



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
**STUDENT FARM**  
**2020 REPORT**



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***“The Ohio State University Student Farm strives to be an open and welcoming learning community focused on growing food and empowering future leaders committed to just and sustainable food systems through formal and informal experiential learning opportunities, outreach and engagement with local communities and farmers, and research opportunities.”***

# Past & Present

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## Past

The OSU Student Farm is a four-acre farm established in 2017 by a group of dedicated and energized students and two faculty advisors. More than twenty student employees and hundreds of volunteers have worked on this land to build the beautiful farm that it has become. Over the past three years, the farm has developed into a space for students and faculty to host workshops, research, and student projects while growing and distributing over 40 different crops.



## Present

Currently, the OSU Student Farm team consists of five part-time student workers, two faculty advisors, and a supporting student organization. In 2020, we grew almost 5600 lbs of produce, which marks a significant increase from previous seasons. We donated a large portion of our produce to the Buckeye Food Alliance, OSU's food pantry for students and sold the remainder through an 8-week

late summer CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program and a one-time Fall Fundraiser. Additionally, for the first time, our team created some added-value products: marinara sauce and cayenne powder. Even with COVID-19 restrictions and a late start to the season, we persevered and had our best season yet.

# 2020 By the Numbers

**TOTAL MARKET  
VALUE OF ALL  
PRODUCE: OVER  
\$16,000**

**OVER 2,000  
HOURS  
WORKED**

**9 STAFF  
MEMBERS**

**ALMOST  
\$5,800  
TOTAL  
EARNINGS**

**OVER 5,500  
LBS OF  
PRODUCE**

**TOTAL MARKET  
VALUE OF DONATED  
PRODUCE: OVER  
\$6,300**

**16 CSA  
SHARES**

**41 UNIQUE  
CROPS  
GROWN**

**25 DIFFERENT  
VOLUNTEERS**

**OVER 2,000  
LBS OF PRODUCE  
DONATED TO  
BFA**

# Our Team

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## **Andrew Yates '21 - Production**

I am a senior in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Horticulture. I joined the farm in the Fall of 2019 and have loved every minute of it since. The farm has helped me grow in so many ways while furthering my love for agriculture and sustainability. What I love most about the farm is getting to work on a student-led project where we can choose the direction and goals of the program. I also love the endless supply of fresh produce.

## **Connor Nagy '23 - Data and Logistics**

As a new hire, I truly appreciate the opportunity to work on the farm. As a second year in Computer Science Engineering, I enjoy being able to take a break from the technical side of the digital world. I also am grateful to be working at a position where I feel like we make a difference in the Buckeye and Columbus Community by donating to food pantries and charities.



## **Hannah Sorrell '23 - Marketing Coordinator**

I am a third year studying Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife. I joined the Student Farm as a volunteer in the summer of 2019 and was hired in October of the same year. I have enjoyed communicating with our community, watching the farm grow, and learning about sustainable agriculture through this experience! I have met some of the most incredible people and have enjoyed growing and cooking with the best and freshest produce I have ever tried!

## **Jillian Horan '22 - Workshops**

I am a 3rd-year studying Agroecology, with a minor in Rural Sociology. While I've been involved with the Student Farm in small ways since my freshman year, working as an employee with the farm has given me the opportunity to engage with the group even more. I love the sense of community built by the farm, the commitment to addressing issues of food security and social justice, and of course all the veggies!





### **Mary Stroemple '20 - Social Media/Marketing**

I just graduated from OSU in December of 2020 with a major in Strategic Communication and minors in Music, Media & Enterprise, and Photography. I have gotten to know the Student Farm and its employees over the last year, and have seen how much dedication, love and learning goes into running the farm. I am super excited to officially be on board and help with its mission. Sustainable

growing practices, focus on food justice, and the best cherry tomatoes you will ever taste - what more could you want!

### **Rachel Kopniske '21 - Outreach**

I am a 4th-year studying Political Economy and Anthropology. I joined our farm team in the Spring of 2019 with an interest in learning about the foundations of food production and was welcomed by so many brilliant and creative folks. Through my time at the farm I have come to see farming as a path for healing and restoring my environment, both socially and ecologically. I will cherish the relationships, nutrients, and life knowledge I have gained from being a part of the farm forever.



### **Anna Baltisberger '22 - Production**



I am a 3rd-year studying Sustainable Plant Systems specializing in Agroecology. I became involved with the student farm as soon as I learned about the group my freshman year and recently worked for the farm during the 2020 growing season. Being involved with the farm has connected me to an amazing community of people and has taught me lessons I would have never learned in a lecture hall. This group has

given me space to connect with plants in a way that is typically not offered in a university setting. Learning how to cultivate food for yourself and others is an invaluable skill that I believe every person has the right to.

