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 $332 million to more than 7,748 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](http://sare.org/projects) and search for project number LS10-230.

SARE in Louisiana

[southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/louisiana](http://southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/louisiana)

$1,640,227 in total funding

37 grant projects

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to [www.sare.org/state-summaries](http://www.sare.org/state-summaries)
SARE Grants in Louisiana

Total awards: 37 grants

- 10 Research and Education
- 2 Sustainable Community Innovation
- 5 Professional Development Program
- 8 Farmer/Rancher
- 11 Graduate Student
- 1 On Farm Research/Partnership

Total funding: $1,640,227

- $1,119,833 Research and Education
- $19,930 Sustainable Community Innovation
- $271,966 Professional Development Program
- $84,857 Farmer/Rancher
- $129,333 Graduate Student
- $14,308 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.

Milagro Berhane
Southern University
(225) 771-2753
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 $1,640,227 grants to support 36 projects, including but not limited to, 9 research and/or education projects, 5 professional development projects and 8 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>LS09-221</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>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>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>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>LS09-103</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>
<th>Project #</th>
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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>
<tr>
<td>Project #</td>
<td>Project Title</td>
<td>SARE Support</td>
<td>Project Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<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>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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS**

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS21-336</td>
<td>Regenerative Organic Rice Weed Control</td>
<td>$7,474</td>
<td>Brennon Sagrera Conscious Cajun Farms</td>
</tr>
<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>FS00-107</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>
<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>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS21-240</td>
<td>Evaluating the Impacts of Conservation Stewardship Plantings on Arthropod Communities in Louisiana Agroecosystems</td>
<td>$16,008</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 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>
</tbody>
</table>
Soil Health of a Warm-Season Perennial Pasture Over-seeded with Cool-Season Annuals

GS16-158

$11,000

Dr. Lisa Fultz
Louisiana State University
Kathleen Bridges
Louisiana State University

Effects of High Tunnels on Lettuce, Parsley and Cilantro in the Deep South

GS11-103

$10,000

Dr. Carl Motsenbocker
Louisiana State University AgCenter
Robert Williams
LSU

Effect of copper oxide wire particles compared to copper sulphate on Haemonchus contortus infection in lambs

GS09-083

$10,000

Dr. James Miller
Louisiana State University
Javier Garza
Louisiana State University

Evaluation of Simplicillium lanosoniveum as a Biological Control Agent

GS09-085

$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

Effect of sericea lespedeza leaf meal pellet supplementation on Haemonchus contortus infection in grazing ewes

GS08-071

$10,000

Dr. James Miller
Louisiana State University
Dana Pollard
Louisiana State University

Effect of a grazing sericea lespedeza as a treatment padock for controlling natural nematode infection in lambs

GS07-059

$10,000

Dr. James Miller
Louisiana State University
Allyson Moscona
Louisiana State University

Effect of a condensed tannin containing forage (sericea lespedeza), fed as pellets, on natural and experimental challenge nematode infection in lambs

GS05-047

$10,000

Dr. James Miller
Louisiana State University
Leigh Ann Chafton
Louisiana State University

Evaluation and Characterization of Reaction Products from Ozonated Aflatoxin Contaminated Corn

GS02-015

$10,000

Joan King
LSU Agricultural Center
Alfredo Prudente
LSU Agricultural Center

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project #

OS14-085

Management Impact on Sustainability of Native Legume Component of Warm-season Grass Pastures

SARE Support

$14,308

Project Leaders

Dr. Montgomery Alison
LSU AgCenter

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS

Project #

CS05-036

The Farmer as Entrepreneur

SARE Support

$9,950

Project Leaders

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

$1,640,227

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).