Wine and Grape Production

From organic grape production to the integration of sheep grazing in vineyards, NCR-SARE-funded research is helping vintners and farmers across the region use sustainable practices to battle pests, tap into lucrative markets, and increase yields. NCR-SARE grants have supported producers who grow grapes and produce wine in ways that boost profits, protect the land, and strengthen communities.

NCR-SARE Project Sampler

To view SARE’s entire wine and grape production portfolio, or just the North Central region’s, visit https://projects.sare.org. For selected NCR-SARE wine and grape grants, see the reverse side.

In North Dakota, a producer studied possible ways to create a wild grape vineyard for commercial production. The project experimented with various trellising systems and pruning methods for wild grape cultivation. See https://projects.sare.org and search for project number FNC13-913.

Stephen Lunak used sensors, small drones, and infrared photography to monitor plant health and overall environmental conditions at Flying L Ranch Vineyard. See https://projects.sare.org and search for project number FNC14-960.

A producer experimented with various sized handheld screens to separate grape seeds from skins. They wanted to see what screens would be the most beneficial for their vineyard. See https://projects.sare.org and search for project number FNC12-859.

In South Dakota, Three Heart Farm investigated how to improve the quality of their grape harvest through vine netting. The goal was to determine the best technique for converting grape juice. See https://projects.sare.org and search for project number FNC12-862.

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 Wine and Grape Portfolio  
Selected Grants

Farmer and Rancher Grants

Examining Water and Nutrient Dynamics of a Cover Crop in an Upper Great Plains Vineyard
Chris Graham, Piedmont Valley Vineyard, South Dakota, FNC14-947, $7,467

Open Source Solutions for Vineyard Health Management
Stephen Lunak, Flying L Ranch Vineyard, Minnesota, FNC14-960, $7,500

Kesselring-Kindred ND Native Wild Grape Vineyard: Establishing Wild Grapes in a Vineyard Setting
Jason Kesselring, Kesselring Vineyards, North Dakota, FNC13-913, $7,500

Reducing Cold-Climate Grape Establishments Costs Through the Development of a Grape Propagation System
Matthew Skaletski, Holy Grail Vineyard, Wisconsin, FNC13-932, $7,500

Economic Comparison of Mechanical and Hand Pruning of Northern Cold Climate Grape Hybrids in Small Wisconsin Vineyards
David Danzinger, Danzinger Vineyards, Wisconsin, FNC12-854, $21,968

Evaluating Value Added Grape Seed Oil Research Project for Sustainable Viticulture
Douglas Grave, Victorian Vineyards, Iowa, FNC12-859, $22,337

Proof of Concept and Prototype Development of a Novel Grape Washer Apparatus for the Small Family Farm Vineyard and Winery
Stephen Pearce, Ohio River Vista Vineyard, Ohio, FNC12-884, $7,500

Growing, Processing and Selling Organic Grape Vinegar and Verjus
Steven Hauff, Three Heart Farm, South Dakota, FNC12-862, $7,391

Economic Feasibility of using Wood Chip Mulching to address the Combined Vineyard Issues of 1) Low Organic Matter, 2) Weed Control, and 3) Irrigation Costs
Jo Ann Kuhlmann, Kansas, FNC10-829, $5,880

Proof of Concept and Prototype Development of a Novel Grape Washer Apparatus for the Small Family Farm Vineyard and Winery
Stephen Pearce, Ohio River Vista Vineyard, Ohio, FNC12-884, $7,500

Professional Development Grants

Technology Transfer for the Burgeoning Midwest Grape Industry
Paul Read, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, ENC08-103, $68,828

Graduate Student Grants

Disease Susceptibility in Cold-Climate Grape Cultivars of the North Central Region
Patricia McManus, University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin, GNC15-210, $9,836

For information on more SARE-funded wine and grape projects search the SARE projects database: https://projects.sare.org.

This product was developed with support from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture — National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed within do not necessarily reflect the view of the SARE program or the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.