

NC SARE Project Plan of Work – Task Table:

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Task	Personnel	Timeline	Date Completed	Notes:
Consult with other interested growers	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure, Dale Secher	On-going		We will be co-hosting a field day with Carandale Farm in late August of 2010.
Site preparation, burn, mowing, weed management, cover crop.	Erin Schneider, CIAS, Rob McClure	Quarterly throughout project duration.	Burn – 4 – 3 – 09 Weeding July & August 2009; Cover crop – spring 4 – 10 - 09 cover crop – fall 9 – 28 - 09	Burning – while fun, provided mixed results - invigorates seed bed, helped with initial seeding, however, we ended up tilling area anyhow, so increases labor needs. Weed management will be on-going, primarily manage for multi-flora rose, burdock, and autumn olive removal.
Track input and production costs using spreadsheets and share with growers/networks.	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure	Ongoing		
Soil sampling.	Erin Schneider, graduate student, UW Soil and Plant Lab	Fall 2008 & Fall 2010	Fall 2008, did not sample in 2009	Plan to sample again in fall of 2010
Site mapping and design	Erin Schneider, Michelle Wilkinson, NRCS	Spring 2009 July 2009 January 2010 & April 2010		Initial plan map and soil map developed in Spring 2009. NRCS staff marked contours with flagging in July 2009. Refine plans and re-mark contours and measure where plants will be placed in April of 2010.

Order plants.	Erin Schneider	Winter 2010	January 2010	Ordered Aronia through Knight's Hollow Nursery, Other plants through St. Lawrence Nursery in NY, Jungs nursery (Quince), and through WI State Nursery program (Elderberry)
Collect Leaf litter and woodlot soil, stage compost	Erin Schneider, volunteers	Fall 2009 April 2010	Fall 2009	Leaves raked and staged for compost, however will collect forest duff to incorporate with planting in April of 2010 as well as compost from Circus World Museum and from West Ag. Research Center in Madison
Install research plot.	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure, Grower networks, students, volunteers.	Spring 2010		Specifically May 1, 2, & 8 set for volunteer dates to assist with project installation with the first 2 weeks of May earmarked for completion. May 15 will coincide with a field day.
Plant Growth measurements , monitoring, and managing for invasive plants, weed sampling	Erin Schneider, graduate student	Spring/Fall 2010		Posted internship/project announcement in January of 2010, in process of hiring intern to assist with project monitoring.
Coordinate 2 on farm events. Promotional support from UW - CIAS, Midwest Organic Tree Fruit Association, MACSAC, FRESH, Ag Innovation Center, and Virally to friends/colleagues. Cohost 2 events with partners/collaborators	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure, Dale Secher	Spring 2010, Fall 2010		The first event, Agroforestry – Design and Applications for Growers and Land Managers will be on May 15 to focus on orchard installation and designing/transitioning, the second to focus on budget planning for the organic orchard/agroforestry system set for October 18. We will also be co-hosting a farm event at Carandale Farm in August with the focus being on product development of aronia. I will also facilitate a grower gathering through MACASC to share results/feedback/discuss ways to budget for and implement conservation agriculture practices and encourage grower diversification. Additionally, our project is being used as a case study for the MOSES Rural Women's Project

Travel and presentations at the annual WI Local Food Summit, National Small Farmer Forum Midwest Organic Farming conference, other venue?	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure	Winter 2009, 2010	August, October, & November 2009	Attended Aronia Field day grower gathering at Carandale Farm on 8 – 30 – 09 wherein growers, food processors, and the curious public throughout the Midwest attended. Hosted a farm tour with Family Farm Defenders, African delegation in October 2009 to tour our site. SARE small farmer forum presentation. Facilitated a round table discussion on our project/agroforestry at the Midwest Value Added Agriculture Conference/WI Local Food Summit. Set to present at SARE in November of 2010. 1 other venue TBD.
Develop and educational and outreach materials such as signage, brochure and fact sheet to be distributed to interested growers, csa members, government agencies, and grower/retailer groups. Assistance from CIAS, Ag Innovation Center	Erin Schneider, Julianne Hunter, Anne Pfeiffer, Matt Groshek	2010		Signage project has evolved to project partnership with IU Heron School of Public Design to a co-created traveling agroforestry exhibit which will begin at our farm and travel to other ecological agriculture sites in Wisconsin. Grower brochure on task/schedule as well as a budget fact sheet.
Facilitate Media and on-line discussions.	Erin Schneider, Rob McClure			Developed farm website to include fruit research web page, wrote article for publication in the Regional Alliance Food Traditions – Great Lakes Foods at Risk in July 2009, ongoing project consult through the Organic tree fruit grower network list serve. Our project featured in Women Food and Agriculture Newsletter, Winter 2010. Wrote article on transitioning to organic production of aronia to Aronia List Serve Network. Compiling annotated bibliography of resources for growers to include information on plants, nursery suppliers.
Track production costs using spreadsheets, share with growers.	Erin Schneider Rob McClure	Ongoing		

