

2019 NCR-SARE Partnership Grant Projects Recommended for Funding

Project #	Name	Title	Primary Grantee	Project State	\$\$ Requested	Brief Description
ONC19-052	Andrea Basche	Partnering in Conservation: Engaging Women Farmland Owners and Their Tenants in Collaborative Conservation Planning	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	NE	\$ 40,000	This project partners Nebraska women landowners and their tenants and UNL undergraduates to study conservation implementation challenges on farms.
ONC19-053	Matthew Clark	A Comprehensive Curriculum for Cold Climate Grapevine Production: Practical Skills for the Novice and Vineyard Manager	University of Minnesota	MN	\$ 38,390	Minnesota grape growers will improve the sustainability of grapevine production through targeted viticulture training and curriculum for all knowledge levels.
ONC19-054	Cody Creech	Incorporating Grain Sorghum in Semi-Arid Crop Rotations with Short Growing Seasons to Increase Resiliency of Cropping Systems	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	NE	\$ 40,000	Project will evaluate feasibility and methods for grain sorghum production in semi-arid regions with a limited growing season. Area farmers have indicated this is a need and have identified an elevator to receive the crop if successful. Experiments will be conducted to identify suitable hybrids, populations, row spacing, and fertility requirements to grow a successful crop. Water use and economic comparisons will be made to corn and project results presented at field days and workshops.
ONC19-055	Suzan Erem	SILT Development and Implementation of Iowa Landowners Guide to Sustainable Food Crops	Sustainable Iowa Land Trust (SILT)	IA	\$ 33,365	SILT will research and develop a guide to educate Iowa landowners and technical service providers on increasing crops and diversifying agriculture.
ONC19-056	Jason Fischbach	Hazelnut-Finished Pork in the Upper Midwest: A New High-Value Product From A Sustainable Production System	Bayfield County UW-Extension	IA	\$ 39,777	This project will evaluate the feed quality of screenings from hazelnut processing and conduct a feeding trial to optimize a production system for hazelnut-finished pork. Such a high-value product will improve the economics of hazelnut production in the Upper Midwest by adding value to waste streams and allow pork producers to access the growing market for mast-finished regional pork.
ONC19-057	Catie Gregg	Field Salad: A No-management Cover Crop to Move Practice Adoption Beyond Just the Innovator Farmer	Prairie Rivers Network	IL	\$ 29,740	Evaluating Valerianella locusta, or field salad, as a potentially no-management cover crop to significantly increase cover crop use in the Midwest.
ONC19-058	Kitt Healy	Building farmer capacity to produce and market vegetable seed in Minnesota through seed production trials and education	Organic Seed Alliance	MN	\$ 40,000	This project aims to grow the number of seed producers in Minnesota equipped to meet the seed needs of Upper Midwest organic vegetable growers through on-farm assessment of seed yield and quality and education from experts on seed enterprise budgeting and seed crop management.

ONC19-059	Bridget Holcomb	Women farmland owners as sustainability ambassadors: educating farmers and other landowners to make changes	Women, Food & Agriculture Network	IA	\$ 39,832	Our team of women landowners will become active spokeswomen on land management, inspiring others to increase adoption rates for sustainable practices.
ONC19-060	Bethany Johnston	Building the Legacy- Heartache and Triumphs from Transitioning Ranch Families	Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition	NE	\$ 33,781	"The decision of transitioning will impact every community, school system, and the economic blue print of Nebraska." Rural sustainability relies on successful transitions. A group of ranchers wanted to reverse the trend, and started sharing their personal stories. Participants are invited into the sorrows, emotions, and triumphs of transition. The Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition finds continued success with generational transfer meetings, producer panels with legal advice from an experienced attorney, and comprehensive follow-up.
ONC19-061	Andrew Kirk	Early Leaf Removal Strategies for Bunch Rot Reduction in Pinot Noir Clones	Ohio State University-Ashtabula ARS	OH	\$ 39,977	A collaborative extension and applied research proposal aimed at reducing crop loss due to late-season bunch rot in Ohio's grape industry.
ONC19-062	Hongmei Li-Byarlay	Improving the Honeybee Queen Qualities and Genetic Diversity by Transferring Selected Queen Cells	Central State University	OH	\$ 40,000	Our project will use mobile queen cells to diversify the genetics and quality of Midwest bee population by providing stocks with Varroa mite biting behavior.
ONC19-063	Marie Raboin	Building sustainable relationships around the use of grazing cover crops on dairy and livestock farms in Southern Wisconsin	Dane County Land Conservation	WI	\$ 39,900	Farmer to farmer relationships are one of the most important ways farmers learn about new farming practices. Unfortunately with the loss of small and medium size farms, it is hard for farmers to find and communicate with peers in their communities. This grant is not only supporting the application of a new conservation practice, grazing cover crops, but also hopes to foster new sustainable relationships in the livestock community through the use of mentors.
ONC19-064	Teresa Steckler	Management-Associated Risk Factors and Economic Impact of Anaplasmosis in Illinois Beef Herds	University of Illinois	IL	\$ 39,955	This cattleman initiated project will assess the economic impact of anaplasmosis and enhance the health, welfare, and sustainability of Illinois beef production
ONC19-065	Steve Swaffar	Alternate Weed Control Strategy in Sorghum Utilizing Companion Crops	No-Till On The Plains Inc	KS	\$ 32,187	The project will present an alternate production method of grain sorghum that replaces weed control chemicals with growing plants, monitors available soil moisture, promotes soil health, increases the benefits of plant diversity, supports beneficial insects and maintains economic viability.

ONC19-066	Jianfeng Zhou	Develop an efficient fruit handling system for elderberries	University of Missouri	MO	\$ 39,913	An efficient elderberry handling system will be developed to improve the efficiency in destemming, sanitizing, and rinsing berries. Fruit clusters will be fed automatically to a mechanical destemmer, and destemmed berries will be sanitized, rinsed and packed automatically. The system will reduce the labor intensity and the exposure of farmers to sanitization solutions so that increasing life quality of farmers. The developed fruit handling system will potentially be used for other small fruit crops.
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