

IFAS Extension

John D. Campbell Agricultural Center 18710 SW 288th Street Homestead, FL 33030 305-248-3311, ext. 234

November 10, 2020

Southern SARE 1109 Experiment St., Stuckey Building University of Georgia Griffin, GA 30223

Dear Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grants Management:

I am very glad to indicate my support for the project that FIU team is submitting a proposal "The use of cyanobacteria (cyanophyta) biofertilizer to increase crop productivity, improve soil health, and agricultural sustainability in Florida" to the Southern SARE for consideration. There is a great need in Miami-Dade County and south Florida region for this innovative approach to promote environmentally friendly sustainable agriculture. Florida International University's Agroecology program has the capabilities to successfully execute this project.

Agriculture is an important part of the economy in Miami-Dade County. Unfortunately, agriculture in South Florida faces serious challenges. The farming practices in the regions are slowly declining and difficult to sustain the industry unless creative ways like this to adapt new methods to balance environmental, ecological, social sustainability and increase food production. The project proposed by FIU is well integrated into agriculture research, education and extension activities. As an extension agent at UF/IFAS Miami-Dade County, I will help to reach out to the farmers during demonstration trials.

I enthusiastically support the proposal and my office is available to see the project successfully completed and sustain beyond.

Sincerely,

Qingren Wang

Gingren Wang

Qingren Wang, Ph. D Extension Agent in Commercial Vegetables and Pesticide Licensing UF/IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County qrwang@ufl.edu