### **Rachael Birri '20 - Production**

Rachael Birri graduated from Ohio State *summa cum laude* with a degree in Environmental Science and a focus in soil science. They have been a part of the farm since it was started up back in 2017 and have contributed endless hours toward sharing knowledge, hard on-farm work, building care and power among student employees, and inspiring others through the love that surrounds all the projects they pursue. In 2020 Rachael completed their undergraduate research, graduated from OSU, and went to work at the Seed Savers Exchange in Iowa.





### **Riley Sayers '20 - Data and Logistics**

I graduated from OSU in August of 2020 with my BA in International Studies with a specialization in Security and Intelligence and minors in Portuguese, Philosophy, and Political Science. I started attending workdays during the summer of 2019, and I applied for a position when one opened in the fall after appreciating the atmosphere and the space at the Student Farm. My heritage is in agriculture, and my training and work are in social justice; the farm offered an introduction to food justice. My time with the OSU Student Farm provided knowledge for reciprocal land and community relationships as well as

experiences that gave me a deeper understanding as to what food sovereignty and accountability do and do not look like. I am applying praxis from my time with the Student Farm to my work with the Mobile Moon Co-Op in Salt Lake City, Utah and to my graduate studies in Environmental Humanities at the University of Utah.

### **Dr. Christopher Ratcliff - Faculty Advisor**

I am a senior lecturer who teaches in the departments of Engineering Education, Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering, and the Horticulture and Crop Science. I've been involved with the Student Farm since its relaunch in 2017, working in the field, managing budgets and projects, advising and mentoring students, and developing curricula. Last autumn semester, I taught the first offering of HCS 2307, a practical experience course that took place on the farm and contributes to the new Sustainable Agriculture major.



### **Dr. Kristin Mercer - Faculty Advisor**

I am an Associate Professor in Horticulture and Crop Science who has advised the current OSU Student Farm since its inception in 2017. I enjoy working with the diversity of students on the farm to bring interdisciplinary perspectives to hands-on learning in sustainable food and farming systems. I aim to facilitate the students' development of production, communication, and leadership skills and work to enhance the possibilities for horizontal learning among students. I also work to connect the farm to the teaching, research, and outreach missions of the university.



# Volunteers

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## Volunteers

Even with the strenuous situation brought on by the pandemic, our farm was still able to host small socially distanced groups of volunteers from late summer through the fall semester. Our farm saw 25 unique volunteers who worked 173 hours during 62 different visits. The Student Growing Collaborative (SGC), an official Ohio State student organization, is the outreach hand to connect students to the farm. Many volunteers find the farm through the organization. Fourth-year student Tori Schaefer says that “Volunteering at the farm makes me feel like a good future is possible.” We truly appreciate the help our volunteers give, and we would not be where we are without them.

**25 DIFFERENT  
VOLUNTEERS**

**173 HOURS  
WORKED**

**62  
DIFFERENT  
VISITS**



# Educational Opportunities

Despite the challenges that COVID-19 posed to in-person education this year, the student farm played an important role in many educational opportunities throughout the college. Various classes, such as **FABE 3200S** and **ENR 5279**, used the farm as a location for semester-long projects. **HCS 2307** held a majority of their classes at the farm for hands-on learning.

**FABE 3200S**, Engineering for Community Development in Ohio, took place in spring 2020. In the class, five students worked on a project under the guidance of Dr. Chris Ratcliff to design a mobile cold storage trailer that would be powered by the OSU Student Farm solar generator. The farm currently lacks mobile cold storage for preserving food grown, which is necessary for efficient distribution to the community. The students researched everything from the size of the trailer to the type of insulation needed, and even ended up buying the trailer to be used. Due to COVID-19, the class was unable to physically construct the trailer, but the students completed the design and purchase of materials which allowed student employees to begin construction on the trailer this fall. We hope to have the trailer operational for the 2021 growing season.



**ENR 5279**, Urban Soils and Ecosystem Services, centers around teaching students how to assess and restore urban soils. During the Fall 2020 semester, the class used the farm as a location for their semester-long assessment project. Much of their work consisted of taking various samples of the farm's soil from different locations, such as areas with high vs low levels of amendments, and intensively farmed vs relatively undisturbed plots on the farm. The students also performed different tests related to compaction, nutrient content, and presence of microbial life. After analyzing the various tests, students were able to generate a report detailing recommendations for helping us improve the soil at the farm.

