spotted Wing Drosophila
Judy Rant, Double R Blueberry Farm, Michigan, FNC14-969, \$7,460

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Native Plant Conservation Strips for Sustainable Pollination and Pest Control in Fruit Crops
Rufas Isaacs, Michigan State University, Michigan, LNC08-297, \$148,837

Insectary Plants to Enhance Beneficial Insects: Expanding the Palette to Increase Options for Sustainable Crop Production in the NC Region
Douglas Landis, Michigan State University, Michigan, LNC14-361, \$199,887

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Conservation Biological Control Short Course
Eric Mader, The Xerces Society, Minnesota, ENC13-140, \$71,710

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Next Generation Bees: Determining the Floral Resources that Support Wild Bee Reproduction and Pollination Services in Urban Agriculture
Mary Gardiner, The Ohio State University, Ohio, GNC16-233, \$11,930

Sustainable Pest Management Approaches for Raspberry Growers
Heather Leach, Michigan State University, Michigan, GNC16-229, \$12,000

Integrating Flowering Windbreaks for Insect Management in Cucumbers
Nicole Quinn, Michigan State University, Michigan, GNC14-194, \$9,989

Effects of Pest Management and Conservation Plantings of Bee Communities in Highbush Blueberry
Emily May, Michigan State University, Michigan, GNC13-177, \$9,962

YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS

Pondering Pollinators
Michael Tosto, Allen Neighborhood Center, Michigan, YENC17-118, \$2,000

Pioneer Pollinators
Jennifer Johnson, Zane Trace HS, Ohio, YENC17-115, \$969

Erosions Control and Pollinator Habitat Through Perennial Plantings on Scattergood Friends Farm School
Mike Severing, Scattergood Friends School, Iowa, YENC15-092, \$1,991

Youth Beekeeping & Entrepreneurship Building a National Model
Jennica Skoug, Wisconsin, YENC14-079, \$2,000

Updated 2019

For information on more SARE-funded alternative pollinator grants, search the SARE projects database: <https://projects.sare.org>.



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