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 $389 million to more than 8,519 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, granteeproduced 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/sare-in-your-state/louisiana

$1,757,446 in total funding

40 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: 40 grants
- 11 Research and Education
- 2 Sustainable Community Innovation
- 5 Professional Development Program
- 9 Farmer/Rancher
- 11 Graduate Student
- 2 On Farm Research/Partnership

Total funding: $1,757,446
- $1,194,833 Research and Education
- $19,930 Sustainable Community Innovation
- $271,966 Professional Development Program
- $97,207 Farmer/Rancher
- $129,333 Graduate Student
- $44,177 On Farm Research/Partnership

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.

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milagro_berhane@suagcenter.com

Carl Motsenbocker
LSU AgCenter
(225) 578-1036
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.

For detailed information on SARE projects, go to www.SARE.org
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.

### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| LS23-378  | Spatio-temporal distribution and management of Drosophila suzukii in Louisiana mayhaw | $75,000      | Dr. Jeffrey Davis  
Louisiana State University  
Dr. Nupur Sarkar  
Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center at Beaumont |
| LS14-266  | 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 | $171,988     | Dr. Guillermo Scaglia  
LSU AgCenter |
| LS10-230  | Improving fall vegetable crops and soils with summer cover crops               | $245,000     | Dr. Carl Motsenbocker  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center |
| LS09-219  | Development of agroforest systems for bioenergy crop production and ecosystem services in the lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley | $180,000     | Dr. Hal Liechty  
School of Forest Resources, University of Arkansas |
| LS09-221  | Maximizing profitability, sustainability, and carbon sequestration of no-till forage systems for finishing beef cattle in the Gulf Coast region | $136,000     | Dr. Guillermo Scaglia  
LSU AgCenter |
| LS05-180  | Expanding the Marketing Opportunities for Minority and Limited Resource Farmers in Louisiana and Mississippi | $15,000      | Anna Kleiner  
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice |
| LS05-179  | Defining the feasibility and environmental impact of applying poultry litter to forests of the Western Gulf region | $14,520      | Michael Blazier  
Louisiana State University AgCenter |
| LS00-115  | Establishing Sustainable Production and Information Exchange Systems for Limited Resource Farmers in Louisiana | $167,525     | Andrew W. Smiley  
BREADA |
| LS99-103  | Pastured poultry and vegetable production: An integrated approach               | $89,800      | James McNitt  
Southern University and A&M College |
| LS89-016  | Development of a Low-Input Multiple Cropping System for Small-Scale Farms     | $100,000     | Owusu Bandele  
Southern University, Louisiana |

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
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**FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
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<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</td>
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<td>River Queen Greens</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS21-336</td>
<td>Regenerative Organic Rice Weed Control</td>
<td>$7,474</td>
<td>Brennon Sagrera</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Conscious Cajun Farms</td>
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<td>Parker Farms Partnership</td>
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<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</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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<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</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ellendale Farms LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS11-251</td>
<td>Quality Calf Project</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Edith Gross</td>
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<td>Louisiana Ranchers and Growers Association</td>
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<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>
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<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</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Food for Thought Farm</td>
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<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>
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</table>

**GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**

<table>
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<th>Project #</th>
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<th>Project Leaders</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS21-240</td>
<td>Evaluating the Impacts of Conservation Stewardship Plantings on Arthropod Communities in Louisiana Agroecosystems</td>
<td>$16,008</td>
<td>Dr.Jeffrey Davis</td>
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<td>Louisiana State University</td>
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<td>Scott Lee</td>
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<td>Louisiana State University</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
GS19-200  Biological Control and Re-curing of Sweet Potato Roots as Alternatives for Managing Rhizopus Soft Rot  $16,120  Christopher Clark  LSU AgCenter  Waana Kaluwasha  Louisiana State University

GS18-194  Investigating the Role of Plant Tolerance as Defense Against Rice Water Weevil in Irrigated Drill-seeded Rice in Louisiana  $16,471  Dr. Michael Stout  Louisiana State University, Department of Entomology  James Villegas  Louisiana State University

GS16-158  Soil Health of a Warm-Season Perennial Pasture Over-seeded with Cool-Season Annuals  $11,000  Dr. Lisa Fultz  Louisiana State University  Kathleen Bridges  Louisiana State University

GS11-103  Effects of High Tunnels on Lettuce, Parsley and Cilantro in the Deep South  $10,000  Dr. Carl Motzenbocker  Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  Robert Williams  LSU

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

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
## Linking Small-Farm Agriculture to Community Development Efforts in Northern Louisiana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project ID</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CS04-022</td>
<td>Linking Small-Farm Agriculture to Community Development Efforts in Northern Louisiana</td>
<td>$9,980</td>
<td>Elizabeth Higgins</td>
<td>LA Tech University Center for Rural Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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).