The farm also saw extensive involvement via the new Sustainable Agriculture Practical Experience class, **HCS 2307**, taught by Dr. Chris Ratcliff. HCS 2307 provided students with real world experience as most of its class periods were held at the student farm. Students gained knowledge about transplanting, harvesting, weed management, and soil structure. "I thoroughly enjoyed this class!" said 2nd year student Connor Nagy. "Even though I had been to the farm before, I learned plenty of new skills and tools. The ability to see crops, insects, and weeds up close was priceless". The student farm will act as a central location for this class as part of the new Sustainable Agriculture major (officially added to the college January of 2021). The major will entail a more interdisciplinary approach to sustainable agriculture, including an increased focus on entrepreneurship and practical hands-on learning.

# On-Farm Projects

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## **Water catchment project**

Starting in the spring of 2019, the OSU student organization Engineers Without Borders designed a water catchment system for our high tunnel. The project will improve the sustainability of our irrigation system while improving drainage around our high tunnel. This project was a collaboration among FABE professor Chris Ratcliff, undergraduate students Rachael Birri and Bonnie Sutherland, and the Engineers Without Borders student group. This project was funded by a 2019 Coke Grant awarded to past student farm employees, Rachael Birri and Bonnie Sutherland.

## **Maize research**

In 2020, Dr. Kristin Mercer, HCS, conducted research on nitrogen fixation in maize on the student farm. This research was started in 2019 in collaboration with an undergraduate, Noah Kayafas, who was a production manager of the student farm, as well as a recipient of Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP) funds, through the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Expression. Noah's 2020 continuation of research was to be funded by the Center for Applied Plant Sciences (iCAPS) program; however, this research was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Mercer continued the research during 2020 with help from her lab members, Jack McCoy and Layne Connolly.

## **Greenhouse gas research**

Dr. Marilia Chiavegato, Assistant Professor in the Departments of Horticulture and Crop Science and Animal Science, established research on greenhouse gas emissions on the OSU Student Farm. Along with help from students in her laboratory, Magdalena Riccardi and Marina Miquilini, they monitored the three main greenhouse gas emissions from soils – carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) – to determine the C-equivalent flux from different field plots across the farm. The goal is to measure emissions and sinks for the monitored fields in order to understand the GHG emissions patterns, identify “hotspots” of emissions and sinks, and observe the main differences between plots.

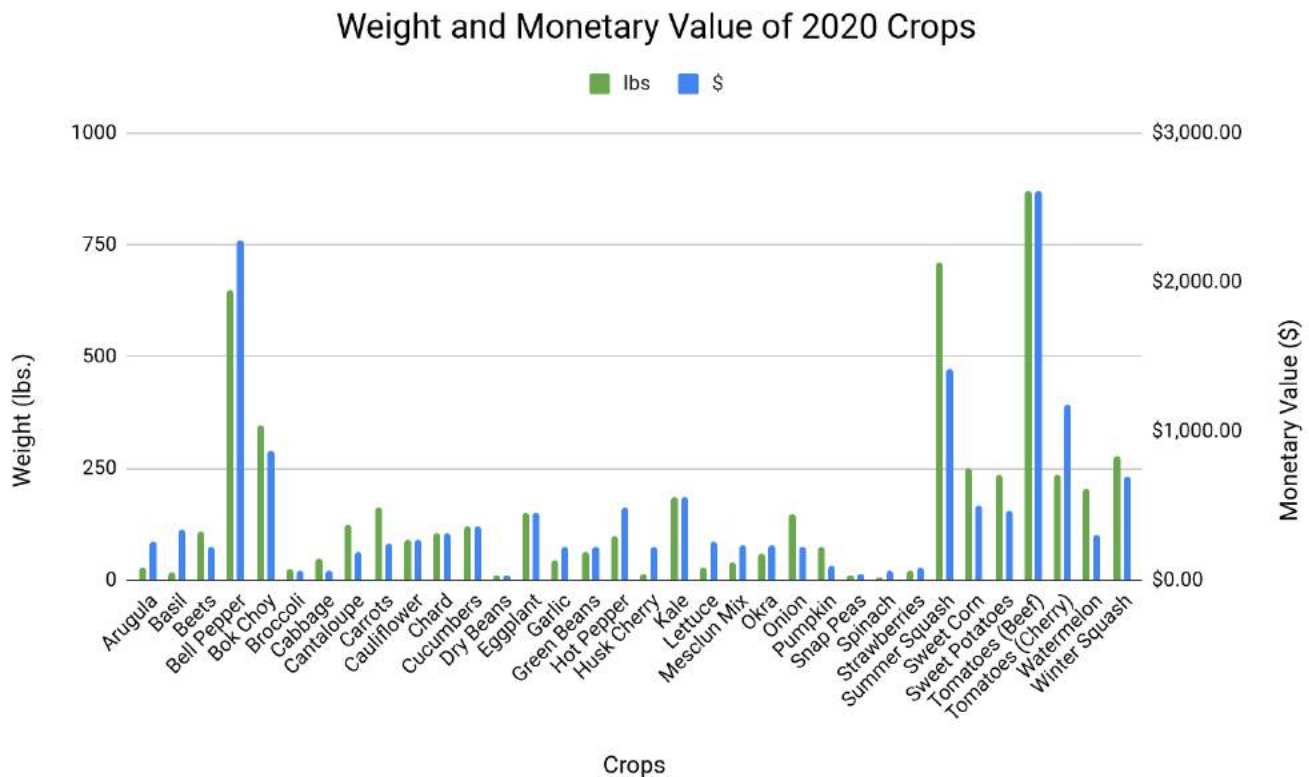
## **Intercropping of Flowering and Herbaceous Plants**

