

Appendix 1

Centers with Similar Missions

Outline of the Appendices

The first two tables in **Appendix 1** below provide a quick glance at the university affiliated centers as well as the independent centers. Starting page 10, we provide a more detailed summary of sustainable agriculture centers. Contact details for the program can be found as well as funding and budgets, staffing as well as research and education activities. We tried to include the web addresses where the centers can be found on the Internet as well as links to other relevant information.

Appendix 2 consists of a literature review. The literature is abstracted where possible and categorized. The majority here is Maryland and Chesapeake Bay specific. Again, web pages are cited where available. **Appendix 3** lists web sites pertaining to Maryland in general. Further information can be found at different centers at the University of Maryland System, such as the School of Public Affairs as well as various research laboratories in Maryland. We also collected a few contact details of people working in sustainable agriculture.

CENTERS WITH SIMILAR MISSIONS

Introduction

Most of the university affiliated centers were founded at about the same time, late 1980, early 1990's. According to Anderson, at that time, much was happening in the field of sustainable agriculture and many centers were responding to this. Over the years these centers grew as more and more issues were identified in the area of sustainable agriculture. The beginning Sustainable Agriculture, Research and Education (SARE) Program, authorized through the 1985 Farm Bill, greatly boosted interest in sustainable agriculture at the university level which was the first time USDA funded sustainable agriculture. The independent, non-university centers got their start about a decade early and it took the Sustainable Agriculture Coalition about that long to lobby Congress for money to be designated for sustainable agriculture.

Funding for the university affiliated centers ranges from about \$350,000 to \$2.6 million, while the funding for independent centers generally have more than \$1 million in their annual budgets. Most university affiliated centers have direct legislative appropriations through the university and external grants which are primarily designated for projects. All receive at least some outside grants. The independent centers all receive private grants as well as federal funding.

Staffing of the centers ranges from 1 to 10 people for the university centers and up to 27 full time staff for independent centers. Missouri's Alternative Center has the fewest personnel with two, with one person designated for project management.¹ The California Program is the largest with 10 people that make up an equivalent of 6 full-time employees.

¹ Due to time constraints, we were unable to contact the Center for a better description of the staff. We believe that the Center, as part of the university extension, has faculty support in their activities.

University Affiliated Centers

Center	Year Est.	Funding	Personnel	Program
IA – Leopold	1987	\$1.6 Million	2 full-time staff	Annual conferences and reports
WI – CIAS	1989	\$350,000	3 full-time 5 part-time staff	Strong Citizens Advisory Council, short courses for farmers
MN – MISA	1991	\$425,000	5 full time staff	Strong legislative support, relationships with grassroots org's., impact on ag students at UM.
CA – SAREP	1987	\$650,000+	10 people = 6 full time positions	Permanent State funding, broad conception of sustainability including community development and food systems
VT – CSA	1994	??	8 full-time staff	working collaborations among the University, agencies and organizations, farms, and communities to promote sustainable farming systems.
NE – CSAS	1991	\$300,000	1 full-time 1 part-time	training extension and the Integrated livestock/crop Farm
WASU – CSANR	1991	\$2.6 million	7 full-time staff	facilitation and networking, funding, and education, new linkages and better communication between interest groups, WSU units, growers, agencies, industry, environmental groups, and the public.
KS – KCARE	1997	\$400,000	2 full-time 2 part-time	identify research, establish interdisciplinary working groups between KSU and organizations outside of KSU
MO – Alternatives Center	1988	??	1 project manager	Strong farmer contact
UI – ASAP	1989	\$120,000	2 full-time staff	Newsletter, website, on-farm research.

Independent Centers

Center	Year Est.	Funding	Personnel	Program
MD – Wallace	1983	\$1.0 million +	10 full-time staff	policy research and analysis necessary to influence national agricultural policy.
MT, AR – NCAT*	1975		25 full-time staff	promoting sustainable technologies and technology transfer, including nationally-recognized work in energy and resource efficiency and sustainable agriculture
IL, DC – CAE	1980	\$1.5 Million	7 full-time 3 graduate students	research and policy analysis on urban sprawl and land conversion, on farmland protection issues, and on the economic impacts of transportation infrastructure, land prices, and agricultural policy
NE – Center for Rural Affairs	1973	\$2.2 Million	27 full-time staff	reforming federal agricultural policies through policy research
OK – Kerr Center*	1985			Encouraging stewardship, innovation, rural development through competitive grants to farmers
MN – IATP	1986	\$2.5 million	20 full-time staff	Domestic and international policy making through monitoring, analysis and research, education and outreach, and information systems management

* information not available at time of publication

Sustainable Agriculture Centers in Detail²

University Centers

Program:	<i>The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture</i> www.leopold.iastate.edu/Leopold.html
Established:	1987
Institution:	Iowa State University
Mission:	The Center has three primary objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify and reduce negative impacts of agriculture on natural resources and rural communities,• To develop profitable farming systems that conserve natural resources,• To work with ISU Extension and other groups to inform the public of new research findings.
Structure:	Paid part-time staff of nine, governed by a 16-person advisory board.
Budget:	Total annual operating budget is \$1,660,000
Action:	The Center addresses its objectives by funding and administering a competitive grants program. It also sponsors interdisciplinary research issue teams and provides information through a variety of educational programs and publications.
Strengths:	Strong financial base of support. Annual conference and written reports.

Overview The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture was created by the Iowa General Assembly as part of the 1987 Iowa Groundwater Protection Act. Its purpose is to identify negative impacts of agriculture, contribute to the development of profitable farming systems that conserve natural resources, and inform the public of new research findings. The Center accomplishes its mission through competitive grants, interdisciplinary research issue teams, and education programs. Results of the Center's programs are disseminated through numerous Center publications and through presentations at conferences and other training opportunities, developed in cooperation with ISU Extension and other organizations

Staffing There are three faculty, four professional and scientific (P & S) staff, a secretary and an account clerk working directly in the Center. None of the faculty are full-time with the Center. The Leopold Center is currently conducting a search for a new Director. Until recently, Dr. Dennis Keeney served as director of the Center, and had done so since its inception. Associate director Dr. James Swan has a 50% appointment in the Center and 50% in ISU's agronomy department. Associate director Dr. Michael Duffy has a 20% appointment in the Center and the remainder in ISU Extension and ag economics. Both associate directors aid in policy decisions, represent the Center at various functions, and assist in coordination of the Center's interdisciplinary research teams. The P & S staff includes a research coordinator who oversees the Competitive Grants Program, an education coordinator responsible for developing ways to transfer research to key audiences, a technical editor who produces publications about research findings, and a communications specialist who works with key audiences and edits a newsletter.

Governing bodies The Leopold Center Advisory Board, as established by state law, is a public body and thus subject to state law regarding gender balance and open meetings. Representatives are chosen by the groups represented on the Board (Iowa State University, University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, private colleges and universities, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and farmers). The groups represented are prescribed by law and the appointments are at the sole discretion of the

² The description of the following four Centers was taken from Dan Anderson, "Sustainable Agriculture Programs at Four Agricultural Colleges." Unpublished Paper to the Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

appointing group. The Board advises the director on programs and policies relating to the Center. In addition to these members, four ex-officio positions from Iowa farm groups advise the board.

Funding One source of Leopold Center funds is a direct appropriation from the legislature of about \$560,000 per year. The Center also receives about \$1 million per year generated from fees charged on sales of nitrogen fertilizer and on registration and use of pesticides. The Leopold Center is also eligible to receive grants from other state and federal sources and from foundations, but not from agricultural industries. As prescribed by law, no more than \$500,000 may be spent each year for salaries and benefits of Center administrative staff.

Research The Leopold Center does not own or operate any experimental farms. Research and demonstrations are conducted on university and private farms through the Competitive Grants Program and interdisciplinary teams. The Center believes that its mission is carried out most effectively by diverse programs throughout the state. The Center does not fund projects outside the state of Iowa.

Education The Center does not have an undergraduate program. Rather, it cooperates with the College of Agriculture at ISU in program development. The Center has supported development of a satellite course in sustainable agriculture, is cooperating on curriculum revitalization with a beginning course in agronomy, and cosponsored an academic seminar on manure management and sustainable agriculture.

Program:	<i>Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS)</i> http://www.wisc.edu/cias/index.html
Established	1989
Institution:	University of Wisconsin – Madison
Mission:	CIAS brings together farmers, researchers, policy makers, and others to study farming practices, farm profitability, the environment, and rural vitality.
Structure:	The paid staff of eight, take direction from an 11-member Citizens Advisory Council. In addition, there are five faculty associates who contribute to leading the Center.
Budget:	Total annual operating budget of \$350,000
Action:	CIAS applies a systems approach to agricultural research and communications, by Integrating meaningful citizen and farmer involvement and constructing flexible, responsive research in emerging areas including: regional food systems, support for beginning and retiring farmers, grazing-based dairy systems, research combining the biological and social sciences, and support of multidisciplinary, multi-professional teams.
Strengths:	Strong participatory relationship with Citizens Advisory Council, educational short-courses for beginning farmers.

