

2017 NCR-SARE Professional Development Proposals Recommended for Funding

Project Number	Project Title	First Name	Last Name	Primary Grantee	State	\$\$ Request	Cumulative	Systems Area	Commodity Area	Description
ENC17-157	Promoting grazing as a sustainable farming method to agency staff in Wisconsin	Jill	Hapner	GrassWorks, Inc.	WI	\$ 74,610	\$ 74,610	Animal Production	Beef	GrassWorks will work at statewide and local levels with grazing coordinators and farmers to educate agency staff on effective ways to promote grazing to other farmers and develop county programs to continue that education. This project will work with partnerships established through previous efforts to teach and promote grazing to farmers and county committees as a sustainable farming method and is the next step following our established soil health education programming and pasture walk toolkit.
ENC17-158	SFA Networking for Soil Health	Theresa	Keaveny	Sustainable Farming Association	MN	\$ 75,000	\$ 149,610	Crop Production	Beef	The Sustainable Farming Association's Networking for Soil Health Project creates a trained group of key agricultural support professionals who are equipped to help farmers learn more about sustainable agriculture, cover crops, and Soil Health Principles.
ENC17-159	Midwest Cover Crops Council – Cover Crop Decision Tool	Eileen	Kladivko	Purdue University	IN	\$ 74,680	\$ 224,290	Crop Production	Grain Crops	Cover crops can provide many soil health and environmental benefits, and lack of information is one of the most important limitations to cover crop use. The professional development through building consensus recommendations for cover crop practices and extending these recommendations to state-wide educators will provide individualized cover crop strategies for farmers across the Midwest.
ENC17-160	Training an Influential Network of Farming, Beekeeping and Extension Experts to Promote Bee Health	Rebecca	Masterman	University of Minnesota Bee Squad	MN	\$ 75,000	\$ 299,290	Animal Production	Hay and Forage Crops	The University of Minnesota Bee Squad and Hutchison Integrated Pest Management Lab propose to train beekeepers, farmers, and Extension Educators to promote bee health. Professional development programming will encourage these influential groups to learn from each other as well as inform best practices for implementation of pollinator habitat and integrated pest management through a participatory Plant Seeds to Help Bees Field Day Summit. Professional development programming will also include a webinar series and online curriculum.
ENC17-161	Training extension educators and local food professionals on sustainable vegetable pest management tools and techniques	Ajay	Nair	Iowa State University	IA	\$ 74,994	\$ 374,284	Crop Production	Vegetable Crops	This project will train and educate county horticulturists, extension educators, local food professionals, regional food systems working group members, industry and community leaders, and graduate student (potential food systems leader) on integrated pest management (IPM) tools and techniques in vegetable production. The project will achieve its goals by organizing hands-on workshops, webinars, on-site pest management and diagnostic clinics, a pest management short course, and educational trips to regional vegetable conferences in the north central region.
ENC17-162	Enhancing the Quality of Work-based Beginning Farmer Training Programs Through Trainer Professional Development	Laura	Paine	Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship	WI	\$ 74,107	\$ 448,391	Education and Training	Dairy	For aspiring farmers, work-based training (apprenticeships or internships) is the only means of combining hands-on learning and the unique blend of knowledge, skills, and wisdom that only experienced farmers can provide. This project enhances the learning experience of aspiring and beginning farmers as they participate in Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship and other mentoring relationships by training farmer-trainers and other agricultural professionals on adult learning, coaching and mentoring best practices, and a technical curriculum on dairy farming.

ENC17-163	Sustainable Agronomy	Luther	Smith	American Society of Agronomy	WI	\$ 68,970	\$ 517,361	Crop Production	Grain Crops	A 1.5 day conference by the American Society of Agronomy titled Sustainable Agronomy. Our primary outcome will be to increase the adoption rate of sustainable agronomy practices among farmers in the North Central Region of the US by addressing the question through educational sessions: I think I understand sustainability but what exactly can I do now and recommend to my farmer clients that will help them make their operations more sustainable?
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