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 $406 million to more than 8,802 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 Motsenbocker 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—Motsenbocker 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, Motsenbocker 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/state-profiles/louisiana/

$171,782 in total funding

7 grant project

(since 1988)

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

Grants awarded 2019–2024

Total awards: **7 grants**
- 3 Farmer/Rancher
- 1 Research and Education
- 1 On Farm Research/Partnership
- 2 Graduate Student

Total funding: **$171,782**
- $34,785 Farmer/Rancher
- $75,000 Research and Education
- $29,869 On Farm Research/Partnership
- $32,128 Graduate Student

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

Farmer and rancher impacts 2019–2024

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

- **958 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project**
- **11 farmers reported a change in knowledge, awareness, skills or attitude**

Learn about local impacts at: [southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/louisiana/](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-profiles/louisiana/](southern.sare.org/state-profiles/louisiana/) to learn more.

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Carl Motsenbocker  
LSU AgCenter  
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cmotsenbocker@agcenter.lsu.edu

For detailed information on SARE projects, go to [www.SARE.org](www.SARE.org)

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 $1,757,446 grants to support 39 projects, including but not limited to, 10 research and/or education projects, 5 professional development projects and 9 producer-led projects. Louisiana has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LS23-378</td>
<td>Spatio-temporal distribution and management of Drosophila suzukii in Louisiana mayhaw</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>Dr.Jeffrey Davis Louisiana State University Dr.Nupur Sarkar Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Research Center at Beaumont</td>
</tr>
<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 Agricultural Center</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>LS05-180</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>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>Project #</td>
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<td>SARE Support</td>
<td>Project Leaders</td>
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</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 BREAADA</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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ES14-123</td>
<td>Training for Agricultural Professionals on Sustainable Agriculture Programs Available to Limited Resource Farmers and Ranchers</td>
<td>$79,875</td>
<td>Kenneth McMillin Louisiana State University Agricultural Center</td>
</tr>
<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>
<tr>
<td>LST96-009</td>
<td>Management Intensive Grazing: Foundation of Sustainable Agriculture in the South</td>
<td>$33,762</td>
<td>H. Alan DeRamus University of Southwest Louisiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LST96-010</td>
<td>Sustainable Small-Scale Agricultural Development Training Project</td>
<td>$25,701</td>
<td>Adell Brown Southern University</td>
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<tr>
<td>LST94-003</td>
<td>Management Intensive Grazing: Foundation of Sustainable Agriculture in the South (LST96-009)</td>
<td>$63,461</td>
<td>H. Alan DeRamus University of Southwest Louisiana</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS23-351</td>
<td>Use of Sunn Hemp as Weed Suppression and Technique for Reducing Tillage to Allow Marketable Summer Crop Production and No/low Tillage Field Prep</td>
<td>$12,350</td>
<td>Cheryl Nunes River Queen Greens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS21-336</td>
<td>Regenerative Organic Rice Weed Control</td>
<td>$7,474</td>
<td>Brennon Sagrera Conscious Cajun Farms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Dairy Goat Study: Sericea Lespedeza – A Cost Effective Way to Boost Milk Production

Tiffany Lockhart
Farmer

## Correlating Nitrogen Application Rates in Sugarcane With Low-Cost Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)

Gerald McCollam
Ellendale Farms LLC

## Quality Calf Project

Edith Gross
Louisiana Ranchers and Growers Association

## Use of Crawfish and Crab Waste as an Organic Fertilizer and Protein Feed

Shane Carmichael

## Use of Winter Cover Crops and Summer Soil Solarization in Sustainable Vegetable Production Systems

Owusu Bandele
Food for Thought Farm

## Impact of Louisiana Native Coastal Prairie Habitat on Beneficial Insect Populations

Terry Bordelon

### GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS21-240</td>
<td>Evaluating the Impacts of Conservation Stewardship Plantings on Arthropod Communities in Louisiana Agroecosystems</td>
<td>$16,088</td>
<td>Dr. Jeffrey Davis, Louisiana State University, Scott Lee, Louisiana State University</td>
</tr>
<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, LSU AgCenter, Waana Kaluwasha, Lincoln University of Missouri</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, Louisiana State University, 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, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, Robert Williams, LSU</td>
</tr>
</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 Dr. Joan King LSU Agricultural Center
Alfredo Prudente LSU Agricultural Center

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project # Project Title SARE Support Project Leaders
OS23-163 From Field to Cup: Sustainable Soil Fertility Management for Quality Tea Production $29,869 Dr. Yan Chen Louisiana State University

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

Project # Project Title SARE Support Project Leaders
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**

$1,757,446

For further information on projects, contact 770-412-4787 or ssare@uga.edu. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).