Overview In 1989, the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS) began primarily as a sustainable agriculture research center located in the University of Wisconsin's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. The Center was created to build UW sustainable agriculture research programs that respond to farmer and citizen needs...and involve them in setting research agendas. Research is still one of the Center's primary activities. Currently, the Center's research focus is on grazing-based dairy systems, regional food systems and manure management. At its inception, the Center had no educational mandate and still has no formal ties to Wisconsin's Extension system. They do engage in outreach through the publication of research summaries and curriculum materials on sustainable agriculture.

Staffing CIAS currently employs three full-time staff and five part-time outreach specialists who work off soft-money on specific projects. CIAS's Director, (until recently, Rick Klemme) is half-time employed by the Center. The Associate Director, Steve Stevenson (currently acting as Interim Director) is a full-time position. Part-time staff are anywhere from one-third to three-quarters time. In addition to a Director and Associate Director, CIAS has on staff a Communications Manager, Associate Editor, a Program Assistant, and outreach specialists that coordinate the Wisconsin School for Beginning Dairy Farmers, the Regional Food Systems program, Pesticide Use and Risk Reduction project, and research into small grains and cropping systems. About \$230,000 is spent annually on staffing the Center.

Governing bodies In keeping with the CIAS mission and mandate to build meaningful citizen involvement into their programs, CIAS takes direction from an 11-member Citizens Advisory Council of nine farmers and two representatives of the environmental community. The council provides input on long-range and strategic plans for research on sustainable farming and rural community vitality. Council members consult with CIAS staff on research and communications programs and keep Center staff apprised of emerging issues of importance to citizens. Council members serve three-year terms with the option of serving a fourth year. They and Center staff meet three times per year formally and consult throughout the year via teleconference, telephone, e-mail, and casual meetings. Council members also serve as reviewers of Center research publications, including the Research Briefs series. Five faculty associates help round out the perspectives of Center staff and the Citizens Advisory Council. Selected for their interests in sustainable agriculture, rural community development, multidisciplinary research, emerging issues in agriculture, and general strength of vision and scholarship, these faculty meet formally and informally with Center staff and the Council throughout the year.

Funding CIAS's annual operating budget is provided by the state legislature through the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. The Center is a line in the College's budget and amounts to approximately \$350,000. \$120,000 of this is discretionary. Most of the Center's research and educational programs are funded by outside grants.

Research The Center seeks to engage in flexible, responsive research on emerging areas. Currently, these are grazing-based dairy systems and regional food systems. Throughout the last decade, grass-based farmers have asked CIAS to develop research projects and educational materials to help answer complex questions pertaining to grazing-based dairy (GDS) systems. The Center formed a GDS group to manage and organize a radial team approach to address important and emerging areas of grazing. The Center's regional food systems program examines activities such as community supported agriculture, local farmer cooperatives, specialty crop production, local food processing options, community gardening, farmer's markets, food security, on-farm marketing, and natural and organic foods marketing (including consumer preferences).

Education As was mentioned above, CIAS has never had a mandate to educate and does not have a formal connection with extension. The University of Wisconsin has retained through the years an artifact of the Land Grant university system called the Short Course. Short Courses are held between November and March and were originally design to provide practical education for working farmers or farm kids planning to return to the farm. CIAS has taken advantage of the short course format and designed two courses for delivery through this mechanism to farmers. Short courses designed and implemented by CIAS focus on beginning market gardening and beginning grass-based dairy operations. In addition, CIAS delivers information and disseminates research results with Center publications.

Program:	<i>Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture</i> http://www.misa.umn.edu/
Established:	1991
Institution:	University of Minnesota
Mission:	To bring together the diverse interests of the agricultural community with interests from across the University community in a cooperative effort to develop and promote sustainable agriculture in Minnesota and beyond.
Structure:	MISA's staff of five is directed by a 15-member <u>Board of Directors</u> that includes at least seven practitioners, four members from the University of Minnesota, and representatives from non-profit community organizations. Board members are nominated by the <u>Joint Seminar</u> , a group consisting of 40 individuals -- 20 representing the University of Minnesota and 20 from the <u>Sustainers' Coalition</u> , a group which includes MISA's six partner organizations -- that approves MISA <u>By-Laws</u> . The Joint Seminar meets three times each year to discuss issues related to sustainable agriculture and to identify Board members.
Budget:	Total annual operating budget of \$425,000
Action:	MISA funds interdisciplinary research and education teams that address important issues affecting community and agricultural sustainability. Each year, in partnership with the Sustainable Agriculture Study Group, MISA sponsors a number of seminars on campus, and administers a web-based information exchange program. MISA has developed a minor in sustainable agriculture available to graduate and undergraduate students at UM. An internship program is also available to undergraduates.
Strengths:	Strong Minnesota legislative funding and support. Board of Directors structure that gives real power to grassroots organizations. Impact on ag students at UM.

Overview The Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (MISA) is a unique partnership between the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Minnesota and the Sustainers' Coalition, a group of individuals and non-profit organizations. The purpose of MISA is to bring together the diverse interests of the agricultural community with interests from across the University community in a cooperative effort to develop and promote sustainable agriculture in Minnesota and beyond.

Staffing MISA operates with five full-time staff. The Executive Director of MISA, Don Wyse, receives half of his salary from the College and half from his own department. The program's Coordinator and Secretary are both full-time and paid out of the base funding from the College. The two half-time information coordinators and the coordinator of the Alternative Swine Management program are paid from money provided by the Minnesota Legislature.

Governing bodies MISA is directed by a 15-member Board of Directors that includes at least seven producers, four members from the University of Minnesota, and representatives from non-profit community organizations. Board members are nominated by the Joint Seminar, the group that approves MISA By-Laws. The Joint Seminar meets three times each year to discuss issues related to sustainable agriculture and to identify Board members. The Joint Seminar consists of 40 individuals, twenty representing the University of Minnesota and twenty from the Sustainers' Coalition, a group which includes MISA's six partner organizations: Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Land Stewardship Project, Minnesota Food Association, The Minnesota Project, Organic Growers and Buyers Association and the Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota.

Funding MISA's annual operating budget is \$425,000. \$250,000 of this total comes from the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. \$175,000 is provided annually from the Minnesota Legislature for

informational services provided by MISA and the Alternative Swine Management program. \$80,000 to \$120,000 of the funding provided by the College is used to pay for expenses associated with the Board of Directors. Additional funds are sought from granting agencies to carry out specific research projects and program development.

Research MISA funds interdisciplinary research and education teams that address important issues affecting community and agricultural sustainability. Every three years, a competitive grants process is used to award team building planning grants for up to \$10,000 for one year, during which time a full research and education proposal is developed by the team. The full proposals are then reviewed and selected for funding for the following two years, with additional continued funding considered by the Board of Directors each year after the initial two-year grant period is finished. These teams are required to submit annual research and education team reports to MISA.

Education Developed by a MISA-funded team, a minor in Sustainable Agricultural Systems at the University of Minnesota is available to M.S. and Ph.D. students in any discipline. Students in the Minor program complete coursework and a ten-week internship with agricultural producers, non-profit organizations, or government agencies working on sustainable agriculture issues. A minor in sustainable agriculture and an internship program are also available to undergraduate students. The Theodora and Arnold Johnson Undergraduate Research Internship Program is designed to provide undergraduate students with an internship opportunity to work with a faculty member on a research topic pertaining to sustainable agriculture. The program provides up to \$4,000 for student stipends. The program is open to any student enrolled in any program within the UM College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences.

Program:	<i>University of California Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP)</i> http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/
Established:	1987
Institution:	University of California Davis
Mission:	SAREP provides leadership and support for scientific research and education to encourage farmers, farm workers, and consumers in California to produce, distribute, process and consume food and fiber in a manner that is economically viable, sustains natural resources and biodiversity, and enhances the quality of life in the state's diverse communities for present and future generations.
Structure:	Staff of ten
Budget:	Total annual operating budget of \$650,000 base+
Action:	SAREP has funded hundreds of basic and applied research projects, economic and public policy projects, seminars and field demonstrations and graduate student awards. SAREP also administers a second funding program to help groups of farmers reduce their use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers called the Biologically Integrated Farming Systems (BIFS) program. BIFS is the result of California legislation which enables UC to award grants providing technical and financial assistance to growers. Education and information is disseminated via SAREP's award-winning Internet site, printed publications, videos, and educational events.
Strengths:	Permanent state funding. Broad conception of sustainability including community development and food systems.

