

## 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 \$309 million to more than 7,408 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.



[www.sare.org](http://www.sare.org)

## SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

# Connecticut

### Project Highlight: *Arming Basil Growers with Disease-Control Solutions*

Whenever a new pest enters the scene, farmers must quickly learn how to deal with it if they are to remain profitable. Two SARE-funded projects are helping Connecticut farmers cope with this very situation in the case of a serious outbreak of Downy mildew of basil, a new disease to the eastern United States.

Typically, organic farmers depend on cultural practices to reduce disease problems, with control products complementing these practices. In the case of Downy mildew, Connecticut farmers could find no solutions due to the lack of published research on the efficacy of available control products. So Extension agent Joan Allen looked at disease-control products on two species of basil in one SARE-funded project, and then in a second project focused on the most promising contenders. Because of her work, basil growers now have access to possible solutions.

The results from Allen's first project provided basil farmers information about two products, narrowed down from an original five. Farmers started using the better performers, MilStop and Oxidate. Allen also looked at the effect of nitrogen fertilization rate alone and in combination with the fungicides on the severity of the disease. Close to 500 farmers and gardeners learned of possible new practices through presentations.

For more information on these projects, see [sare.org/projects](http://sare.org/projects), and search for project numbers [ONE11-132](#) and [ONE12-152](#).

## SARE in Connecticut

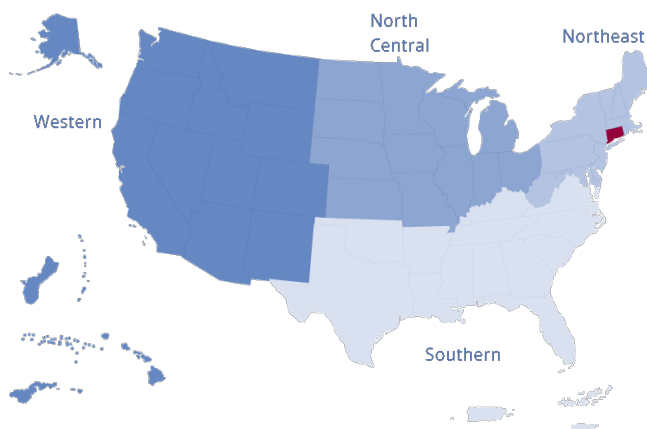
[northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/connecticut](http://northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/connecticut)

**\$2,177,551**  
in total funding

**70 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 Connecticut

Total awards: 70 grants



31 Farmer/Rancher  
8 Graduate Student  
9 On Farm  
3 Research/Partnership  
3 Professional Development Program  
18 Research and Education  
1 Research Only

Total funding: \$2,177,551



\$178,913 Farmer/Rancher  
\$114,297 Graduate Student  
\$109,328 On Farm  
\$227,995 Research/Partnership  
\$1,398,144 Professional Development Program  
\$148,874 Research and Education  
Research Only

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:

[northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/connecticut](http://northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/connecticut)

## 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 [northeast.sare.org/state-pages/connecticut](http://northeast.sare.org/state-pages/connecticut) to learn more.

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For detailed information on SARE projects, go to [www.SARE.org](http://www.SARE.org)

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.



# AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN CONNECTICUT

by USDA's  
**Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program**

Connecticut has been awarded \$2,248,455 grants to support 73 projects, including but not limited to, 15 research and/or education projects, 3 professional development projects and 31 producer-led projects. Connecticut has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>SARE Support</b>	<b>Project Leaders</b>
<a href="#">LNE18-363</a>	Improved N Management for Corn using Aerial Images, Adapt-N, Chemical and Biological Tests, and Cover Crops	\$241,570	Dr.Karl Guillard University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE13-324</a>	Developing adaptable native shrubs for the green industry	\$58,347	Dr.Jessica Lubell University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE09-279</a>	Development and on-farm training of biologically based methods for integrated crop management of stone fruits in New England	\$195,498	Dr.Robert Marra Connecticut Agricultural Lorraine Los University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE09-281</a>	Aronia berries: A sustainable nutraceutical crop for the Northeast	\$151,821	Dr.Mark Brand University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE03-177</a>	Perimeter trap crop approach to pest management on vegetable farms	\$139,527	Ruth Hazzarad University of Massachusetts Jude Boucher UNiversity of Connecticut Cooperative Extension
<a href="#">LNE01-143</a>	Farmer-Run Research Organization for Southern New England	\$167,660	Thomas Morris University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE01-144</a>	Survey of the Nutrient Status of Organic Vegetable Farms	\$35,397	Thomas Morris University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE00-137</a>	Benefits & Drawbacks of Various Winter Cover Crops in Vegetable Pest Management	\$89,202	Kimberly Stoner Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
<a href="#">LNE98-106</a>	Biological Control for Soil-Dwelling Insects & Diseases in Strawberries	\$147,557	Richard Cowles Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
<a href="#">LNE97-082</a>	Biological and Cultural Methods of Insect Management in Vegetables: Survey and Case Studies of Organic Farms and Evaluation of the Scientific Literature	\$20,000	Kimberly Stoner Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
<a href="#">LNE97-083</a>	Nitrogen Management for Pumpkins and Squash	\$40,000	Richard A. Ashley University of Connecticut
<a href="#">LNE96-065</a>	Farm to School Food Education Project	\$33,319	Elizabeth Wheeler The Hartford Food System