In Spring of 2020, student farm employees Andrew Yates and Anna Baltisberger were awarded a grant from the Sustainability Institute to research the effectiveness of intercropping. The grant had two parts: research on the yield impact when intercropping spinach and corn and the creation of a demonstration garden of flowering and herbaceous plants to attract pollinators and predatory and parasitoid species. Due to COVID-19, the project was not able to take place during 2020. Instead, the project will take place in 2021 and narrow in scope to the demonstration garden and improving the farm's agroforestry plot.

# Produce Distribution

During 2020, our team grew 41 unique crops and distributed them to six primary sources shown in Figure 2 on the following page. The total weights and monetary value of most of these crops is depicted in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1. Pounds per Crop harvested in 2020



## Buckeye Food Alliance

During 2020, the OSU Student Farm solidified its connection to the Buckeye Food Alliance (BFA). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, BFA, like many food pantries, experienced increased traffic and need for food. In particular, they lacked fresh produce. Knowing this, our team decided to make donations a priority this season. We dropped off crates of produce anytime during pantry hours. By the conclusion of the season, the OSU Student Farm had donated a total of 2,022 lbs of produce to BFA worth approximately \$6,000. In 2021, we plan for BFA to remain our primary donation outlet.

## CSA

For 8 weeks in the late summer to early fall, the CSA was our farm's primary produce outlet. Since COVID-19 caused us a late start to the season, the majority of our crops were harvested during the late summer and fall. We took advantage of this with our CSA. Starting in mid-August, our team put together customized produce bags for 16 CSA members, two of which were donated to the

Ronald McDonald House or the Buckeye Food Alliance by our honorary CSA members: Dean Kress and President Johnson. Our CSA members primarily consisted of OSU faculty or staff with the 8-week service costing \$200 for pickup or \$240 for delivery. Overall, our CSA was a success with one member writing, "I've done CSAs for a few years now, and this was the best one so far. Thank you and congrats."

### Fall Fundraiser

Our Fall Fundraiser was inspired by both our surplus of produce and our dire need for funding at the time. The Fundraiser took place on October 23rd and featured many of our fall crops and our prepared goods: marinara sauce and cayenne powder. Our team sold 15 bags at \$100. The team was hoping for greater participation; we plan to lower the price if we decide to continue this marketing strategy next year.

### Added Value Products

This spring, we made a connection with Jeannie Seabrook of Glass Rooster Cannery. In the fall, Jeannie helped us turn about 300 lbs of tomatoes into 30 gallons of marinara sauce at her cannery. The project allowed our team to reduce food waste by utilizing frozen surplus and imperfect tomatoes from throughout the season. Our team also produced cayenne powder. We grew far more hot peppers than we could distribute, so our team decided to dehydrate and grind surplus peppers to be sold over an extended timeframe. In the future, our team would like to expand the variety and quantity of our value-added products.

### Dining services

During fall Semester, our team began selling to OSU Dining Services by coordinating our efforts through Waterman Farm. Due to changes brought on by the pandemic, Dining Services was very limited in what produce they could accept, so they only accommodated two buys totaling \$185. Our produce was delivered to Scott Traditions and made

available to students at the salad bar. In the future, our team hopes to establish a direct connection to dining services and provide produce consistently during the fall semester.

