

## 2018 NCR-SARE Farmer Rancher Grant Projects Recommended for Funding

Project #	First Name	Last Name	Project Title	Primary Grantee	State	\$\$ Requested	Description
FNC18-1110	Veronica	Baetje	Best Practices for Safe, On-Farm Educational Programming: A Cheesemakers Perspective	Baetje Farms	MO	\$ 22,100	This project will research how to best plan, prepare, deliver and evaluate on-farm educational programming for food processors; deliverables from the project will be a baseline planning tool-kit and educational curriculum map.
FNC18-1111	Richard	Barnes	Improving Worker Welfare and Grower Profitability in Small-scale Strawberry Production	Tanglewood Berry Farm	IN	\$ 22,474	This team project will evaluate the feasibility of using an elevated strawberry crop production system designed for use in the field to increase harvest efficiencies and reduce worker fatigue.
FNC18-1112	Jess	Bernstein	Pasture versus invasives: competing in newly-disturbed soil under a newly-opened canopy transitioning to silvopasture	Yet to be Named Community Farm	WI	\$ 5,350	How well will broadcasting pasture seed prevent invasive plant regrowth when establishing silvopasture in newly disturbed soil under a newly-opened canopy?
FNC18-1113	Melissa	Boersema	A Proof of Concept Experiment Evaluating a Greensprouting Pre-Planting Treatment to Increase Seed Potato Yields and Develop Sustainable Practices within the Potato Industry	Sklarczyk Seed Farm LLC	MI	\$ 7,500	Seed potato minitubers will be subjected to a "Greensprouting" procedure and planted at a variety of depths in order to establish the factors necessary for maximum yield potential of the potato crop, leading to the creation of effective guidelines for the treatment of minitubers to be distributed throughout the community.
FNC18-1114	Rachelle	Bostwick	Assessing profitability of annual grains within a diversified organic vegetable system for a direct-to-consumer market	Earthkeeper Farm	MI	\$ 7,486	Earthkeeper Farm will be completing a financial viability assessment of six grain crops by evaluating (1.) Crop growth, (2.) Processing requirements, and (3.) Marketability and price.
FNC18-1115	Liz	Brownlee	Planning for a Farmer-to-Farmer Butcher Shop	Nightfall Farm	IN	\$ 15,000	We will plan a farmer-to-farmer butcher shop to meet our needs as direct-market farmers, and share resources with other farmers hoping to meet their own butchering needs.
FNC18-1116	Karen	Carlisle	Increasing yields, plant vigor and soil health with the use of woodchips	Cicero Farm Market	IN	\$ 7,493	Through soil analysis, the differences in soil that is covered with decomposing wood chips and soil that is left uncovered will be recorded and productivity will be recorded in sweet corn, potatoes and green beans through the longevity of the plants and produce weight
FNC18-1117	Timothy	Carter	Pasture-Crop Tests without Chemical Termination	Honey Creek Farm	IN	\$ 3,300	Use intense grazing to stunt growth of forage before planting and before emergence. Without terminating the underlying forage, allow corn to compete until canopy at v7 creates dormancy. Measure the yield loss offset against the value of increased forage, reduced chemical use, and elimination of annual cover crop replanting.
FNC18-1118	Frank	Corrado	Bees, Please! - Adding an educational component to a wildflower field at a Midwest blueberry farm	Moss Funnel Farms	MI	\$ 7,500	We propose to develop and build a pollinator trail in a wildflower field at a blueberry farm to educate local residents and seasonal visitors to SW Michigan in an entertaining way about the beneficial impacts of pollinators on small fruit (specifically blueberries).