Overview Established in 1986 by the University of California in response to California Senate Bill 872, the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program provides leadership and support for scientific research and education for Californians to produce, distribute, process and consume food and fiber in a manner that is economically viable, sustains natural resources and biodiversity, and enhances the quality of life in the state's diverse communities for present and future generations. In support of that mission, SAREP pursues the following programmatic goals: 1) Increased ability of California farmers and ranchers to manage their land and businesses in ways that are economically viable and that protect and enhance both human and natural resources and biodiversity; 2) Strengthen consumer's connection to agriculture and California's rural and urban communities through participation in sustainable food systems; and 3) Encourage government programs and policies, and support the development of sustainable farms, ranches and communities in California. SAREP accomplishes these goals by, 1) funding basic and applied research on sustainable farming and ranching practices and systems, 2) improving farmers' and ranchers' access to new and existing information, and 3) supporting the development of community-based food and agricultural systems.

Staffing The SAREP staff includes 10 individuals, who fill the equivalent of 6 full-time positions, of which 1.5 full-time positions are paid for by external sources of funding. All but one staff member is located at UC Davis. The staff administers and manages SAREP's competitive grants program as well as the Biologically Integrated Farming Systems (BIFS) program grants, and also gathers, synthesizes, and distributes a wide variety of information about sustainable food and agricultural systems throughout California.

Governing bodies SAREP receives guidance from two advisory committees that were specified within the legislation that established the program. The Technical Committee is made of researchers from within the UC program statewide. It provides expertise in judging the technical merit of proposals submitted to the grant program.

The Program Advisory Committee consists of a wider array of participants including farmers and non-profit organizations. It provides overall guidance to the program, its policies and activities.

Funding SAREP enjoys permanent state and UC funding to the tune of about \$650,000 annually. In 1996/97, the program received an additional \$450,000 one-time funding from the California state legislature to fund the program's competitive grants program. Extramural funding has ranged from \$65,000 to over \$800,000 annually over the last seven years. Examples of external sources of funding are Kellogg Foundation, Western Region SARE, California EPA and Department of Food and Agriculture.

Research Since 1987 SAREP has funded hundreds of basic and applied research projects, economic and public policy projects, seminars and field demonstrations and graduate student awards. SAREP administers a second funding program to help groups of farmers reduce their use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers called the Biologically Integrated Farming Systems (BIFS) program. BIFS is the result of California legislation which enables UC to award grants providing technical assistance and financial assistance to growers.

Education Educational topics addressed by SAREP staff include annual cropping systems, tree and vine crops, cover crops, pest management, soil quality and management, restoration ecology, economics and public policy, farm worker issues, consumer issues, nutrition and sustainable food systems, and biotechnology and sustainable agriculture. Staff also focus on education and outreach through the program's quarterly newsletter, SAREP's World Wide Web server on the Internet, an interactive sustainable agriculture electronic mail network, the production of numerous publications, and participation in various conferences and training events.

Program:	<i>The Center for Sustainable Agriculture (CSA)</i> http://www.uvm.edu/~susagctr/index.html
Contact:	Vern Grubinger, Director Phone: (802) 656-0037 Email: verngr@sover.net
Established:	1994
Institution:	University of Vermont
Mission:	To integrate university and community expertise to promote sustainable farming systems throughout Vermont and the region.
Structure:	Staff of eight, in 1995 advisory council was formed, consisting of 17 members. Joint center between the University of Vermont College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
Budget:	??
Action:	The Center works with academic departments, public agencies, private organizations and producers to find innovative solutions to the complex challenges facing today's farmers. The Center's vision is that Vermont will be a place where farming is profitable, diversified, and resource conserving; where farm families enjoy their quality of life; and where there is strong public support for a thriving agriculture.
Strengths:	A central role of the Center for Sustainable Agriculture is to establish working collaborations among the University, agencies and organizations, farms, and communities to promote sustainable farming systems. The Center organizes seminars, conferences, workshops and farm tours that educate farmers, Extension and agency personnel, and consumers from Vermont and the Northeast about sustainable agriculture.

Overview: the Center for Sustainable Agriculture was created in 1994 as part of the University of Vermont's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and has two offices – one in Burlington and the other in Brattleboro. An advisory council was created in 1995. A central role of the Center for Sustainable Agriculture is to establish working collaborations among the University, agencies and organizations, farms, and communities to promote sustainable farming systems. The Center organizes seminars, conferences, workshops and farm tours that educate farmers, Extension and agency personnel, and consumers from Vermont and the Northeast about sustainable agriculture.

Staffing: The Center's staff of eight includes a director, a budget administrator, a dairy specialist, a program coordinator, a pasture network coordinator, a facilitator and an outreach coordinator.

Governing Body: An advisory council was created in 1995. The co-chairs are the Vermont commissioner of agriculture and the dean of the Division of Agriculture of University of Vermont, and there are 17 members. They try to have all Vermont commodities represented. The council's legislative mandate is to encourage the development and use of economically and ecologically sound sustainable agriculture practices. The council helps steer program development at the Center and agricultural policy issues at the Department, and provides a vital link between community concerns and our organizations.

Funding: The Center is funded almost entirely through grants, private gifts, and program fees. Staff is paid for by grants from SARE, NRCS, and private Vermont organizations and the university provides office space.

Research:

- Management Intensive Grazing (MIG) is a sustainable farming practice that allows livestock farmers to minimize production costs while protecting water quality, soil fertility, animal health, and the quality of life of the farm family. Building on the MIG research and outreach of UVM's Plant & Soil Science Department under

the leadership of Dr. Bill Murphy, the Center is working to promote grazing and assist farmers that use management intensive grazing techniques.

- **Small Ruminant Dairy Project**, born in 1998, works to promote growth of the goat and sheep dairy industry. An advisory board has been established to guide the project's direction. It includes producers and others knowledgeable about the goat and sheep dairy industry. Working with the outreach network maintained by the Center and UVM Cooperative Extension and with the research capacity of the Department of Animal Science (including the newly established Food Science Center), the project will serve goat and sheep dairy producers through a four-part program.

Education: The Center is focused primarily on outreach activities. Their activities consist of six main programs.

- **Agency Training:** works to inform government agency and nonprofit organization personnel about sustainable agriculture and its practices and was created in 1994. In 1997, an internship program was developed. The program places University of Vermont graduate and undergraduate students on farms or other agricultural organizations.
- **Land Link Vermont**, established in 1998, to assist farmers in purchasing or transferring agricultural land titles.
- **Management Intensive Grass (MIG)** farming works to promote environmentally and economically viable grass grazing land rotation. Working with farmers to promote this system is one of the Center's main program priorities. Within the MIG program, the Center has established following:
 - **The Vermont Pasturelands Network(VPN)** is a cooperative project between the Center, University of Vermont (UVM), Cooperative Extension, the Vermont Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Vermont Grass Farmers' Association. The mission of the network is to gather and exchange information to plan research and outreach projects collaboratively on issues related to MIG systems. Center staff provide support to the network by coordinating and facilitating VPN's quarterly meetings.
 - **Pasture Calendar**, which publishes a monthly calendar of pasture-related events including workshops, conferences and pasture walks. The calendar is mailed statewide to over 280 farmers and agency personnel, and is posted monthly on the web at the Vermont Crops and Soils Homepage at <http://pss.uvm.edu/vtcrops/>.
 - **Internet Discussion List.** A discussion list was created in 1998 by the Center to build upon the work of VPN to share ideas about grazing, keep people aware of upcoming events, and encourage members' enthusiasm for pasture-based farming in Vermont and beyond.
- **Internship Program – Educating Youth Through On-Farm Experiences.**
The need for the Sustainable Agriculture Internship Program arises from two groups: UVM students and Vermont farmers and other agricultural businesspeople. In a 1994 poll of UVM College of Agriculture first-year students, most students said they would like an off-campus practical experience as an integral part of their learning as well as self-directed learning on topics that interest them, with interest in a major in sustainable agriculture. In response to agricultural challenges, farmers are adopting alternative production and marketing methods that protect natural resources, enhance profits, and support local communities. Land-grant colleges like UVM are key to preparing the next generation of agriculture professionals to explore and adopt these new practices, and the internship program is an ideal way to accomplish this goal.

