What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded over $310 million to more than 7,433 initiatives.

SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

Louisiana

Project Highlight: Summer Cover Crops Can Boost Fall Sales

Using summer cover crops to improve soil health on farms in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama has the potential to boost production of organic vegetable crops grown for local sale. Enhanced production would help meet the large increase in demand for local produce, especially in direct markets. In these states, fall through spring is the chief growing time, with summer fields typically left fallow. However, very few studies on the use of cover crops in Gulf Coast states exist. Carl Motzenbocker aimed to fill the gap in knowledge by using a SARE grant to study the influence of summer cover crop systems on fall organic vegetable crops in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Through replicated cover crop studies—some conducted on cooperating farms—Motzenbocker did, in fact, find that several summer cover crops bode well for use in organic vegetable production.

Field days and demonstrations held over the course of the project provided information to more than 150 vegetable growers about the potential of these cover crops. At these events, the project team answered frequent questions about summer crops and vegetables from other interested parties. Importantly, Motzenbocker reported relationships being developed among Alcorn State University, Alabama A&M University, Mississippi State University, and the Louisiana State University Ag Center scientists.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects and search for project number LS10-230.

SARE in Louisiana

southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/louisiana

$1,596,815 in total funding

33 grant projects

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to www.sare.org/state-summaries
SARE Grants in Louisiana

Total awards: 33 grants
- 7 Farmer/Rancher
- 10 Graduate Student
- 1 On Farm Research/Partnership
- 5 Professional Development Program
- 10 Research and Education

Total funding: $1,596,815
- $77,383 Farmer/Rancher
- $113,325 Graduate Student
- $14,308 On Farm Research/Partnership
- $271,966 Professional Development Program
- $1,119,833 Research and Education

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

SARE's Impact

53 percent of producers report using a new production technique after reading a SARE publication.

79 percent of producers said they improved soil quality through their SARE project.

64 percent of producers said their SARE project helped them achieve higher sales.

Learn about local impacts at: southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/louisiana

Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit southern.sare.org/state-pages/louisiana to learn more.

Milagro Berhane
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(225) 771-2753
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Carl Motsenbocker
LSU AgCenter
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cmotsenbocker@agcenter.lsu.edu

SARE is funded by the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

This report includes summaries of competitive grant programs only. Some competitive grant programs that are no longer offered may be included or excluded from the totals in this report depending on the grant program and SARE region.
Louisiana has been awarded $1,616,745 grants to support 34 projects, including but not limited to, 9 research and/or education projects, 5 professional development projects and 7 producer-led projects. Louisiana has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

**RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LS14-266</td>
<td>Breed types and cover crops provide alternatives for sustainable year-round supply of forage-fed beef for small farms in the Gulf Coast region: Research and on-farm demonstrations</td>
<td>$171,988</td>
<td>Dr. Guillermo Scaglia LSU AgCenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS10-230</td>
<td>Improving fall vegetable crops and soils with summer cover crops</td>
<td>$245,000</td>
<td>Dr. Carl Motsenbocker Louisiana State University AgCenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS09-219</td>
<td>Development of agroforest systems for bioenergy crop production and ecosystem services in the lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
<td>Dr. Hal Liechty School of Forest Resources, University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS09-221</td>
<td>Maximizing profitability, sustainability, and carbon sequestration of no-till forage systems for finishing beef cattle in the Gulf Coast region</td>
<td>$136,000</td>
<td>Dr. Guillermo Scaglia LSU AgCenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS05-179</td>
<td>Defining the feasibility and environmental impact of applying poultry litter to forests of the Western Gulf region</td>
<td>$14,520</td>
<td>Michael Blazier Louisiana State University AgCenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS05-180</td>
<td>Expanding the Marketing Opportunities for Minority and Limited Resource Farmers in Louisiana and Mississippi</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Anna Kleiner Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS00-115</td>
<td>Establishing Sustainable Production and Information Exchange Systems for Limited Resource Farmers in Louisiana</td>
<td>$167,525</td>
<td>Andrew W. Smiley BREADA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS99-103</td>
<td>Pastured poultry and vegetable production: An integrated approach</td>
<td>$89,800</td>
<td>James McNitt Southern University and A&amp;M College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS89-016</td>
<td>Development of a Low-Input Multiple Cropping System for Small-Scale Farms</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Owusu Bandele Southern University, Louisiana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ES14-122</td>
<td>Sustainable Row Crop Irrigation Management in Louisiana</td>
<td>$69,167</td>
<td>Dr. Stacia Davis LSU AgCenter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS16-293</td>
<td>Dairy Goat Study: Sericea Lespedeza – A Cost Effective Way to Boost Milk Production</td>
<td>$8,955</td>
<td>Tiffany Lockhart, Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS14-282</td>
<td>Correlating Nitrogen Application Rates in Sugarcane With Low-Cost Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)</td>
<td>$9,198</td>
<td>Gerald McCollam, Ellendale Farms LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS11-251</td>
<td>Quality Calf Project</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Edith Gross, Louisiana Ranchers and Growers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS08-222</td>
<td>Use of Crawfish and Crab Waste as an Organic Fertilizer and Protein Feed</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Shane Carmichael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS00-110</td>
<td>Impact of Louisiana Native Coastal Prairie Habitat on Beneficial Insect Populations</td>
<td>$9,288</td>
<td>Terry Bordelon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS00-107</td>
<td>Use of Winter Cover Crops and Summer Soil Solarization in Sustainable Vegetable Production Systems</td>
<td>$9,981</td>
<td>Owusu Bandele, Food for Thought Farm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS19-200</td>
<td>Biological Control and Re-curing of Sweet Potato Roots as Alternatives for Managing Rhizopus Soft Rot</td>
<td>$16,120</td>
<td>Christopher Clark, Waana Kaluwasha, Louisiana State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS18-194</td>
<td>Investigating the Role of Plant Tolerance as Defense Against Rice Water Weevil in Irrigated Drill-seeded Rice in Louisiana</td>
<td>$16,471</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Stout, Louisiana State University, Department of Entomology, James Villegas, Louisiana State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS16-158</td>
<td>Soil Health of a Warm-Season Perennial Pasture Over-seeded with Cool-Season Annuals</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>Dr. Lisa Fultz, Kathleen Bridges, Louisiana State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS11-103</td>
<td>Effects of High Tunnels on Lettuce, Parsley and Cilantro in the Deep South</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Dr. Carl Motsenbocker, Robert Williams, LSU AgCenter, LSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| GS09-083 | Effect of copper oxide wire particles compared to copper sulphate on *Haemonchus contortus* infection in lambs | $10,000 | Dr. James Miller  
Louisiana State University  
Javier Garza  
Louisiana State University |
| GS09-085 | Evaluation of *Simplicillium lanosoniveum* as a Biological Control Agent | $9,734 | M. C. Aime  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
Dr. Raymond Schneider  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
Nicole Ward  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center |
| GS08-071 | Effect of *sericea lespedeza* leaf meal pellet supplementation on *Haemonchus contortus* infection in grazing ewes | $10,000 | Dr. James Miller  
Louisiana State University  
Dana Pollard  
Louisiana State University |
| GS07-059 | Effect of a grazing *sericea lespedeza* as a treatment padock for controlling natural nematode infection in lambs | $10,000 | Dr. James Miller  
Louisiana State University  
Allyson Moscona  
Louisiana State University |
| GS05-047 | Effect of a condensed tannin containing forage (*sericea lespedeza*), fed as pellets, on natural and experimental challenge nematode infection in lambs | $10,000 | Dr. James Miller  
Louisiana State University  
Leigh Ann Chafton  
Louisiana State University |
| GS02-015 | Evaluation and Characterization of Reaction Products from Ozonated Aflatoxin Contaminated Corn | $10,000 | Joan King  
LSU Agricultural Center  
Alfredo Prudente  
LSU Agricultural Center |

**ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
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<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| OS14-085 | Management Impact on Sustainability of Native Legume Component of Warm-season Grass Pastures | $14,308 | Dr. Montgomery Alison  
LSU AgCenter |

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| CS05-036 | The Farmer as Entrepreneur | $9,950 | Mike Tarantino  
Iberia Industrial Development Foundation |
| CS04-022 | Linking Small-Farm Agriculture to Community Development Efforts in Northern Louisiana | $9,980 | Elizabeth Higgins  
LA Tech University Center for Rural Development |

**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to Louisiana**

**$1,616,745**

For further information on projects, contact Candace Pollock, Southern SARE public relations coordinator, at (770) 412-4786 or cpollock@uga.edu. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).