FNC18-1119	Jordan	DeVries	Practical exclusion netting for reducing disease vectors in high density apple systems	Might Oak Orchards	MI	\$ 22,050	This project will look at the ability of exclusion netting to reduce wind, rain and insect vectors for disease control in high density apples and investigate the technical barriers to netting implementation.
FNC18-1120	Brevan	DeWeese	Creating a Micro Farm: Using Everything, Wasting Nothing, and Inspiring Young People to Do the Same	Country Boy Farm & Garden	IN	\$ 6,499	This project will encourage young people to get involved in agriculture by demonstrating how a small scale farm can be sustainable, profitable, and economical on less than an acre of land.
FNC18-1121	Jeff	Endres	Expanding the Understanding and Adoption of Composting Bedded Pack Manure to Reduce Manure Applications on Frozen and Snow Covered Fields around the Yahara Watershed	Endres Berryridge Farms, LLC	WI	\$ 22,500	Yahara Pride Farms will significantly increase outreach and education efforts that positively impact the use of composted bedded pack manure and evaluate the reductions in phosphorus loss and the economic cost and benefits of the practice.
FNC18-1122	Rob	Faux	Establishing the Value of Flower Companions in Cucurbits	Genuine Faux Farm	IA	\$ 7,500	We will measure the improvements of pollinator services for cucurbits provided by intercropped pollinator attracting plants.
FNC18-1123	Erin	Gaugler	Bale Grazing to Build Soil Health	Erin Gaugler	ND	\$ 15,000	The project will serve as a demonstration site for the impacts of bale grazing on soil health and the development of an ecologically sound, profitable, and socially responsible operation.
FNC18-1124	Patricia	Hammond	Rebel Earth Farms' Value-Added, Direct Marketing Lakota Herbal Tea High-tunnel Production	Rebel Earth Farms	SD	\$ 7,500	Project will examine the use of high-tunnel production systems to increase yields in the production of traditional Lakota herbal teas, wild raspberries and strawberries towards the creation of a local, Native American agricultural value-added product for sale both local/regional, national and international markets.
FNC18-1125	Brent	Hood	Backyard Shrimping: An Implementation of Low Carbon Footprint, High-Yield, Tank-based Freshwater Shrimp Cultivation Using Easily Obtainable, Recyclable Materials and Hardware	HCGI Aquaculture	MO	\$ 5,771	We are implementing a renewable shrimp aquaculture model that will provide an all-natural protein source for individual families, that occupies minimal square footage, uses common discarded/recycled materials for habitat construction, features low carbon-footprint solar power for pumping, and ultimately produces a highly marketable crustacean to offset the production cost.
FNC18-1126	Sheri	Howard	Viability of Using Freeze Dried Herbs to Improve the Quality and Performance of Value-Added Herbal Products	Frozen in Thyme	WI	\$ 6,929	This project is designed to evaluate whether the use of freeze dried herbs in value-added herbal products provides a noticeable improvement in the overall quality and perceived health benefits of the products when compared to products made with traditionally dried herbs.
FNC18-1127	Jameson	Hubbard	Investigating the economic sustainability of distribution channels for the urban farmer and consumer in food insecure neighborhoods	Blue Hubbard Urban Farm	MO	\$ 7,498	Through direct neighborhood engagement, our urban farm will be investigating the different methods of distribution to our low income neighbors and each method's effectiveness and economic sustainability.

FNC18-1128	Scott	Johnson	Comparison of Methods for Growing Potatoes on Market Farms	N/A	WI	\$ 13,242	This study will compare five methods for growing potatoes on a market-farm scale using side-by-side comparisons on ten different farms..
FNC18-1129	Matthew	Jose	Designing a Cost-Efficient Salad Greens Wash Area for Small-Scale Growers	Mad Farmers Collective	IN	\$ 6,210	Through this project, we will develop a salad greens-specific wash station that is affordable for new growers entering the market farming profession; a station that is attuned to consumer safety and potential health hazards, and efficiently-designed for improved processing productivity.
FNC18-1130	Lisa	Kivirist	Increasing Value-added Product Sales through Cottage Food Bakery Products Produced in Home Kitchens	Inn Serendipity Farm and B&B	WI	\$ 22,333	This project creates a toolkit of ideas and resources for farmers to improve product, packaging, display and overall marketing outreach to increase sales of value-added, non-hazardous baked good products that can be produced home kitchens under a states' cottage food law.
FNC18-1131	Amanda and Ch	Konechne	Edible Net Wrap: A Possible Solution to Livestock Longevity	Konechne Ranch	SD	\$ 7,500	Providing a replacement for plastic net wrap that is digestible for livestock and poses no health risk to long-term life cycle.
FNC18-1132	Brad	LaFave	Developing a "Cold Banking" system for perch which would provide an available supply of fish for indoor grow-out facilities throughout winter.	Black Dog Fish Farm LLC	WI	\$ 22,404	This project will spawn and feed train yellow perch from hatching in May until September selecting premium fish through size grading and cold banking (housing indoors at reduced temperatures and light) so they are available all winter for stocking indoor facilities such as aquaponics, high schools and RAS systems.
FNC18-1133	James	Leek	Adding Value to Small-farm Produce by Processing and Freezing Vegetables and Fruit	Pat & Rachel's Gardens	KS	\$ 22,500	This project will explore ways for small farmers to overcome the challenges they face when processing and freezing produce as they add value to their fruit and vegetable production.
FNC18-1134	Pieter	Los	In between row mowing: weed control in organic no tillage row crops	Wil Farm	MO	\$ 6,650	Develop an in between row mower to manage weeds that break through cover crop residue without soil disturbance
FNC18-1135	Timothy J	Malinich	Figs as a Niche Crop in Northern Ohio	Hearthstone Berry Farm	OH	\$ 7,494	Quantify the potential to harvest a fig crop in Northern Ohio using field, low tunnel or high tunnel techniques.
FNC18-1136	Christopher	McGuire	Organic Methods To Promote Branching in Nursery Apple Trees	Two Onion Farm	WI	\$ 6,979	We will evaluate manual leaf removal and natural plant growth regulators as methods for promoting branching in organic apple trees raised in on-farm nurseries.
FNC18-1137	Mark	ORourke	Finding the right mix of Cover Crops in a Sweetcorn and Snap Bean operation in the Midwest	O'Rourke Family Gardens	IL	\$ 7,500	Project will identify appropriate cover crop blends for a Midwest sweetcorn and snap bean rotation while utilizing an extended planting window.