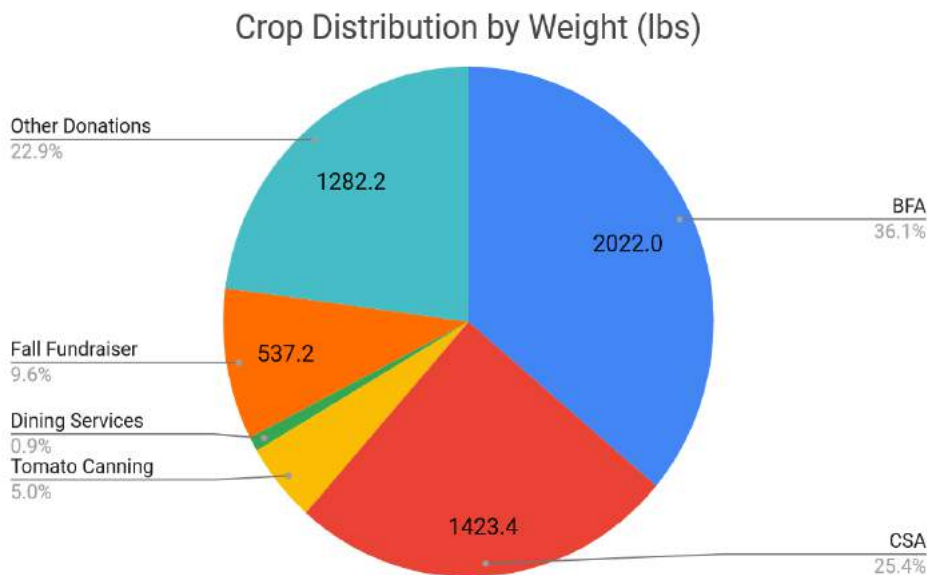


Figure 2. Destinations of produce based on percentage of total pounds harvested

# Outreach

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In past years, some of our farmers have visited other student farms and have hosted other student farmers. We usually hold multiple workshops a year for the members of the Student Growers Collaborative. However, due to pandemic restrictions and to ensure the health and safety of all involved, we had to scale back outreach. Our staff has stayed engaged with those who support us through social media, and taken time to make connections with other student groups virtually in preparation for projects that will take place in 2021.

In January, the Student Growers Collaborative held a meeting where a former member of the group, who now owns a small business in growing mushrooms, came to share knowledge about his work. Our group gained insights in mushroom anatomy and home growing, and also got to make spore prints.



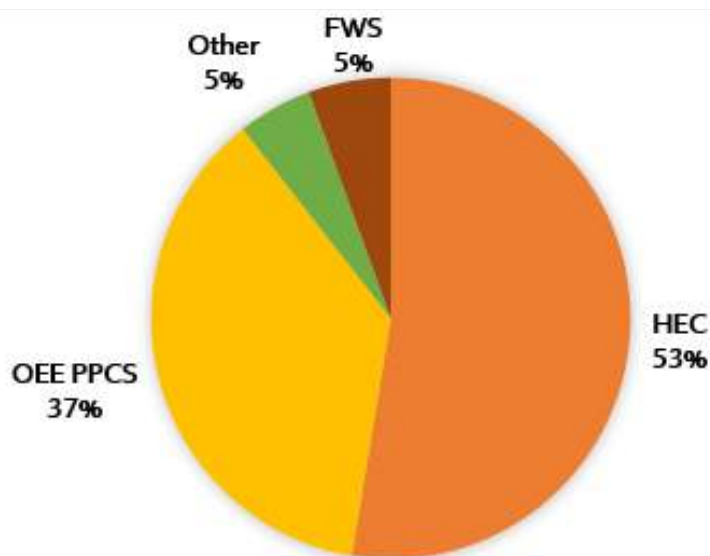
*(Photo from 2018, a typical workshop)*



# Budget

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Figure 3. Percentage of funding from various sources, including a USDA Higher Ed Challenge grant supporting the sustainable agriculture curriculum (HEC), the President, Provost Sustainability Fund (OEE PPCS), and Federal Work Study (FWS)



Behind the scenes, our yearly budget paints a picture of the past 12 months. In 2020, the pandemic caused challenges with utilizing funds and managing student employment. However, the Student Farm was able to continue operations, expand production, and generate more revenue than previous seasons with our CSA and Fall Fundraiser.

During 2020 we had a spending total of just over \$75,000. This consisted of over \$40,000 from a Higher Education Challenge Grant (HEC), over \$28,000 from the Office of Energy and Environment and President, Provost Sustainability Council (OEE PPCS), about \$4,300 was from Federal Work Study (FWS).

Almost \$28,000 funded student salaries, and \$27,000 funded faculty involvement with the farm through the developing sustainable agriculture curriculum. \$12,500 was spent on materials and supplies, and the rest funded various other projects or workshops.

From the late Summer CSA, Fall Fundraiser, prepared products, and OSU dining services, we earned \$3,360, \$1,500, \$363, and \$185 respectively. This totals to \$5,408.

