



NCEMGVA 2022 Inspire Connect Empower Project Grant Recipient

Craven County: Submitted by P. Bergdall and J. Paladini

Project Title: Cropmasters Vegetable Garden Protective Barrier
Category: Startup **Funding:** \$500

Description: The 50 x 120 foot vegetable garden on the Craven County Extension Office grounds has been supported and maintained for the past 20 years by the Craven County Master Gardener Volunteer Association. The garden produces an average of 2072 pounds of produce annually, all of which is donated to local charities supporting residents with food insecurities. The garden has been impacted by predator infestation of deer, coyote, and rabbits observed to be destroying crops, significantly compromising annual yields.

In efforts to protect the garden and improve yields and simultaneously provide an educational demonstration garden to be shared with our community, a perimeter “critter fence” consisting of 16 foot 4 x 4 wooden posts, gates, and black PVC coated welded wire mesh has been designed and proposed by the Cropmasters to provide the ultimate protective barrier with acceptable aesthetics. This grant will partially fund our barrier project.