Program:	<i>The Center for Sustainable Agricultural Systems (CSAS)</i> http://ianrwww.unl.edu/ianr/csas/
Contact:	Charles Francis, Director Telephone: 402-472-2056 E-Mail: cfrancis2@unl.edu
Established:	1991
Institution:	University of Nebraska
Mission and Focus:	The overall goal of the Center is to enhance the capability of the University of Nebraska to design and evaluate sustainable production systems, and to incorporate this focus into current and future research, teaching, extension and international activities. Evaluation of systems focuses on their capacity to improve productivity and resource use efficiency, reduce environmental degradation, and promote short- and long-term economic viability.
Structure:	The director has a joint appointment with the Center and the Department of Agronomy. Additionally there is a center coordinator. The Center is dissolving on July 1, 2000 and will join with two other centers to form the Center for Applied Rural Innovation.
Budget:	Center operations are supported by state funds, while project activity is primarily supported by both private and federal grants. The annual budget is about \$100,000 (state) plus \$200,000 (federal and private grants).
Action:	The Center uses a systems approach to address the complex and multidimensional challenges associated with a sustainable and profitable agriculture. Examples of current challenges include: soil erosion; decline in water quality; increasing costs and finite supplies of fossil fuel based inputs; decline of rural communities; increasing consumer concern about food safety and nutrition and the environment; increasing state and federal legislation restricting chemical use; and environment-degrading practices.
Strengths:	training extension and the Integrated Farm
Challenges:	The greatest challenge for the Center has been to complete interdisciplinary work. There are many university barriers to interdisciplinary work.

Background: The Center for Sustainable Agricultural Systems was formed in 1991 within the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) for the purpose of bringing together people and resources to promote an agriculture that is efficient, profitable, environmentally and socially sustainable for the indefinite future. The Center as well as the Center for Leadership Development are merging as of July 1, 2000 into the new Center for Applied Rural Innovation. The new missions statement will read: The Center for Applied Rural Innovation will respond to the increasingly complex and dynamic needs of rural communities and citizens with programs based on citizen involvement, local human and natural resources, and effective mobilization of public research and education to meet those needs.

Center Goals:

- To organize programs tailored to local people and resources to provide education for rural community entrepreneurs and support their business development.
- To catalyze development of political leadership in rural areas to effectively address business and agricultural policy decisions.
- To educate rural citizens in the potentials and applications of information technologies and stimulate adoption of information systems appropriate to their communities.

- To monitor and evaluate the changes in rural communities and landscapes through rural polls and other assessment techniques that can inform people of the success of their efforts as well as provide information to policy makers.
- To deliver programs that lead to communities and agricultural production systems that are economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and socially equitable for all rural citizens.

Funding: The Center receives funding from all sources. About \$100,000 per year is from state funding and about \$200,000 comes from both federal and private grants.

Staffing: the Center currently has 1.5 staff members.

Governing Body: the Center is governed by an outside advisory committee as well as University faculty.

Research: In the spring of 1992, an Integrated farm began (funded by a USDA grant). Funding continues for the project, and is about \$50,000 to – \$60,000. This project seeks funding continually for research: targeted areas include constructing wetlands for waste management of swine; composting in waste management; and a total waste management system for feedlot.

An Integrated Farm Committee made up of the principle investigator, Terry Klopfenstein; founding project coordinator, Gary Lesoing (Galen Erickson currently is project coordinator); director of the ARDC, Dan Duncan; director of the Center for Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Chuck Francis; Jim Brandle, Agroforestry; and interested Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) faculty members was formed.

There are eight goals of this integrated livestock/crop farm.

- Integrated innovative cropping and grazing systems and develop new systems to add value to crops and crop residues in an integrated crop/livestock farm.
- Develop a manure application plan that will maximize the nutritive benefit of animal wastes to crops and pasture in an integrated/crop livestock farm.
- Develop sustainable cropping practices that maximize use of renewable resources that are environmentally sound, maintain wildlife, and are profitable in the short and long term.
- Demonstrate cropping practices and livestock enterprises that are environmentally sound and maintain water quality.
- Provide a demonstration and research location to educate the public about the above farming practices with individual research projects providing answers to specific questions.
- Optimize management of the Silver Creek area and associated wetlands, e.g. trees, grasslands, woody perennials, fish production, wildlife, water quality.
- Evaluate the role and impact of living wild resources (trees, wildlife, insects) in relation to sustainable agricultural systems.
- Provide educational and extension opportunities for students, producers, and the general public both on the process of integrated farm design and the specific practices on the Integrated Farm.

Education:

- North Central Sustainable Agricultural Training Program consisting of online publications of extension and education materials for sustainable agriculture. <http://ianrwww.unl.edu/ianr/csas/ncsatp.htm>
- CSAS 1998-1999 Seminar Series – held once a week on campus. Abstracts for 1998-1999 CSAS Seminar Series on-line at: <http://ianrwww.unl.edu/ianr/csas/abstrF98.htm>
- Nebraska Ag IMPACT Project. The Nebraska Ag IMPACT Project is a collaborative effort of the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society, the Center for Rural Affairs, and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Nebraska Ag IMPACT Project is working with groups of farmers and ranchers across Nebraska to research and demonstrate sustainable farming systems on their own land. The IMPACT Project provides small grants for group activities and projects--up to \$3,500 per group. Nebraska's farmers in the IMPACT program will work with Nebraska's sustainable agriculture organizations to restore farm profitability, benefit the environment and support rural communities. Together they will make an IMPACT on how Nebraskans farm for the next century.

Program:	<i>Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (CSANR)</i> http://csanr.wsu.edu/
Contact:	Christopher F. Feise – Interim Director Email: feise@wsu.edu Phone: 509 335-2885 Fax: 206-723-8151
Established:	1991
Institution:	Washington State University
Mission and Focus	To develop and foster agriculture and natural resource management approaches that are economically viable, environmentally sound, and socially acceptable. Rather than duplicate ongoing efforts, the center strives to facilitate interdisciplinary linkages and coalitions between WSU, growers, industry, environmental groups, agencies, and the people of Washington.
Structure:	Seven staff people governed by an advisory committee which assists the Center with representation from a broad spectrum of interests.
Budget:	Operating budget of about \$2.6 million.
Action:	The center fulfills its role of facilitating and networking, seeking and coordinating funding, and providing education with activities in two areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improving Land Stewardship: Integrated and alternative cropping systems; agroforestry; forest ecosystem health; utilization of organic materials; composting; soil quality/health; water quality; and air quality. ➤ Food Systems Education: Integration of socioeconomic, cultural and biological aspects of food production; alternative production and marketing incentives for sustainably-grown food; food safety, interrelationships between and among food systems components; participatory on-farm research and education; state-wide food and agricultural systems curricula development stressing problem-solving and experiential learning; community and university educational farms; sustainable agriculture, environmental, and composting education.
Strengths:	The Center focuses on facilitation and networking, funding, and education . The CSANR facilitates new linkages and better communication between diverse interest groups, WSU units, growers, agencies, industry, environmental groups, and the public. It identifies funding sources, research gaps, and needs; coordinates research and education grant proposals; and facilitates and recommends new research and education programs that sustain agriculture and natural resources. The CSANR also provides factual information on relevant issues to a diverse audience through conferences, newsletters, on-farm documentation, tours, and projects.

Background: In 1990, Washington State University's College of Agriculture and Home Economics (CAHE) held 16 town hall meetings where more than 1,500 Washington citizens recommended how WSU could better serve them. A citizen task force, along with representative faculty members from the college, compiled this information identifying three major areas for immediate increased funding support: sustaining agriculture and natural resources, family well-being, and rural growth and revitalization.

CAHE proposed a package to Washington's legislature addressing these issues. As a result, in 1991 the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (CSANR) and the Food and Environmental Quality Laboratory (FEQL) were established through Substitute House Bill 1426.

Due to a lack of legislative support, the CSANR was established with funds reallocated to the CAHE from research, extension, and teaching. Housed within the CAHE, the center is independent from any department.

The Center acts as a facilitator to bring together interdisciplinary teams, both within WSU and in partnership with other organizations. The Center provides education on emerging issues through conferences and workshops, on-farm testing and applied research, informational materials, a World Wide Web site, satellite broadcasts, resource library, and personal consultation.

Funding: To carry out its mission, and to support additional staff members, CSANR acquired over \$620,000 in grants, and collaborated with other WSU departments and regional institutions in securing an additional \$2 million in grant dollars.

Staffing: CAHE provides salaries for a full-time director, three-quarter-time administrative assistant/coordinator/fiscal technician funded through grants.

Governing Body: An advisory committee assists the Center with representation from a broad spectrum of interests including: traditional and alternative agricultural producers, state and federal agencies, agri-supply industry, processors, consumer groups, marketing groups, and from natural resource, agricultural, and environmental organizations. The committee advises about program needs and visions.

The center is managed by an administrator who holds a joint appointment as an assistant director in the Washington State University Agricultural Research Center and Cooperative Extension.

A committee advises the administrator. The Dean makes appointments to the advisory committee so the committee is representative of affected groups, such as the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, the Washington Department of Ecology, the Washington Department of Agriculture, the chemical and fertilizer industry, food processors, marketing groups, consumer groups, environmental groups, and natural resource and agricultural organizations.