# Production Reflections

Due to COVID-19, our team was limited to telework from March 19<sup>th</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>. Consequently, we essentially abandoned our 2020 crop plan from the start of the season. Instead, we focused on getting as much as we could in the ground while keeping detailed records of our progress. This data allowed us to do much more post-season crop analysis than previous years. Table 1 below summarizes the paid hours, monetary value of produce grown, and estimated profitability of each crop. The profitability of each crop was based primarily on its monetary value per paid hours. However, this table does not include hours contributed by students in HCS 2307 and volunteers, so we manually adjusted the profitability based on which crops had a large contribution from volunteers and students.

*The Profitability of Our 2020 Crops Based on Paid Hours and Monetary Value*

Crops	Paid Hours	Monetary Value Grown (\$)	Profitability
Arugula	16.8	\$262.07	Average
Basil	21.0	\$340.88	High
Beets	27.1	\$217.88	Low
Bell Pepper	40.1	\$2,275.96	High
Bok Choy	27.5	\$868.72	High
Broccoli	19.9	\$63.17	Average
Cabbage	16.5	\$60.45	Average
Cantaloupe	22.4	\$188.35	Low
Carrots	28.3	\$243.58	Low
Cauliflower	16.4	\$274.52	Average
Chard	29.1	\$319.84	Average
Cucumbers	26.5	\$360.26	Average
Dry Beans	23.8	\$29.27	Low
Eggplant	25.4	\$453.15	High
Garlic	48.0	\$224.66	Average
Green Beans	32.2	\$218.79	Low
Hot Pepper	46.3	\$492.38	Average
Husk Cherry	28.3	\$224.72	Low
Kale	47.4	\$558.28	Average
Lettuce	22.8	\$257.85	Average
Mesclun Mix	17.5	\$229.80	Average
Okra	19.6	\$231.34	Average
Onion	25.4	\$219.54	Low
Pumpkin	18.5	\$92.87	Low

Snap Peas	66.0	\$41.55	Low
Spinach	20.0	\$57.38	Low
Strawberries	48.5	\$87.67	Low
Summer Squash	65.4	\$1,416.16	High
Sweet Corn	35.1	\$500.19	High
Sweet Potatoes	54.7	\$468.46	Low
Tomatoes (Beef)	165.2	\$2,609.25	High
Tomatoes (Cherry)	66.2	\$1,178.96	High
Watermelon	19.9	\$306.38	Average
Winter Squash	29.2	\$697.63	Average

The OSU Student Farm produced more vegetables in 2020 than in any of the previous three field seasons. Nevertheless, our team faced many production obstacles and made mistakes that became valuable learning moments. We could learn from them, in part because we started a system to better document our challenges, our methods, and their effectiveness. See for example, Table 1, where we were able to document how profitable each crop we grew had been based on records of how much time we spent tending it and how much we earned (or could have earned) from our harvests. We hope this will improve the passing of knowledge among students involved with the farm. Two notable obstacles we faced were weed pressure from Canada thistle and pest damage on our cucurbits. Weed pressure from Canada thistle is an obstacle we have been facing since our farm was established, and the noxious weed has been slowly creeping further into our production space. This season, the weed was able to grow uninterrupted for 2 months while we were off-field due to COVID-19. Fortunately, we now have a significant portion of our farm in alfalfa which proved to be successful in suppressing thistle. During 2020, we were able to nearly eliminate several thistle patches, but many worsened. In 2020, we plan to redouble our efforts to eliminate Canada thistle.

Another notable obstacle to production was pest damage to our cucurbit plants caused by cucumber beetles, squash beetles, and the squash vine borer. While we were able to reduce their impact through diatomaceous earth and row covers, cucumber beetles significantly reduced our yields of cucumbers and cantaloupe. Additionally, squash beetles and the squash vine borer significantly reduced our yields of summer and winter squash. Our earliest plantings and those initially under row-covers still did well, but several later plantings were entirely wiped out by the vine borer specifically. While these pests had a significant impact on our 2020 season, going forward, our team knows to expect these pests and can be proactive about reducing their influence.

Our team made numerous improvements during the 2020 growing season that allowed us to increase our production capacity. Most notably, the increase in virtual communications brought on by the pandemic led our team to reflect on our structure and communication. We developed better systems for communicating among our staff and keeping data on our production. Similarly, our team made intentional efforts to communicate and share our knowledge of tools, techniques, and



materials. This sharing of knowledge allowed our team to make better use of our time and resources. Another significant improvement we made during the conclusion of the year was during the hiring process. The student farm has lacked a concrete orientation program that has slowed new employees from reaching their full potential. This is mostly due to the nature of our structure: we are student led, so it is easy for new hires to feel lost and unsure of their place when joining our organization. While hiring, existing employees were intentional to provide thorough orientations and empower the new hires to take leadership in and personify their role within our organization and mission. For 2021, our team plans to continue with and improve our communications and data-logging practices we began implementing during 2020. These systems will improve the passing of knowledge and history of the student farm despite the inevitably frequent student turnover.



