2016 New Competitive Grant Projects
Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture

Policy Initiative

Evaluating how private conservation initiatives may increase farmer adoption of conservation practices [P2016-01] 1 year, $37,500; statewide; N. Hamilton, M. Russell, Drake University Agricultural Law Center, Des Moines

Ecology Initiative

Bio-based antibacterial seed treatments to improve soil and plant health [E2016-02] 2 years, $72,219; Story County; R. Cademartiri, Chemical and Biological Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering; S. Goggi, Agronomy, Iowa State University

Investigation of bacterial community structure and antibiotic resistance and genetic mobility gene abundance in soils fertilized with swine manure [E2016-08] 1 year, $20,262; Poweshiek County; S. Hinsa-Leasure, Department of Biology, Grinnell College

Micro-algae-based fertilizer for nitrogen and phosphorus loss reduction [E2016-12] 2 years, $100,000; Story and Floyd Counties; D.Jarboe, Center for Crops Utilization and Research; D. Grewell, Ag and Biosystems Engineering; J. Schrader, Horticulture; Z. Wen, Food Science and Human Nutrition; A. Mallarino, J. Sawyer, Agronomy; Iowa State University

What will it take to restore organic matter to Iowa’s soils? [E2016-13] 3 years, $47,715; Story County; R. Dietzel, S. Archontoulis, M. Liebman, Agronomy Department; Iowa State University

Soil health in biofuel cropping systems [E2016-18] 3 years, $203,841; Story County; M. Thompson, M. Liebman, Agronomy; M. Helmers, Ag and Biosystems Engineering; Iowa State University

Does increasing landscape diversity in farmed closed depressions (potholes) increase profitability and ecosystems services? [E2016-19 and E2016-20] 2 years, $121,140; Story County; A. Kaleita, M. Soupir, Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering; A. Van Looke, E. Heaton, Agronomy; Iowa State University

Cross-Cutting Initiative

Further investigation of winter canola (Brassica napus) to enhance the sustainability of crop rotations in Iowa [XP2016-03] 3 years, $91,483; Story County; M. Wiedenhoef, Agronomy, Iowa State University

Innovative Conservation Agriculture [XP2016-05] 3 years, $85,270; Allamakee County; S. Berges, Allamakee Soil and Water Conservation District

Climate change adaptation in grassland agroecosystems [XP2016-07] 3 years, $90,000; Ringgold County; D. Debinski, Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology; C. Anderson, Agronomy; Iowa State University; H. Feng, Economics Department, Michigan State University; J. Miller, Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois

Improving economic sustainability of beef cow enterprises in the Midwest by mitigating tall fescue-related heat stress and determining the value of shade in grazing systems [XP2016-08] 2 years, $45,053; South-central Iowa; P. Gunn, J. Russell, Animal Science; S. Ensley, Veterinary Science; J. Sellers, Extension Beef Specialist; Iowa State University

Maximizing conservation and return of investment on farms in the Turkey River Watershed [XP2016-11] 1 year, $20,000; Northeast Iowa; R. Evelsizer, Northeast Iowa RC&D, Postville; A. Kiel, Iowa Soybean Association

Marketing and Food Systems Initiative

Investigating feasibility of food hub node expansion in Dubuque [M2016-05] 1 year, $21,987; Dubuque County; N. Mabe, Allamakee New Beginnings dba Iowa Food Hub; G. Windhorst, Iowa Food Hub

Latino groceries in the rural Midwest: An examination of food security, cultural identity, and economics [M2016-06] 1 year, $29,021, statewide; L. Bates, N. Ladjahasan, College of Design; J. Wolseth, Extension Community and Economic Development, Iowa State University
Reducing challenges for Iowa’s beginning farmers through partnerships with Iowa financial experts [M2016-08]  
2 years, $70,506; statewide; S. Worley, S. Carlson, Practical Farmers of Iowa

Workflow optimization for Iowa regional food hubs [M2016-09] 2 years, $50,000; Polk, Fayette, Shelby Counties;  
C. Krejci, M. Dorneich, R. Stone, Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering; Iowa State University

Descriptions of these grants are available on the Leopold Center website at: [www.leopold.iastate.edu/grants/current](http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/grants/current)  
For more information about competitive grant projects, contact the initiative leader: Craig Chase, Marketing and Food Systems Initiative, (515) 294-1854, cchase@iastate.edu; Mary Adams, Policy Initiative, (515) 294-5832, madams@iastate.edu;  
Malcolm Robertson, Ecology and Cross-Cutting Initiative, (515) 294-1166, malcolmr@iastate.edu.

The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture is a research center created by the 1987 Iowa Groundwater Protection Act and is located on the campus of Iowa State University. The Leopold Center’s mandated mission is to identify and reduce negative environmental and social impacts of farming and develop new ways to farm profitably while conserving natural resources. Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to Robinette Kelley, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, and Affirmative Action Officer, 3350 Beardshear Hall, Ames, Iowa 50011, Tel. 515 294-7612, email: eooffice@iastate.edu