Research: Research programs which focus on developing possible alternative production and marketing systems through:

- Integrated pest management;
- Biological pest control;
- Plant and animal breeding;
- Conservation strategies; and
- Understanding the ecological basis of nutrient management

Examples of current projects:

Creating a Sustainable Future for Fish, Water and People in the Pacific Northwest

Purpose: To build capacity in people and organizations that are working on issues related to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA) to enable them to more effectively achieve their desired outcomes through community-based decisions and non-regulatory actions. This project does not seek to replace anything that anybody is already doing. The intent is to make these existing efforts more effective in achieving the collaborative resolution of issues. The final purpose is to increase salmon runs to historical levels, to improve the water quality to almost natural levels and to provide a high quality of life, socially and economically, for the people in the region.

Holistic Management Project in collaboration with the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources

The purpose is to achieve the goal of sustainable natural resource systems by building leadership skills and creating collaborative relationships founded on holistically-based decision making.

The Goals

- Develop sustainable agricultural and natural resource systems.
- Become more effective decision makers through holistic management.
- Promote collaborative relationships among stakeholders in Washington State through the consensus process.
- Enhance leadership capacity and become positive role models.

Education: On-farm demonstrations and evaluation of alternative production practices;

- Information dissemination, and education concerning sustainable agriculture and natural resource systems; and
- Communication and training on sustainable agriculture strategies for consumers, producers, and farm and conservation-related organizations
- Sustainable Agriculture And The Community On Lopez Island, Washington_– an online slide show presentation. <http://csanr.wsu.edu/TFA/seminar3/index.htm>

Program:	<i>Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE)</i> http://www.ksu.edu/kcare/
Contact:	William Hargrove – KCARE Director (785) 532-7103 – phone (785) 532-6563 – fax email: bhargrov@oz.oznet.ksu.edu
Established:	
Institution:	Kansas State University
Mission and Focus	to coordinate and enhance research, extension and teaching, “pertaining to environmental issues from an agricultural perspective.
Structure:	Part of KSU Extension
Budget:	
Action:	KCARE supports sustainable agriculture and tackles environmental issues such as conservation of soil and water. Through research and education, this Center works to develop mutually beneficial relationships between agriculture, natural resources, the environment, and consumers. For example, KCARE has been involved in a project with the University of Nebraska involving surface water quality in the Blue River Basin.
Strengths:	

Overview: Formation of the Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment has been established to aid in the study of the interaction of agriculture and the environment. KCARE will provide the building blocks to identify relevant and fundable research areas, and establish interdisciplinary working groups between KSU and organizations outside of KSU. It is an interdepartmental unit as part of the Kansas State University system.

The Center’s goals are:

- To foster holistic, interdisciplinary research to solve agricultural and environmental problems.
- To communicate the relationship of agriculture and the environment to the producer and the public.
- To develop financial resources for the interdisciplinary research, teaching, and communications activities of the Center.

Staffing: it consists of a director and a five member executive committee. It also has focus groups which consist of committee members made up of the Kansas State Research and Extension and Kansas State University faculty.

Governing Body: as part of the Kansas State Cooperative Extension it is governed by the university. (*question as to roles of director and executive committee.... Need to phone them to find out more*).

Funding: for research one funding source is the Kansas Department of Health & Environment.

Research: the Sextro Dairy Parlor Wetland Cell Demonstration Project is the only current research that is accessible online. It’s objective is to demonstrate the utilization of a wetland cell for treating milk parlor wash water. The project will help evaluate an alternative to using holding ponds or lagoons for controlling milk parlor effluent.

Education: KCARE periodically releases updates on the situation on animal waste lagoons as part of K-State’s extension research program.

Program:	<i>Missouri Alternatives Center</i> http://www.agebb.missouri.edu/mac/
Contact:	Debi Kelly – Project Manager Phone 573-882-1905 kellyd@umsystem.edu
Established:	1988
Institution:	University of Missouri, Columbia
Mission and Focus	to provide Missourians with timely information about alternative agricultural opportunities, to evaluate diverse enterprises, improve management decisions, increase economic returns and enhance the quality of their lives.
Structure:	Part of University of Missouri Cooperative Extension Service
Budget:	
Action:	Serves as the communication center for Missouri farmers, extension staff, government employees, and people who wish to begin farming.
Strengths:	Education and website for submitting questions.

Overview: Established in 1988, the Center is a communications center for Missouri farmers, extension staff, government employees, and people who wish to begin farming. The center rents videos on rotational grazing, vegetables, high value marketing, and integrated pest management for small fruits and vegetables.

Staffing: project manager and secretary

Governing Body: university

Funding: The Center is funded by university extension, agricultural experiment station, Lincoln University, Missouri Department of Conservation, and MU extension

Research: no independent research

Education: The Center has answered over 18,000 information requests since opening, on topics ranging from aquaculture, marketing, alternative row crops, sheep goats and rabbits, and game birds, plus others. The Center mails information to people. The Center also publishes the Ag Opportunities Newsletter, bimonthly.

Program:	<i>Agroecology/Sustainable Agriculture Program</i> http://www.aces.uiuc.edu/~asap/index.html
Contact:	Dan Anderson Phone 217 333-1588 aslan@uiuc.edu
Established:	1989
Institution:	University of Illinois
Mission and Focus	ASAP facilitates and promotes research and education which protects Illinois' natural and human resources while sustaining agricultural production forever.
Structure:	As part of the University of Illinois Extension and the College of Agriculture and Consumer and Environmental Sciences, it has two staff member, both faculty in the College of Agriculture. There is no formal advisory committee
Budget:	\$120,000
Action:	The Center works closely with grassroots organizations and has three basic tasks: working with grassroots organizations; collaborating with faculty on research and outreach; and working with extension.
Strengths:	Newsletter, website, on-farm research
Challenges:	This center is struggling with the idea of becoming "larger" to increase its effectiveness.

Overview: The Illinois Sustainable Agriculture Committee (established by the Illinois legislature in 1992) identified several guiding principles and goals for managing agroecosystems under the auspices of sustainable agriculture in Illinois. The Committee defined sustainable agriculture as a set of ever-changing agricultural production and marketing systems that are sustainable forever and for everyone.

Staffing: the Center has two staff members both of whom are faculty at the university's cooperative extension service.

Governing Body: the University of Illinois. There is no formal advisory committee

Funding: grants and university extension funds

Research: In 1998, the on-farm research program will continue to serve the Illinois farmer members of local sustainable agriculture groups in 1998. I have remained instrumental within the leadership of the Illinois Sustainable Agriculture Society and it's Research Committee. Changes have been implemented to improve the quality and usefulness of the research coming out of the program. Instead of farmers choosing their own topics for research, topics are now limited to the following:

- cover crops (rye or vetch management),
- chemical vs. mechanical weed control,
- Bt vs. non-Bt corn, and
- split-application of N in corn.

Groups will conduct fewer individual farmer projects, but each group will also conduct a larger scale case-study on farming systems. I've worked with three groups so far to plan individual projects and develop ideas for case-studies. I have made an effort to strengthen each group's connection to the college by involving, where possible, ACES researchers to work more closely with the groups on their case studies. ISAS currently has one more year of funding for on-farm research.

Education: The primary opportunities for in-service training of extension agents regarding sustainable agriculture have been in association with workshops, state and regional conferences, and on-farm research, demonstrations and tours

Independent Centers

Program:	<i>Henry A. Wallace Center for Environmental Policy at Winrock International</i> http://www.hawiaa.org/hawiaa.htm
Contact:	Kate Clancy – Director Phone 301.441.8777 kclancy@winrock.org
Established:	1983
Institution:	Independent - Maryland
Mission and Focus	to encourage and facilitate the adoption of low-cost, resource-conserving, and environmentally sound farming systems.
Structure:	maintains a small professional staff of ten and is governed by a diverse Board of Directors which includes commercial-scale organic and other farmers, university and government scientists, representatives from non-governmental organizations, and others. Its various advisory groups include prominent practitioners, scholars, and scientists.
Budget:	\$1.0 million +
Action:	The Wallace Institute is guided by the broad, long-range interests of society in having an abundant supply of nutritious food available at fair prices, a clean and healthy environment, and a sound and just national and global agricultural and rural economy in which business, labor, women, and minorities have the opportunity and resources to meet their objectives. The Institute recognizes the importance of rural-urban linkages and supports efforts to engage the non-farm population in food production, processing, and distribution, to enhance this community's participation in agriculture's multiple social benefits.
Strengths:	The Wallace Institute's strength is policy research and analysis necessary to influence national agricultural policy. It is a contributing member of a growing national alternative agriculture network, and works directly with government agencies, educational and research institutions, producer groups, farmers, scientists, advocates, and other organizations that provide agricultural research, education, and information services.