# Looking Forward

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The OSU Student Farm faces many barriers to growing to our full potential. As a young organization, issues with our farm's funding situation is the most salient barrier. Funding remains inconsistent and insufficient. This impacts our farm in three critical ways: infrastructure, management, and student positions. First, our farm's infrastructure is nonoptimal and hinders our ability to expand our operations. Luckily, in 2021, our farm will be adding electricity through a solar generator and an accompanying cold-storage trailer. As we expand, our team strives to attain potable water with a washing station, bathrooms, a barn, a vehicle, more high tunnels, and expanded cold storage spaces in the years to come. Second, our team lacks a full time, paid farm manager to assist students, help manage production, and oversee payroll and student turnover. Lastly, the student staff team faces inconsistencies in funding and numbers. Our hours are often limited to reduce spending, and we do not have enough employees to implement sustainable agricultural practices on 4 acres. Looking forward to 2021, our team hopes to work towards establishing consistent funding through the university to meet our staffing needs and to begin improving farm infrastructure.

While funding remains uncertain, our team has developed an exciting vision for the future of the Ohio State Student Farm. This vision includes expanding our staff, increasing student engagement, enhancing community interactions, and securing consistent funding. We wish to expand our program to include 12 year-round student positions. Additionally, we hope to hire a full-time farm manager. We envision the role of the manager being one focused on student advocacy; we take value in our organization being student-led and would like the manager to provide empowerment, resources, and knowledge to the student employees rather than leadership over the organization. Incorporating a farm manager while remaining student-led will likely prove to be a challenge, but past students have felt the tremendous growth that accompanies taking leadership within an organization such as the student farm. Our organization not only allows us to gain production knowledge, but also to expand our skills—leadership, communication, conflict resolution—and to empower us in seeing the impact we make within the Ohio State and Columbus communities.

Looking to our 2021 growing season, our team strives to increase production by expanding our CSA program to include two 10-week CSAs with 30 shares. The first will run from mid-June to mid-August and the second will run from late-August to early-November. Additionally, we will continue to donate to the Buckeye Food Alliance, volunteers, student employees, and other charitable organizations. As the situation allows, we hope to host U-picks to increase community engagement. In order to achieve this, we are planning to double the space we have in production, improve the management of our agroforestry and crop circle plots, and reduce the pressure of Canada thistle through tarping and growing alfalfa.

In 2021, we plan to organize more creative workshops to educate the community on sustainable and regenerative agriculture. Particularly, we want to increase the range and frequency of events and workdays to build community with and engage the student body of the Student Growing Collaborative, our primary group of volunteers. Similarly, we intend to reestablish regular club meetings through zoom and increase our online presence through Instagram and Facebook to expand our reach within the community. As vaccines are distributed, we will hope to resume in-person workshops which allow the hands-on learning that our organization is dedicated to. Additionally, with the advent of the new Sustainable Agriculture major and through deepening of university ties, we look forward to hosting a variety of classes on the farm. We hope to engage directly with those students and instructors to grow our community.

Our group strives to secure consistent, sufficient funding in 2021. Funding is our primary barrier to establishing our program's longevity and expanding our operations, so this is one of our most important goals. We have initiated conversations with the College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences about possibly receiving permanent funding through the sustainable agriculture major. Meanwhile, we are working with the OSU Foundation to pursue grants and in-kind donations to secure funding while we work towards permanent, university support. Additionally, we plan to utilize our produce sales to supplement any direct university funding.

Our team strives to further establish and develop new connections with various university groups and programs within the next year. To increase sales, our team hopes to establish a direct relationship with Dining Services. We intend to broaden our reach with partnerships with the Student Wellness Center, InFACT, and various Student Organizations, such as Students Advocating for Food Equity (SAFE). Our group also plans to develop connections with student farms at other universities across the Midwest to encourage knowledge sharing among student farms.

United by passion, the Ohio State Student Farm team will continue to expand—increasing produce distribution, knowledge sharing, and hands-on experience opportunities to feed the bodies and minds of the Ohio State and Columbus communities.