FNC18-1138	Michael	Osweiler	Mitigation of Potential Adverse Effects of Transgenic Crop Production for Long-Term Improvement of Soil Health	MOSweiler	AZ	\$	7,481	Soil analysis for glyphosate residues and soil health indicators are assessed to monitor soil health restoration on land under continuous genetically-modified (GM) crop production with glyphosate applications and undergoing transition to more sustainable non-GM cropping systems, resulting in guidelines for farmers to assess soil health in transitions on their farms.
FNC18-1139	Jerah	Pettibone	Viability of Black Soldier Fly Larvae Production for Rabbit Waste Mitigation and as a Gamebird Protein Supplement	Pettibone Urban Game	OH	\$	7,151	The goal of this project is to study the efficacy of using Black Soldier Fly Larvae (BSFL) to mitigate livestock waste on a small urban farm. It could also potentially be a protein supplement for gamebirds and allow us to move toward a more closed, sustainable farm system.?
FNC18-1140	Lisa	Rettinger	Rotation of Animals Through an Apple Orchard For Pest and Disease Suppression, Soil Improvement, and the Addition of Viable Revenue Streams	Grandview Orchard and Nursery Stock	WI	\$	7,303	This project is designed to study the feasibility of creating a beneficial polyculture ecosystem in an apple orchard by using animals to improve efficiency and profitability by suppressing diseases and pests as well as improving soil quality while simultaneously adding alternate revenue streams.
FNC18-1141	Casey	Sabatka	Soil Remediation Techniques in Urban Agriculture	Dirty Boots Flowers	IL	\$	14,975	Through various methods of soil remediation and amendment, this project aims at finding a sustainable practice for cleaning and binding the hazardous toxins found in contaminated urban soils.
FNC18-1142	Jeanne	Saum	Economic Modification of Langstroth to AZ-Style Beehives to Enable Aging or Physically Limited Beekeepers to Begin/Continue Beekeeping and Improve Hive Care, Colony Health, and Production	Saum's Mini-Farm and Apiary	OH	\$	14,986	Conversion of Langstroth to AZ-style hives will reduce the physicality of beekeeping for aging and handicapped beekeepers in beginning or sustaining beekeeping practice without costly alternative equipment and help improve: accessibility; ease of use; frequency of inspections; IPM; colony survival; and honey production.
FNC18-1143	Bob	Semyck	"Satellite" Farming of Agaricus Mushrooms with Expandable Growing Pod Prototypes	Willow Mountain Mushrooms	MO	\$	14,972	This project will explore the possibilities of distributing different stages of mushroom production between multiple farms and test two prototype climate controlled portable structures for the casing and harvesting stages of Agaricus mushroom production.
FNC18-1144	John	Skalko	Skalko Bee Farm	Skalko's Bee Farm	MN	\$	7,500	None provided
FNC18-1145	Jane	Sueme	St. Louis Beekeepers Sustainable Stock Apiary: Local Survivor Honey Bee Queen Rearing Project	St. Louis Beekeepers Sustainable Stock Apiary	MO	\$	20,106	St. Louis Beekeepers Sustainable Stock Apiary is promoting sustainable beekeeping practices through production of honey bee queens from local, genetically-diverse survivor stock for sale to beekeepers; and to provide training in the process of queen rearing.

FNC18-1146	Rachel	Tayse	Mad About Saffron: Growing A Valuable Global Seasoning In The Midwest	Foraged & Sown	OH	\$ 14,927	Mad About Saffron will investigate the viability of growing, harvesting and selling ecologically-grown saffron threads and bulbs as a contributor to small farm financial stability in the Midwest.
FNC18-1147	Ben	Tegeler	Training and Research on Compost and Compost Teas to Increase Soil Health and Microbiology on Southwest Missouri Farms	Ozark Mountain Permaculture	MO	\$ 15,000	This project will contribute to the economic, social, and ecological sustainability of our food system by providing peer training and education to Southwest Missouri farmers and at-risk youth to develop small-scale replicable compost and compost tea systems with measurable microbe health using a highly successful train-the-trainer model.
FNC18-1148	David	Volkman	Optimal Hop Harvest Timing	Ohio Valley Hops	OH	\$ 12,005	We propose to conduct a study to determine the optimal harvest time for ten leading hop varieties in the Midwest.
FNC18-1149	Jenna	Wilkins	Producing and marketing small-batch, savory spirits made with locally-sourced vegetables	M&M Gardens	MO	\$ 19,462	Small farmers in Missouri and Kansas would like to explore the viability of adding value to local beet root production by partnering with a local distillery to create small batch, double-distilled beet spirits.
FNC18-1150	Linda	Woodbury	The Hoosier Harvest 365 Hospital Delivery Program	Nature's Gift, LLC	IN	\$ 22,500	The Hoosier Harvest Market, in partnership with three local farmers, will deliver vegetables and raise awareness of local foods for Hancock Regional Hospital through a program called Hoosier Harvest 365 Delivery.
FNC18-1151	Scott	Yahnke	New American Urban Farm Program	Omaha Home For Boys - Cooper Farm	NE	\$ 15,000	A training and incubator program to provide skills and land access for New Americans (refugees and immigrants) to start their own sustainable urban farms.