Overview: The Henry A. Wallace Institute for Alternative Agriculture, a Maryland-based, non-profit education and policy research organization was named after the former Secretary of Agriculture and United States Vice President Henry A. Wallace during the Franklin Roosevelt administration. The Institute was created in 1983 with the mission to ensure that farm production gains not only are efficient and equitable, but also maintain the soil, water, and air on which farming – and all human life – depend.

This year, the Institute has become the Henry A. Wallace Center for Agricultural & Environmental Policy at Winrock International. The Wallace Center will relocate from Maryland to Winrock's Arlington, Virginia, offices by mid-spring. The 10-member staff will continue its ongoing projects and will participate in development of new programs at Winrock

As a voice for alternative agriculture in Washington, DC, the Wallace Institute has provided strong leadership, sound policy research, scientific analysis, and reliable information for the sustainable agriculture movement. It has influenced national agriculture policy and has worked with government agencies, educational and research institutions, producer groups, farmers, scientists, advocates, and other organizations that provide research, education, and information services.

Staffing: the staff of ten includes experts in policy analysis, project management, natural resources, and academic policy studies. It was headed by Garth Youngberg, who will continue to assist the Center on a part-time basis.

Governing Body: The Wallace Institute is governed by a board of 13, one of which is Paul W. Johnson, former Chief of the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (1994 to 1997) serves on the Board of directors. Wallace Institute Board Chair, Dr. Cornelia Butler Flora, has been elected to Winrock International's Board of Directors.

Funding: project funding comes primarily from private foundation, including W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Farm Foundation and the Turner Foundation.

Research: As part of Winrock International, the Wallace Center will maintain *its policy analysis programs*. Initiated in 1993, this program evaluates the implications for agricultural sustainability of existing, pending, and proposed domestic agricultural, environmental, trade, or other related policies; develops tools for measuring policy impacts on sustainability; and generally informs the policy process through credible policy research and analysis.

The Wallace Center *Agriculture Policy Project* (WAGPOL) is a five-year project which started in 1997. Through a number of innovative processes, it is engaging people at the local, regional, and national levels in the development of long-term, proactive policies for sustainable food and agriculture systems. One of the goals is to initiate institutional and policy change at both the local and national levels. A second goal is to increase the involvement of individuals and groups around the country in the development of food and agriculture policy.

The project is holding 12 local and 4 regional sessions and one national session in which participants develop models of improved policy for critical food and agriculture issues. At the local level, the groups will also develop a plan for local policy work based on what emerges from their sessions, and receive a grant to carry out this work.

Education: will continue to publish *Alternative Agriculture News*, a monthly newsletter covering policy and scientific developments and activities in the alternative agriculture community, and the quarterly *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture*, a peer-reviewed, scientific journal on alternative agriculture.

To honor the late Ward Sinclair—a gifted farmer, renowned writer, and passionate champion of alternative agriculture as well as former board member—the Wallace Institute previously awarded one internship each year to a person desiring "hands-on" experience of working on a farm that produces and direct markets food in ways that enhance the sustainability of agriculture, and with a private nonprofit organization that supports sustainable production and marketing. The Ward Sinclair Memorial Internship Program was discontinued after 1996.

The Henry A. Wallace lecture series is designed to create a forum for the continuing discussion of agricultural science, technology, and public policy. <http://www.hawiaa.org/Wallace/lectures.html>

Wallace Institute also publishes testimony and formal comment documents which can be accessed online at : <http://www.hawiaa.org/hawiaa.htm>.

Program:	<i>The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)</i> http://www.ncat.org/
Contact:	Kathleen L. Hadley, Executive Director Telephone (406) 494-4572 Toll free 1-800-275-6228 (ASK-NCAT) Fax (406) 494-2905 E-mail: info@ncat.org
Established:	1976
Institution:	Independent, located in Butte, Montana and Fayetteville, Arkansas
Mission and Focus	To champion sustainable technologies and community based approaches that protect natural resources and assist people, especially the economically disadvantaged, in becoming more self reliant.
Structure:	Staff of 25, governed by a board of directors
Budget:	Most of our funding is program related and comes from government contracts or foundation grants.
Action:	NCAT has helped individuals, communities, government agencies, non-profits and others with appropriate technology and sustainable development issues by providing the expertise for a broad range of programs and projects.
Strengths:	NCAT's work has grown from addressing the immediate energy needs of low-income people to promoting a wide array of sustainable technologies and technology transfer, including nationally-recognized work in energy and resource efficiency and sustainable agriculture.

Overview: The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT), established as a non-profit corporation in 1976, works to find solutions that use local resources to address problems that face all Americans, especially society's most disadvantaged citizens. Through more than 20 years of service, NCAT's work has grown from addressing the immediate energy needs of low-income people to promoting a wide array of sustainable technologies and technology transfer, including nationally-recognized work in energy and resource efficiency and sustainable agriculture

Staffing: the Center has a staff of 25.

Budget Most of the Center's funding is program related and comes from government contracts or foundation grants. Partners and foundations include: North Carolina State University, University of California-Davis, University of Iowa, University of Vermont, Utah State University, Washington State University, Fanwood Foundation, Greenville Foundation, Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation, Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation, McKnight Foundation, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc., Northwest Area Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, New York State Energy Research and Development Assoc., U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and others.

Technical Assistance From 1995 to the present, NCAT has developed and operated an Internet site on sustainable development for U.S. Department of Energy. The site includes a searchable data base, created by NCAT staff and subcontractors, of more than 700 organizations that can provide technical, financial and information assistance on topics related to sustainable development. Additionally, the site has recent articles and publications on sustainable development available on the site, a selection of model city codes and ordinances that promote sustainable development, two slide show tutorials on sustainable development, also developed by NCAT, and a description of sustainable development "success stories" from across the United States. The site receives over 100,000 visits per month. Additionally, the following are major activities of the Center:

- Creating and operating national information clearinghouses on energy efficiency and renewables, sustainable agriculture, and low-income energy;

- Developing Internet websites on sustainable community development;
- Assisting public housing authorities with energy conservation;
- Preparing environmentally safe integrated pest management plans for farms and wildlife refuges;
- Researching wind and solar development potential on Native American lands;

New Horizon Technologies, Inc., was established as a for-profit subsidiary of NCAT in 1982. Well known for its work in energy monitoring, New Horizon Technologies also provides market assessments for innovative energy technologies, consults with farmers and other land managers about sustainable agricultural practices, and develops safety and health solutions for small businesses. NCAT's own sustainable future depends on the partnerships we develop with other organizations. Our partners include universities, national governments, and non-profit organizations. The following are part of NCAT:

Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas http://www.attra.org/ Telephone (501) 442-9824 Toll-free for ATTRA 1-800-346-9140 Fax (501) 442-9842 Website: http://www.attra.org	Resource Efficient Multifamily Housing Services Toll free 1-800-275-6228 (ASK-NCAT) or (406) 494-4572 Fax (406) 494-2905 E-mail: reh@ncat.org Website: http://www.ncat.org/reh
Montana Rivers Project Telephone (800) 275-6228 (toll free) or (406) 494-8672 Fax (406) 494-2905 E-mail: mikem@ncat.org Website: http://www.ncat.org/mtrivers	LIHEAP Clearinghouse Telephone: (888) 294-8662 (toll-free) or (406) 494-8662 Fax (406) 494-2905 E-mail: kayj@ncat.org Website: http://www.ncat.org/liheap
Center for Resourceful Building Technology Telephone: (406) 549-7678 Fax: (406) 549-4100 E-mail: crbt@ncat.org Website: http://www.montana.com/crbt	New Horizon Technologies 406.494.4577 FAX: 406.494.2905 Email: NewHorizon@ncat.org Website: http://www.newhorizontech.com

Program:	<i>Center for Agriculture in the Environment (CAE)</i> http://www.farmlandinfo.org/cae/home.html
Contact:	Ann Sorensen – Assistant Vice President for Research 815-753-9347 Email: asorensen@niu.edu
Established:	1980
Institution:	American Farmland Trust
Mission and Focus	AFT works to stop the loss of productive farmland and to promote farming practices that lead to a healthy environment.
Structure:	American Farmland Trust is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1980. The Center for Agriculture in the Environment is the research arm of AFT. The Center has a staff of eight plus graduate students through Northern Illinois University. It is governed by a board of directors.
Budget:	Annual operating budget of approximately \$1.5 million.
Action:	CAE conducts research and policy analysis on urban sprawl and land conversion, on farmland protection issues, and on the economic impacts of transportation infrastructure, land prices, and agricultural policy. This center works closely with academic researchers, farmland advocates, public agencies, and private foundations.
Strengths:	CAE provides credible research through in-house expertise as well as NIU professors to support the mission of AFT and assist in their promotion of farmland protection efforts.

Overview: The Center was created by American Farmland Trust, with support from the Ford Foundation, in 1992. The reason for the center to conduct research to assist in carrying out its mission of protecting the nation's most valuable farmland. The center also sponsors surveys, pilot projects that test the effectiveness of policy, and policy publications.