LNE96-068	New Connections in the Northeast Food System	\$13,000	Mark Winne Hartford Food System
ANE95-028	Integration of Biological and Chemical Control of Twospotted Spider Mites in Containerized Nursery Production	\$35,246	Timothy Abbey Univ. of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System Richard Cowles Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
LNE94-049	Project Farm Fresh Start: A Farm-to-School Feasibility Study	\$30,000	Mark Winne Hartford Food System

#### RESEARCH ONLY GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
LNE20-412R	Enhancing the Safety of Eggs and Fresh Produce by Novel Ultra-fine Bubble Technology and Farmer Training	\$148,874	Dr.Abhinav Upadhyay University of Connecticut

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
ENE10-116	Professional development for agricultural service providers in applied poultry science	\$134,501	Dr.Richard Brzozowski University of Maine Cooperative Extension
ENE99-048	Alternative & Herbal Livestock Health Practices	\$86,994	Thomas Morris University of Connecticut
ENE98-042	Feeding Our Cities: Establishing a Strong Urban/Sustainable Agriculture Interface in Southern New England	\$6,500	Michael T. Keilty University of Connecticut Extension

#### FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
FNE19-925	Honey Plant Intercropping on Christmas Tree Farms	\$10,032	Richard Cowles Humming Grove Farm
FNE19-939	Tree Regeneration and Establishment Strategies in Silvopasture and Sugarbush Systems	\$13,450	Dr.Joseph Orefice Hidden Blossom Farm
FNE19-944	Winter Triticale and Red Clover Double Cropping Field Trials for a Three-Year Production Cycle	\$14,824	Craig Stearns
FNE17-869	Establishing propagation protocols and assessing weed risk of litchi tomato, Solanum sisymbriifolium	\$5,459	Diane Dorfer Cobblestone Farm
FNE17-883	Comparison of indigenous microorganism and commercial soil inoculant on crop yields and basil downy mildew disease resistance	\$15,000	Melody Wright Pleasant Valley Botanicals
FNE13-783	Enhancing growth rate and well-being of pigs raised on pasture through the use of mobile evaporative cooling while improving pasture fertility and reducing environmental degradation	\$11,033	Peter Lowy Pete and Jens Backyard Birds

FNE12-736	Conservation tillage for organic cabbage: Yield, weed growth, and management costs	\$4,561	Janna Berger Adamah/Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center Arthur Schwab Adamah / Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center
FNE11-709	Evaluation of the insect resistance of interspecific squash hybrids	\$4,022	Bryan Connolly Green Dragon Farm
FNE07-604	Determining cost-effectiveness of raising slow growing genotype broilers in three alternative housing systems	\$7,861	Julie Cronin
FNE07-605	Small farm air chill system	\$6,912	Craig Floyd Footsteps Farm, LLC
FNE06-569	Breeding colorful disease- and pest-tolerant potatoes	\$3,225	Bryan Connolly Green Dragon Farm
FNE04-515	Horticultural Weed Barrier Mats From Dairy Manure — Phase 2	\$10,000	Matthew Freund Friends' Farm, Inc.
FNE03-454	Remote Sensing for Nitrogen Management in Corn	\$6,298	Randolph Blackmer
FNE03-457	Tolerance Variation to Mexican Bean Beetles of Common Bean Cultivars	\$1,974	Bryan Connolly Green Dragon Farm
FNE03-465	Litchfield County Farmers Livestock Market	\$4,137	Christos Glynos Bethlehem Boer Goat Ranch
FNE02-412	Horticultural Weed Barrier Mats From Dairy Manure	\$8,800	Matthew Freund Friends' Farm, Inc.
FNE02-437	Increasing Small Farm Profits with American Chestnut Production and Silvopasture	\$4,766	Elisa Santee Foxfire Farm
FNE01-373	Compost Planting Pots	\$7,500	Matthew Freund Friends' Farm, Inc.
FNE00-294	Fava beans and kale as potential spring nurseries for insect natural enemies to move into the greenhouse.	\$5,382	Kathryn Caruso
FNE00-315	Timing of Brassica planting to reduce flea beetle damage.	\$4,697	Brian O'Hara
FNE99-236	Demonstration of the Effectiveness of <i>Pediobius</i> for Control of Mexican Bean Beetle and Squash Beetle	\$2,480	Kathryn Caruso
FNE99-243	Compost Planting Pots	\$700	Matthew Freund Friends' Farm, Inc.
FNE99-272	"Clean Green Machine" A Hydroponic System	\$4,520	David S. Roberts

