

SARE

Symons Hall, Room 1296

7998 Regents Drive

College Park, MD 20742- 5505

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing as a supporter and proposed collaborator of River Queen Green's SARE research application regarding implementing a continuous cycle of no-till drilling and roller-crimping of sunn hemp to improve soil health, suppress weeds, and extend the growing season in South Louisiana. For nearly a decade, I have served as a Technical Assistant to small-scale and sustainable farmers in South Louisiana. I am very familiar with the creativity and innovation required to thrive as a sustainable grower in our region. This proposal is interesting, rigorously considered, and, most of all, will create resources and generate new ideas for other sustainable growers in the South.

We struggle with organic weed management systems here, as farmers do everywhere, but our relentlessly hot and wet summers leave few options for retaining productivity and increasing soil health. RQG's proposed process has the potential to change that. Additionally, the farmers of RQG are some of the most detail-oriented and highly organized farmers I have had the pleasure of working with. I am positive of their ability to keep meticulous records and document their findings.

SPROUT, the organization I direct, commits to participating in outreach and dissemination of the outcomes of this program. This works nicely with our existing cover crop outreach program, which spans the entire state of Louisiana. We are excited to be a partner in this work.

Please feel free to follow up with any questions. Thanks so much.

Kind regards,

MARGUERITE GREEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SPROUT