Staffing: the Center consists of a vice president for research, an assistant director, an administrative assistant, a librarian, a conservation adoption specialist, research coordinator/evaluation specialist and an agricultural economist. Together, the staff works on projects as well as on assisting the field offices of AFT. It also has access to NIU faculty who do research as needed.

Governing Body: CAE, as part of AFT, is governed by a board of directors. One of the founding AFT board member is Peggy McGrath Rockefeller.

Funding: The Center's funding comes primarily from private foundations and federal grants.

Research: the center has been involved in research for the past two farm bill debates and is actively involved in the current discussions for the upcoming farm bill. The center is also involved in research for integrated pest management, testing environmental indicators for potential pesticide impacts as well as research on scatter development and sprawl issues.

In 1999, CAE took over the Agricultural Conservation Innovation Center which develops economically practical solutions to agricultural-environmental problems and makes these rapidly available to farmers and ranchers as a project of AFT.

Education: CAE houses the Farmland Information Library which was established in 1994. The Center has an on-line library and information on farmland protection and other sources. The library is affiliated with the National Agricultural Library and funded by NRCS. It has links to Research which the Center conducts, other relevant literature; a section on law with statutes and regulations, research tools including access to Agricola search engine,

Small Farm Resources; Information about Farm Bills; Technical Assistance (access to fact sheets and a technical assistance hotline); Calendars; and other information for specific states.

Program:	<i>Center for Rural Affairs</i> http://www.cfra.org/
Contact:	Chuck Hassebrook, Program Director Phone (402) 846- 5428 Email: chuckh@cfra.org
Established:	1973
Institution:	Independent – non-profit, Walthill, NE
Mission and Focus	The Center for Rural Affairs is committed to building communities that stand for social justice, economic opportunity, and environmental stewardship.
Structure:	The Center consists of program directors plus 22 program and support staff in offices in Walthill and Hartington, Nebraska, Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP) field service staff in home offices in Atkinson, Chadron, Cozad and Plymouth, Nebraska.
Budget:	Total 1998-99 Budget: \$2,187,962
Action:	Focus of the Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Farm and Community Policy Program ➤ Rural Opportunities and Stewardship Program The Center also works on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Corporate Farming and Industrialization ➤ Beginning Farmers and U.S. Agriculture ➤ Microlending, Entrepreneurship and Small Business
Strengths:	effort in reforming federal agricultural policies

Overview: It encourages people to accept both personal and social responsibility for creating such communities. It provides opportunities for people to participate in decisions that shape the quality of their lives and the futures of their communities. The Center engages in research, education, advocacy, and service work to further this vision of rural America.

Staffing: five member leadership team plus 22 full time program and support staff.

Governing Body:

Funding: The Center for Rural Affairs receives its support through grants and contracts, donations, honoraria, fees for services, and publications income.

Research: The Center has committed a decade of effort in reforming federal agricultural policies. The Center has understood that to achieve meaningful change we need long-term advocacy that is consistent and credible. Activities in research include:

- **The Research and Technology Policy Project:** seeks to direct agricultural research, extension and education programs toward a more diverse agriculture that promotes sustainable rural communities, vibrant family-size farms and the environment. The Center for Rural Affairs works to involve grassroots citizens in holding federally funded research initiatives accountable in the way that they serve the broader public interest. In collaboration with the Consortium for Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (CSARE) we continue to reach out to a broad network of farmers, extension workers, educators, researchers, policymakers and non-profit organizations. With these partners we strive for research and technology policies that promote and support stewardship of natural resources, social justice, dispersed ownership of agricultural assets, and sustaining rural economic opportunity and community development.
- **Agricultural Policy Project:** The Agricultural Policy Project works to make federal farm commodity, tax, credit, risk management, marketing and conservation programs supportive of resource stewardship and family

farm opportunities. The Project engages in policy analysis, policy option development, administrative advocacy and public education. In these efforts, the Project works closely with the Midwest Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (MSAWG) and the Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture, and provides leadership to their efforts. We engage farmers, citizens and grassroots organizations in the debate over the future of American agriculture, as well as more immediate policy decisions.

Education/Outreach: Through the Family Farm Opportunities Project, the Stewardship Investment Finance Fund will be making loans to beginning farmers in neighboring states. The Rural Enterprise Assistance Project provides services to micro businesses in Kansas, Iowa, and South Dakota and is working to help South Dakotans develop their own microenterprise program. The Marketing Alliances Project is developing a hog co-operative in Iowa. The Beginning Farmer Sustainable Agriculture Project is developing a business curriculum for use across the country and is building sustainable agriculture into the world wide movement to address global warming.

- **The Rural Enterprise Assistance Project (REAP)** was started by the Center for Rural Affairs in 1990 to meet the needs of self-employed persons in the rural Midwest. Center studies in the late 1980's showed a high rate of self-employed in rural areas, but economic development strategies at the time were not designed to help this sector. REAP provides individuals with business management training, technical assistance, lending capital, and networking opportunities for starting and growing a business. Associations of microentrepreneurs are formed in rural areas of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and South Dakota and are the supporting vehicle for the delivery of these services. REAP currently has 35 associations with an average of 8 members per association. The project has made 183 loans with an average loan size of \$1,606 and total lending of \$294,000.

Program:	<i>Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Inc.</i> http://www.kerrcenter.com/
Contact:	Jim Horne – President, 918-647-9123 mailbox@kerrcenter.com
Established:	1985
Institution:	Independent – Poteau, Oklahoma
Mission and Focus	The Kerr Center offers progressive leadership and educational programs to all those interested in making farming and ranching environmentally friendly, socially equitable, and economically viable over the long term.
Structure:	
Budget:	
Action:	The Kerr Center is conducts research, education, outreach and has a competitive grants for farmers. It is part of the Rural Community Care Task Force of the Oklahoma Conference of Churches, the Oklahoma Sustainable Agriculture Working Groups and the has established Center's Sustainable Rural Development and Public Policy in 1996.
Strengths:	Encouraging stewardship, innovation, rural development through competitive grants to farmers

Overview: The Kerr Center was established in 1985 by the descendents of an Oklahoma senator, Senator Kerr. The Center “offers progressive leadership and educational programs to all those interested in making farming and ranching environmentally friendly, socially equitable, and economically viable over the long term. The Kerr Center is funded by the Kerr Foundation, established in 1963. The Kerr Foundation was divided into four separate programs, all endowed, and in 1986, a charter for the Kerr Center was established.

Research: The Vero Beach Research Station (VBRS) researches and demonstrates sustainable agricultural practices that are economically and environmentally efficient and which help to reduce growers' dependence on non-renewable resources. Located on 35 acres of citrus groves in Florida's Indian River Citrus District, it is the subtropical research station of the Kerr Center.

Education: the Kerr Center publishes and sells booklets and manuals, conference proceedings and research papers as well as policy papers, fact sheets. Many can be viewed or downloaded at <http://www.kerrcenter.com/Publication.htm>. The center also publishes a newsletter located at <http://www.kerrcenter.com/nwsltr/index.htm#Index>

The Kerr Center acquired the two-story home and the remaining 140 acres of the Overstreet Ranch in 1988 from the Overstreet-Short Mountain Foundation. Restoration of the historic home and outbuildings was completed in 1991. The Overstreet-Kerr Historical Farm provides educational programs and displays that reflect the events and history at the turn of the century. Rural Development and Public Policy is part of the Kerr Center and was established in 1996. The program assists rural citizens and decision makers by sharing information about building strong and sustainable communities and the consequences of proposed policies for rural communities and agriculture. The Center works with leaders to assist in blending community needs with appropriate development that is environmentally sound, economically viable, and equitable to all.

Program:	<i>The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP)</i> http://www.iatp.org/
Contact:	Mark Ritchie, President Phone: 612-870-3411 Email: iatp@iatp.org
Established:	1986
Institution:	Independent - Minneapolis, MN
Mission and Focus	To create environmentally and economically sustainable rural communities and regions through sound agriculture and trade policy.
Structure:	Staff consists of full time as well as part-time and interns. The Advisory Committee is composed of 15-20 members, representing a diverse constituency concerned with agriculture, environment, and rural community development. Members commit to a two-year term, with the option to extend.
Budget:	IATP is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)3 status designated by the IRS. IATP receives income from <u>public and private foundations</u> , government agencies, individual donors, corporations and church giving programs.
Action:	Assist public interest organizations in coalition building and influencing both domestic and international policymaking through monitoring, analysis and research, education and outreach, and information systems management
Strengths:	Domestic and international policy making through monitoring, analysis and research, education and outreach, and information systems management

Overview: The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy works to create environmentally and economically sustainable rural communities and regions through sound agriculture and trade policy. IATP is active in both domestic and international policy making through monitoring, analysis and research, education and outreach, and information systems management.