2010 Orchard Management Monthly Timeline

January:

1. Research cultivars, equipment planning/sourcing – purchase plant material.
2. Confirm and order native plant seed for field border as part of NRCS WHIP contract – Agrecol
3. Order windbreak tree species (plum, hazelnut, black cherry, and white spruce - through Sauk Co. Land Conservation District)
4. Attend WI Local Food Summit/Midwest Value Added Agriculture Conference – workshop intensive on Agroforestry facilitated by Mark Shepard, of Forest Agriculture Enterprises, I also hosted a roundtable discussion with 12 other growers on agroforestry at the conference.
5. Project featured in Women Food and Agriculture Network, Winter 2010 newsletter
6. Attend WI Farmers Union Women's Leadership Retreat – form a working group around designing on farm education events – plan to 'stack functions' with promotion and content.
7. Draft brochure content, coordinate with Julianne Hunter of Future Decco Designs on brochure design.
8. Interview with Lisa Kivirist of MOSES Rural Women's Project, our agroforestry project set to be a case study.
9. Contract with IUPDI – Indiana University, Public Design Institute – Matt Groshek collaboration on Co-creative Traveling Agroforestry Exhibit in WI.
10. Order orchard alleyway grass mix (seed certified organic) – 10% white clover, 30% red fescue, 30% chewings fescue, 30% perennial rye mix.

February:

1. Attend Forest Gardening/Ecological Agriculture workshop, February 20 - 21 at The Draw: Permaculture and Sustainable Living Community in Bayfield, WI
2. Continue research and sourcing of irrigation equipment and design – potential in-kind donation from WI DNR (retired wildfire hose)
3. MOSES conference February 26 – 27
4. Pick – up white clover/buckwheat from Cashton Supply
5. Volunteer recruitment for orchard installation.

March:

1. Facilitate Forest Garden/Project Design Workshop at Willy St. Coop in Madison, WI – Open to Public – March 30
2. Site visit to Forest Agriculture Enterprises in Viola, WI (Mark Shepard) and to Jai Kellum of Kings Hill Farm (transitioning orchard project, in Monroe WI).
6. May 15 Field Day Announcement – continue RSVP, volunteer recruitment
7. Construct bat houses and raptor perches
8. Complete Agroforestry brochure
9. Develop forest garden handouts for May field day and workshops
10. Source trailer for tractor transport

April:

1. Continue volunteer recruitment – May 15 field day organizing
2. Collect forest duff, stage compost
3. Install gutter system on N Side of Barn roof – install cistern for rainwater catchment
4. **Middle of April:**
 1. Schedule site visit with NRCS, Michelle Wilkinson, re-map contours, mark field border and windbreak
 2. Till under winter cover crop by mid-april – Dave to assist
 3. Direct seed orchard alleyway with grass mix
5. Hire Intern to assist with summer/fall maintenance and monitoring
6. Clean and sharpen tools
7. Purchase hardware wire cloth, pre cut cloth ($\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch mesh that is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' - 2' height and 6" diameter)
8. Purchase blue tree tubes for windbreak planting
9. Purchase/source tree planting equipment
10. Source and stage cardboard
11. Pick up fruit trees –
 1. Anticipated arrival date of windbreak trees = first week of April
 2. Anticipated arrival date of fruit trees = end of April
12. **Last two weeks of April:**
 1. Map planting strips, stage plants, plant a few plant triangle sequencing for demonstration purposes, pre-dig some holes for demonstration
 2. Map swale system for irrigation
 3. Photopoint monitoring

May:

