The goal of this two year (2017-2019) project is to increase the economic and environmental sustainability of produce farms by developing and sharing practices for utilizing produce that typically goes unharvested.



Priority Crops:

Bell Pepper, Cabbage, Cantaloupe, Collards, Cucumber, Eggplant, Kale, Summer Squash & Zucchini, Sweet Potato, Watermelon, Winter Squash



Whole Crop Harvest uses a supply chain approach to understand and reduce onfarm produce loss by:

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- (1) Creating easy-to-use steps for farmers to quickly measure the quantity and quality of edible produce left in the field.
- (2) Conducting cost/benefit analyses of harvesting and selling product typically left in the field.
- (3) Working in partnership with businesses along the supply chain to identify and test win-win scenarios for bringing edible but unharvested produce to market.
- (4) Developing, field testing, and economically evaluating a mechanical harvest-aid to efficiently harvest and clear product from fields after major harvesting is completed.





Please visit the Whole Crop Harvest website for more information, updated findings, and resources: go.ncsu.edu/whole-crop-harvest

Whole Crop Harvest works with farmers and intermediaries across the supply chain to ensure that research findings are based on real-world business constraints and opportunities.



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