# Acknowledgements



We would like to thank all of our existing and newfound connections who helped us this year! Specifically, we appreciate the support of Waterman Farm, Howlett Greenhouse, and the administration, faculty, and staff of CFAES. We also appreciate the new partnership with the Buckeye Food Alliance. The Student Farm welcomes all of the cooperation and looks forward to continued action in 2021. In addition, thank you to the following:

- Dewey Mann, Waterman Farm*
- Waterman Staff*
- Mike Anderson, Howlett Greenhouse*
- Dave Barker, HCS*
- Emmy Regnier, HCS*
- Jim Metzger, HCS*
- Jeff Sharp, SENR*
- Jeannie Seabrook, Glass Rooster Cannery*
- USDA, Higher Education Challenge Program*
- OEE President, Provost Sustainability Fund*
- Casey Hoy, InFACT, OSAEN*
- Jen Heller, OSU Foundation*
- Jason Phillips, OSU Foundation*
- Nick Fowler, BFA*
- Dean Cathann Kress, CFAES*
- President Kristina Johnson, OSU*
- Brian Snyder, InFACT*
- Our CSA Members*



# Grant Information

We would also like to thank those who have helped us obtain the grants that have funded student wages, farm manager salary, equipment, and supplies.

## OEE Grant

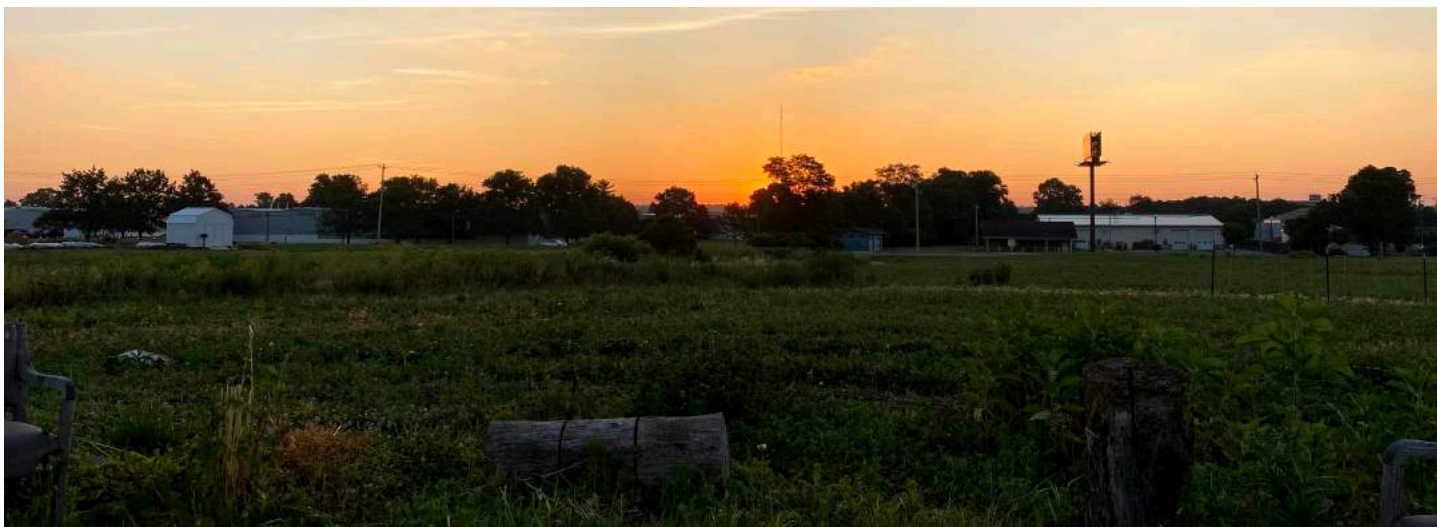
Office of Energy and Environment, President, Provost Sustainability Fund, Ohio State University, "Sustainable food and farming systems in practice on the OSU Student Farm", co-PIs: Chris Ratcliff, Kristin Mercer, Alyssa Gordon

## USDA HEC Grant

USDA NIFA Higher Education Challenge grant award no. 2016-70003-24835, Casey Hoy Project Director, Co-investigators: Ohio State University - Monica Lewandowski, Subu Kumarappan, Dennis Heldman, Jacob Boswell, Michael Mercil, Jay Martin, Kristin Mercer, Gregory Hitzhusen, Ryan Haden, Brian Roe, Jill Clark, Mary Gardiner, Carol Anelli; Central State University - Cadance A Lowell, Krishnakumar Nedunuri; Lorain County Community - Ruby Beil, Brett Joseph.  
Title: A Statewide Network for Multiple Pathways to a Baccalaureate Degree in Sustainable Agriculture

This grant was part of a long-term effort of the Agroecosystems Management Program (AMP) of CFAES, a program that has been supporting sustainable agriculture education and student farm groups for more than 25 years.





## The Ohio State University Student Farm College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences

Waterman Farms at OSU

614-247-6394

[studentfarmsu@gmail.com](mailto:studentfarmsu@gmail.com)

@studentfarmsu on Instagram and Facebook

Fundraising Link: <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/makeagift/?fund=317059>

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