1. Remove garlic mustard, autumn olive, multi-flora rose
2. Host Forest Garden design workshop May 1 (make sure a few holes are pre-dug for demonstration purposes)
 1. Sheet mulch garden demonstration
 2. Plant trees in orchard area
 1. Plant sequencing as follows:
 1. Map plant spacing, mark with flagging where each species will go – label clearly on flagging
 2. Dig hole
 3. Plant tree
 4. Water thoroughly (2 – 3 gallons/plant)
 5. Top dress with compost (boomerang shape to accommodate slope)
 6. Water again (2 gallons/plant)
 7. Interplant with lead plant, prairie clover, and blue false indigo

8. Direct seed lovage, dill, fennel, lupine and white clover
 9. Mulch with appropriate mulch treatment
 10. Install pre-cut wire cage ($\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ inch mesh that is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' - 2' height and 6" diameter; trunk should not be tight to cage)
 11. Set up irrigation system
3. Install solar electric fence
 4. May 2 & 8– volunteer work party, continue orchard planting/project installation
 5. Post planting = water weekly/as needed:
 1. A good soak on the weekends of 5 – 10 gallons of water/tree, or 2 weekly
 2. To check soil moisture – dig under mulch with hands to feel the soil. If it is dry or slightly moist, water. If it feels waterlogged, then pass for a few days.
 6. Organize logistics for Field day on the 15th – RSVP & catering
 7. May 15 – Project Field Day
 8. Orchard Field border, mow/tillage – end of month – Dave to assist if needed

June:

1. Water weekly/as needed
 1. A good soak on the weekends of 5 – 10 gallons of water/tree, or 2 weekly
 2. To check soil moisture – dig under mulch with hands to feel the soil. If it is dry or slightly moist, water. If it feels waterlogged, then pass for a few days.
2. Weed within planting strips as needed
3. Interplant giant sunflowers between adjacent to windbreak
4. Field border tillage toward end of month – Dave to assist
5. Photopoint monitoring

July:

1. Water weekly/as needed
 3. A good soak on the weekends of 5 – 10 gallons of water/tree, or 2 weekly
 4. To check soil moisture – dig under mulch with hands to feel the soil. If it is dry or slightly moist, water. If it feels waterlogged, then pass for a few days.
2. Weed within planting strips as needed
3. Mow orchard toward end of month – Dave to assist
4. Field border tillage toward end of month – Dave to assist
5. Photopoint monitoring

August:

1. Water weekly/as needed

5. A good soak on the weekends of 5 – 10 gallons of water/tree, or 2 weekly
6. To check soil moisture – dig under mulch with hands to feel the soil. If it is dry or slightly moist, water. If it feels waterlogged, then pass for a few days.
2. Weed within planting strips as needed
3. Field border tillage toward end of month – Dave to assist
4. Loosen and reset hardware cloth cages and mesh around trees
5. Check for borers on trees
6. Co-host Aronia field day with Carandale Farm – promote October field dates
7. Outreach for October field dates
8. Continue content development for agroforestry exhibit.
9. Photopoint monitoring
10. Plant sampling – invasives, growth response measurements.

September:

1. Water weekly/as needed
7. A good soak on the weekends of 5 – 10 gallons of water/tree, or 2 weekly
8. To check soil moisture – dig under mulch with hands to feel the soil. If it is dry or slightly moist, water. If it feels waterlogged, then pass for a few days.
2. Weed within planting strips as needed
3. Field border tillage toward end of month – Dave to assist
4. Mow toward end of month (if needed – Dave to assist)
5. Monitor mouse and rabbit population
6. Continue to watch for borers
7. Paint tree trunks for sunscale protection with white latex paint
8. Outreach for October workshops

October:

1. Final orchard mowing
2. Final field border tillage
3. October 16 – Forest Garden Workshop – Install Field Border
4. October 23 or 24 – Budgeting for the Agroforestry project – Farm field day
5. Rake/stage leaves and compost for next season
6. Clean and sharpen tools
7. Plant sampling – invasives and plant growth response
8. Photopoint monitoring.
9. Soil sampling for analysis to UW Madison West Ag Research Center

November:

1. Check all mouse/rabbit guards
2. Check deer protection (fence)
3. Celebrate!
4. Present findings at National Small Farmer Forum Presentation in Missouri