

UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS)

July 2018 to June 2019 Annual Report

Over \$22,000 in
graduate
student summer
minigrants

133 new
farmers
trained

\$2.5 million in
grants administered,
\$103,000 in
donations

Over 3,000 people
reached through
conferences,
webinars and events

Over 72,000
contacts through
website and social
media

1.5 million
participants in
Great Lakes Great
Apple Crunch

CIAS is working toward a diverse, sustainable agriculture and food system in Wisconsin.

Your support makes this work possible.

Thank you.



CENTER for INTEGRATED
AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS



College of
Agricultural & Life Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Dear friends,

Over the past thirty years, CIAS has engaged in participatory research driven by the needs of small and medium Wisconsin farms and related businesses. Our farmer and citizen advisors report to us on the status of agriculture in their communities. Not only does this help us identify potential research projects, it also humanizes the stark statistics that chronicle the enduring agricultural crisis.



Now more than ever, we need sustainable agricultural and food systems that contribute to the environmental, economic and social well-being of farmers, families, workers, consumers and their communities. CIAS works diligently to identify innovative ideas and research opportunities. Our beginning farmer schools, farm management tools, publications and other outreach efforts prepare and support sustainable farmers, as well as the people and organizations that serve them.

To address the complex problems we face, we believe in the power of working collaboratively. As the interim director of CIAS, with roots in the farming world and a faculty member in Dairy Science, I am honored and humbled to have the opportunity to work with our staff, farmers and other stakeholders. Together, we will address, in a real-world manner, the need for viable alternatives in food production and distribution systems that benefit Wisconsin farming communities. I am grateful to outgoing director Michael Bell for his seven years of service to CIAS and people across the state, and I want to thank you for being part of our work.

Sincerely, Michel Wattiaux, Interim CIAS Director

CIAS Citizens Advisory Council

Rick Adamski, Full Circle Farm, Seymour
Kat Becker, Cattail Organics, Athens
Dan Cornelius, Intertribal Agriculture Council
Andy Diercks, Coloma Farms, Coloma
Mark Eslinger, Loramar Farm, Stanley
Andy Gehl, Contract Comestibles, LLC, East Troy
Greg and Wendy Galbraith, pasture-based dairy, Aniwa
Clara Hedrich, LaClare Farms, Malone
Clare Hintz, Elsewhere Farm, Herbster
Chris Holman, Nami Moon Farms, Custer
Kevin Kiehnau, Organic Valley, Sturgeon Bay
Joel Kuehnhold, Lonely Oak Farm, Milladore
Sarah Lloyd, Wisconsin Farmers Union, WI Dells
Laura Paine, Paine Family Farm and Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship, Columbus
Tony Schultz, Stoney Acres Farm, Athens
Daniel Smith, WI DATCP

CIAS Staff

Nadia Alber, dairy/livestock school
Sandy Bennett, administration
Cris Carusi, Associate Director of Communications
Amy Cottom, administration
Lindsey Day Farnsworth, food systems
Jacob Grace, managed grazing
John Hendrickson, vegetables, schools
Vanessa Herald, farm to school/institution
Kelly Maynard, food systems
Ruth McNair, communications
Michelle Miller, Associate Director of Programs
Pam Porter, perennial systems
Gregg Sanford, WICST
Michel Wattiaux, Director

plus 56 faculty associates across campus



A CIAS mini-grant supported graduate student Thi Le's summer research at D-town farm in Detroit.



CIAS held two train-the-trainer events on organic dairy pasture management in fall 2018.



1.5 million participants from schools and institutions across the Great Lakes Region celebrated local food during the 2018 Apple Crunch.



CIAS and its partners developed spreadsheet tools to help vegetable, livestock, and organic grain farmers track and maximize profits.

Our 2018/2019 Supporters

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Michael Bell and Diane

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Faye Gehl Conservation Fund

Laura and Bill Paine

CIAS made its best effort to include all donations made between January 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. If your name has been omitted, please contact us so we may properly show our appreciation. Thank you to our past and present donors for your generous support!

We couldn't do what we do without the support of our donors! Your generosity allows us to continue our programs. Gifts of all amounts are much appreciated: supporttuw.org/giveto/cias.



UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems

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