FNE98-203	Squash Vine Borer and Cotton Row Covers	\$1,540	Brian O'Hara
FNE98-208	Sheep Farmstead Cheesemaking in Connecticut	\$3,050	Suzanne Sankow Beaverbrook Farm
FNE97-162	Biological Insect Control of Herbaceous Perennials	\$600	Michael Berecz
FNE96-154	Growing Potatoes Organically 3 Different Ways	\$1,670	Johan van Acterberg Hidden Meadow Farm
FNE96-159	Certified Organic Associated Growers (COAG)	\$2,670	Tony Norris
FNE96-129	Pedal-Powered Tillage for a Small Community-Supported Farm (CSA)	\$2,400	Megan Haney Mad Mares Farm
FNE95-088	Canaan Valley Agricultural Cooperative Waste Management Program	\$4,350	Peter Jacquier Laurel Brook Farm
FNE94-048	Innovative Uses of Leaf Compost for the Modern Farmer/Grower	\$5,000	William Gnaizdoski d.b.a. Echo Farms

#### GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
GNE19-213	Use of Lactic Acid Bacteria to Control <i>L. monocytogenes</i> on Apples under Simulated Commercial Conditions	\$15,000	Mary Anne Amalaradjou University of Connecticut Deepa Ashwarya Kuttappan University of Connecticut
GNE19-221	Importance of Environmental Factors on Plantings of Wild-Simulated American Ginseng	\$15,000	Marlyse Duguid Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Karam Sheban Yale School of the Environment
GNE17-146	Maximizing the health and size of on-site native pollinator populations for crops requiring sonication pollination	\$14,973	Julia Kuzovkina University of Connecticut John Campanelli University of Connecticut
GNE16-128	Early (in-ovo) administration of probiotics to promote growth in broiler chicken	\$14,999	Mary Anne Amalaradjou University of Connecticut Michael Darre University of Connecticut Muhammed Shafeekh Muyyarikkandy University of Connecticut
GNE15-113	Natural and eco-friendly approaches to control aflatoxins in poultry feed	\$14,393	Michael Darre University of Connecticut Dr.Kumar Venkitanarayanan University of Connecticut Hsinbai Yin University of Connecticut
GNE14-083	Anaerobically digested dairy as a renewable substitution for peat in media for nursery production	\$14,856	Dr.George Elliott UCONN John Lamont University of Connecticut
GNE11-020	Organic fertilization for greenhouses	\$12,556	Dr.George Elliott UCONN Kristin Hulshart University of Connecticut

ONE10-010	Prevalence of Clostridium difficile (C. diff) in Connecticut Swine farms	\$12,520	Dr. Robert Heimer Yale University School of Public Health Dr. Lynda Osadebe Yale University
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**ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**

<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>SARE Support</b>	<b>Project Leaders</b>
ONE20-368	Incorporating Online Ordering Systems to Increase Farmer Sales at Farmers Markets, and Beyond	\$15,698	Ashley Kremser CitySeed
ONE16-279c	Farmer-led cover crop trials and demonstrations for vegetable and corn silage fields	\$22,465	Jim Hyde USDA NRCS
ONE16-265	Boosting farmer sales through culinary events and marketing	\$14,992	Ashley Kremser CitySeed
ONE13-179	Investigating forage radish and compost as a means of alleviating soil compaction in established bramble and blueberry fields	\$14,958	Mary Concklin University of Connecticut
ONE12-152	Management of basil downy mildew using organic fungicides and nitrogen fertilization rate	\$6,705	Joan Allen Assistant Cooperative Extension Educator in Residence
ONE11-132	Evaluation of Organic Control Products for Basil Downy Mildew	\$4,705	Joan Allen Assistant Cooperative Extension Educator in Residence
ONE08-080	Hastening Adoption of Zone-Tillage on CT/ New England Vegetable Farms	\$9,902	Jude Boucher UNiversity of Connecticut Cooperative Extension
ONE06-064	Increasing biological control of brassica pests through overwintering	\$9,903	Kimberly Stoner Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
ONE03-011	Simple methods to stack manure and make compost without nutrient loss	\$10,000	Tom Morris University of Connecticut

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS**

<b>Project #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>SARE Support</b>	<b>Project Leaders</b>
CNE10-073	Farmland ConneCTions Guide	\$14,978	Greg Plotkin American Farmland Trust Ben Howell American Farmland Trust
CNE10-079	Granby Sampler	\$14,942	Michelle Niedermeyer Granby Agriculture Commission
CNE09-064	Southern Litchfield County's first regional locally-grown produce distribution facility	\$11,214	Vincent Nolan, Jr. Town of New Milford
CNE07-018	Engaging and growing community through a community supported market	\$9,986	Nicole Berube CitySeed, Inc
CNE07-029	Creating sustainable food purchasing guidelines in the Northeast	\$9,831	Joshua Viertel Yale Sustainable Food Project
CNE06-015	Planning for community farms across Connecticut	\$9,953	Kimberly Stoner Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

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**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to  
Connecticut  
\$2,248,455**

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For further information on projects, contact Deb Heleba, Northeast SARE communications specialist, at 802-651-8335, ext 552 or [debra.heleba@uvm.edu](mailto:debra.heleba@uvm.edu).

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