Northern Organic Vegetable Improvement Collaborative

The goal of the Northern Organic Vegetable Improvement Collaborative (NOVIC) is to improve the profitability of organic farmers and the quality of organic produce for consumers. This project is funded by the Organic Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) which solves critical organic agriculture issues, priorities, or problems through the integration of research, education, and extension activities. The purpose of this program is to fund projects that will enhance the ability of producers and processors who have already adopted organic standards to grow and market high-quality organic agricultural products.

**GOAL**

**Develop new vegetable varieties for organic agriculture**

*We have gotten so much out of working with all of you. And the varieties are terrific and serving our growers very well.*

Tom Stouffer, Vermont Farmer and Founder, High Mowing Organic Seeds

8 crops being developed for organic agriculture

2 new commercial organic varieties

40 states where new organic varieties have been sold

**GOAL**

**Train the next generation of professionals in breeding for organic agriculture**

*The Organic Research and Extension Initiative gave me the opportunity to learn the science of plant-breeding and really understand the value of working directly with organic farmers in the research process. The skills that I learned as a graduate student in NOVIC were used every day in my work for an organic breeding and seed production company.*

Adrienne Shelton, New Hampshire Organic Crop Specialist, Vikula Organic Seeds

8 graduate students trained in NOVIC who now work in the organic seed industry

**GOAL**

**Improve the ability of farmers and seed producers to grow organic seed**

*The NOVIC breeders listened to my needs as an organic farmer, and together we created a new sweet corn variety with traits important to organic production. NOVIC has also helped me hone my seed production skills.*

Martin Stoffel, Minnesota Farmer and Co-founder, Organic Farming Works

80 NOVIC events and presentations

19 states reached with NOVIC in-depth trainings

**REACH**

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**Key**

- **NOVIC hub locations**
- **States where NOVIC workshops and presentations have been delivered**
- **Constituents in gray shaded states have received trainings from the NOVIC project**

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