

Dear Strawberry Producers,

We are excited to inform you that the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) organization, approved our research and education proposal to address two major limiting factors in strawberry production through research and outreach. This is a multi-state collaboration including Maine, West Virginia and Virginia. Research objectives are listed below, and demonstrations will take place on grower cooperators farms where other growers can come and see the results of the research and determine possible adoption of the technology. In addition, winter educational workshops will be conducted as another chance to learn about the results of the research. We hope you will take the time to participate in this 4 question survey to let us know of your interest in this work. The objectives of the proposed work are below.

Objective 1: Assist two major plant propagators in the region to prevent latently infected plants entering the production field through providing enhanced diagnostic support.

Objective 2: Demonstrate the efficacy of non-chemical fumigation methods (mustard cover crop and anaerobic soil disinfestation) or the use of beneficial microbes to minimize black root rot and other soilborne diseases, such as crown rot to improve yield on farms.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mahfuz Rahman, Associate Professor and Plant Pathology Extension Specialist, West Virginia University

Dr. Alicyn Smart, Plant Pathologist, University of Maine

Dr. Jayesh Samtani, Assistant Professor and Small Fruit Extension Specialist, Virginia Tech

Project title: Optimization of preventative biorational strawberry fruit and root disease management techniques: linking university research to growers education



Q1. What state are you from?

VA

WV

ME

MD

PA

NY

Others: _____

Q2. Please select the best description of your strawberry production.

a) Commercial farmer

b) Home gardener/community gardener

Q2. Please select all the ways you wish to participate in this project.

a) Cooperator (allowing research to happen on your farm)

b) Field day attendee

c) Winter educational meeting attendee

d) I am not interested in being a cooperator or attendee but would like to know the results

d) Not interested

Q2b. Why are you not interested in this research?

Q3. How would you prefer we communicate with you in the future?

a) Telephone: _____

b) E-mail: _____

c) Postal mail: _____

https://umaine.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_08I8IC7dVqtfADb