Staffing: the Institute's staff consists of full time as well as part time staff and interns. Staff works on projects according to their distinct areas of expertise.

Governing Body: IATP is governed by a 15 to 20 member advisory committee which provides philosophical, strategic and technical advice to the work of the Environment and Agriculture Program at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP). Committee members aim to be proactive, striving to make Environment and Agriculture projects relevant, innovative and effective.

Funding: IATP is a nonprofit organization and receives income from public and private foundations, government agencies, individual donors, corporations and church giving programs. Some foundation supporting IATP are

Research:

- IATP's Environment and Agriculture program focuses on how agricultural practices impact the surrounding environment as well as how manufacturing industries affect agriculture and food safety. The food safety project is dedicated to "Keeping Industrial Pollution Out of the Food System." This project analyzes and educates consumers and policy makers on the following areas:
 - Hormone Disrupters
 - Sewage Sludge
 - Toxic Fertilizers
- IATP is also working to reduce the environmental impacts of agriculture and improve water quality through the voluntary adoption of on-farm assessment and decision tools through the Nutrient Management Yardstick and the Pesticide Decision Tool (PDT) which facilitates the use of environmental information in the selection and management of pesticides in arable crop production.

- IATP is looking at the relationship between climate change and agriculture and the risks and benefits farmers could receive from entering a carbon sequestration agreement.
- IATP is also working in the organic food labeling realm. Labeling products with respect to the sustainability of their production, processing and transporting is a powerful tool toward achieving a more environmentally sound, economically viable and socially just economy.

Education and Outreach: IATP prepares educational materials for distribution to policy makers, opinion leaders and the public at large. This includes a mail order literature service, video productions, public service announcement (PSA) campaigns, conferences and computer networks. Additionally, IATP provides training, consulting and technical assistance to groups interested in addressing economic and ecological issues through seminars, staff and leadership training, teleconferences, videos, on-site consultations and our system of computerized updates.

IATP is publishing a series of papers from scholars, farmers, policy makers, environmentalists, consumer advocates, religious leaders and others concerned about the crisis in American agriculture.

Forestry: The **Community Forestry Resource Center** promotes responsible forest management through the organization of sustainable forestry cooperatives and associations of private forest owners. IATP is working to help rural people, urban communities and counties find ways to manage their woodlots and forests more profitably and sustainably by ensuring that the proper economic, scientific, ecological, educational, legal, and social structures are in place to support sustainable forest management practices. Areas of work include Forest Stewardship Council certification, market development, carbon credits, and ecological landscape assessments.

Government – Affiliated Centers

Center:	<i>Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program</i> http://www.sare.org
Established	Authorized in the 1985 Farm Bill
Contact	Jill S. Auburn , SARE Director USDA-CSREES Washington, D.C. (202) 720-5203; (202) 720-6071 (fax) jauburn@reeusda.gov
Affiliation	USDA
Mission and focus	Works to increase knowledge about practices that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially acceptable. To advance such knowledge nationwide, SARE administers a competitive grants program first funded by Congress in 1988.
Structure:	SARE has four regional offices (Northeast, North Central, South and West)
Budget:	Congressional appropriations
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regional administrative councils recommend projects to be funded after proposals go through technical peer review. ➤ Oversight of congressional funds for sustainable agriculture projects
Strength:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SARE operates on principles of inclusion, partnership and participation. Each project include farmer input, and farmers and ranchers participate on technical review committees and administrative councils made up of a diverse group of ag professionals in each region. Those committees and councils assume responsibility for recommending a slate of projects each year that best meet the needs of each SARE region.

Overview: The USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program is a federal competitive grants program with regional leadership and decision making structures. Authorized by the 1985 Farm Bill, SARE was first funded in 1988. FY99 funding totals \$11.4 million. SARE works to increase knowledge about and help farmers and ranches adopt sustainable practices that are profitable, environmentally sound, and beneficial to local communities and society in general. SARE provides funding for research, demonstration, education, and extension projects carried out by scientists, producers, educators, and private sector representatives.

To advance such knowledge nationwide, SARE administers a competitive grants program first funded by Congress in 1988. Regional council representation in the Northeast, South, North Central and West is specified by law, leading to diverse councils of producers, farm consultants, university researchers and administrators, state and federal government agency staff and representatives from nonprofit organizations. The regional councils also provide policy direction and identify information needs for the SARE program.

On a National Perspective, SARE has four priorities:

- Enhancing farm profitability,
- Protecting Natural Resources through research and education projects,
- Improving Rural Life and
- Enhancing Communities through improving the quality of life for local farm workers, agrarian industry workers and consumers

While producers always had a role in SARE-funded research projects, SARE began offering a small grants program for farmers and ranchers to run their own on-site research experiments in 1992. Since then, producers have responded eagerly to the program, conducting research and serving as emissaries who carry information about sustainable agriculture to their peers.

Outreach: SARE devotes significant resources to ongoing outreach projects. The Professional Development Program (PDP) provides education and outreach strategies for Extension educators, Natural Resource Conservation Service staff and other agricultural professionals who work directly with farmers and ranchers. With its emphasis on teaching the teachers, PDP speeds the flow of sustainable agriculture methods and concepts to the field level.

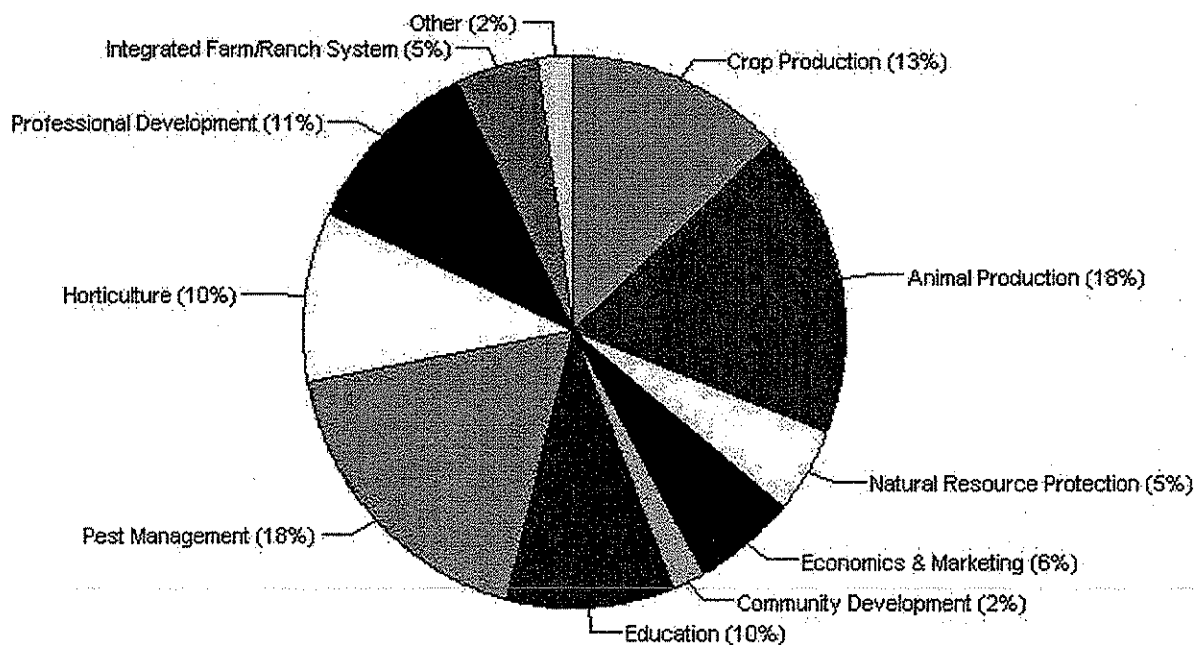
The Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) disseminates information about SARE and sustainable agriculture through electronic and print publications. SARE's strong educational component is a cooperative effort of university, government, farm, business, and nonprofit organizations to determine information gaps and set priorities for print and electronic groups. SAN also sponsors a sustainable agriculture mail group on the internet and provides much of its information on diskettes with built-in search engines.

Types of Grants:

- **Research And Education Grants:** Awarded since 1988, these grants typically fund projects -- generally ranging from \$30,000 to \$200,000 -- led by universities or non-profit organizations in an interdisciplinary approach.
- **Producer Grants:** Producers apply for on-farm research experiments that typically run between \$500 and \$10,000.
- **SARE Professional Development Program Grants:** First funded in 1994, these grants sponsor professional development in sustainable agriculture concepts and practices, using workshops, tours and meetings for Extension, the National Resources Conservation Service and other agricultural professionals.

Funding by Type

Since 1988, SARE has funded close to 1,200 projects. This chart categorizes that list to demonstrate the diversity of projects SARE has undertaken to advance sustainable agriculture research and education.



Contact

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