

OFFER

ORGANIC FOOD and FARMING
EDUCATION and RESEARCH PROGRAM



History



- Established in 1998 in response to stakeholder request
- 40 acres of conventional research land originally allocated to program
- \$50,000/yr for five years seed money
- Involved research faculty, farmers, and non-profits



Participating Stakeholders

John Hirzel

Rex Spray

Harv Roehling

Louise Warner

Harold Hartzler

Jeff Dean

Jeff Dickinson

Charles Eselgroth

Doug Daniels

Dean McIlvaine

Steve Elliot

Ed Snavelly

David Kline

Steve Sears

Laura Bergmann

Perry Clutts

Noreen Warnock

Matt Peart



Early Participating Scientists

Agricultural Technical Institute Athanasios Alexandrou , David Munn
Dept. Of Agriculture, Environmental and Development Economics
Marvin Batte, Neal Hooker

Dept. Of Entomology Parwinder Grewal, Ron Hammond, Casey Hoy,
Hans Klompen, Joe Kovach, Ben Stinner, Deborah Stinner

Dept. of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering Fred Michel

Dept. of Horticulture and Crop Science Mark Bennett, John Cardina,
Doug Doohan, Matt Kleinhenz, Phil Rzewnicki, Peter Thomison

Dept. of Human and Community Resource Development Richard
Moore

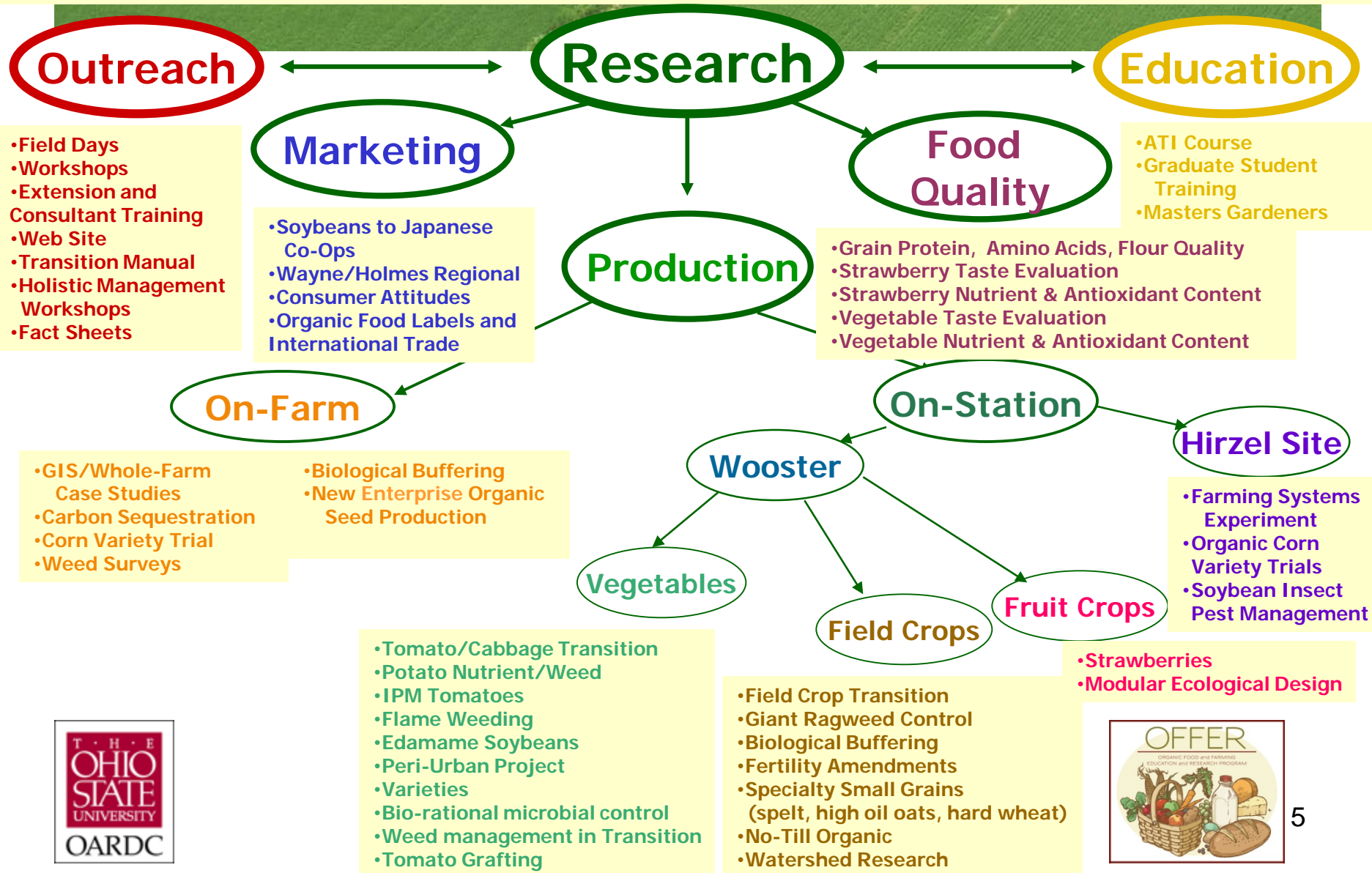
Dept. of Plant Pathology Mike Ellis, Brian McSpadden Gardener, Sally
Miller

School of Natural Resources Serita Fry, Charles Goebel



OSU's Organic Food and Farming Education and Research Program (OFFER)

"Providing scientific support for organic agriculture in Ohio"



State of the States 2nd Edition

Organic Farming Research Foundation

“The Ohio State Organic Food and Farming Education and Research (OFFER) program remains one of the most ambitious organic research programs in the country. Managed by an interdisciplinary team of Ohio State researchers working with local organic farmers, OFFER has outreach, research and education components. Most of the field research is being conducted on certified or transitional fields at research farms at the Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center in Wooster.” p. 88



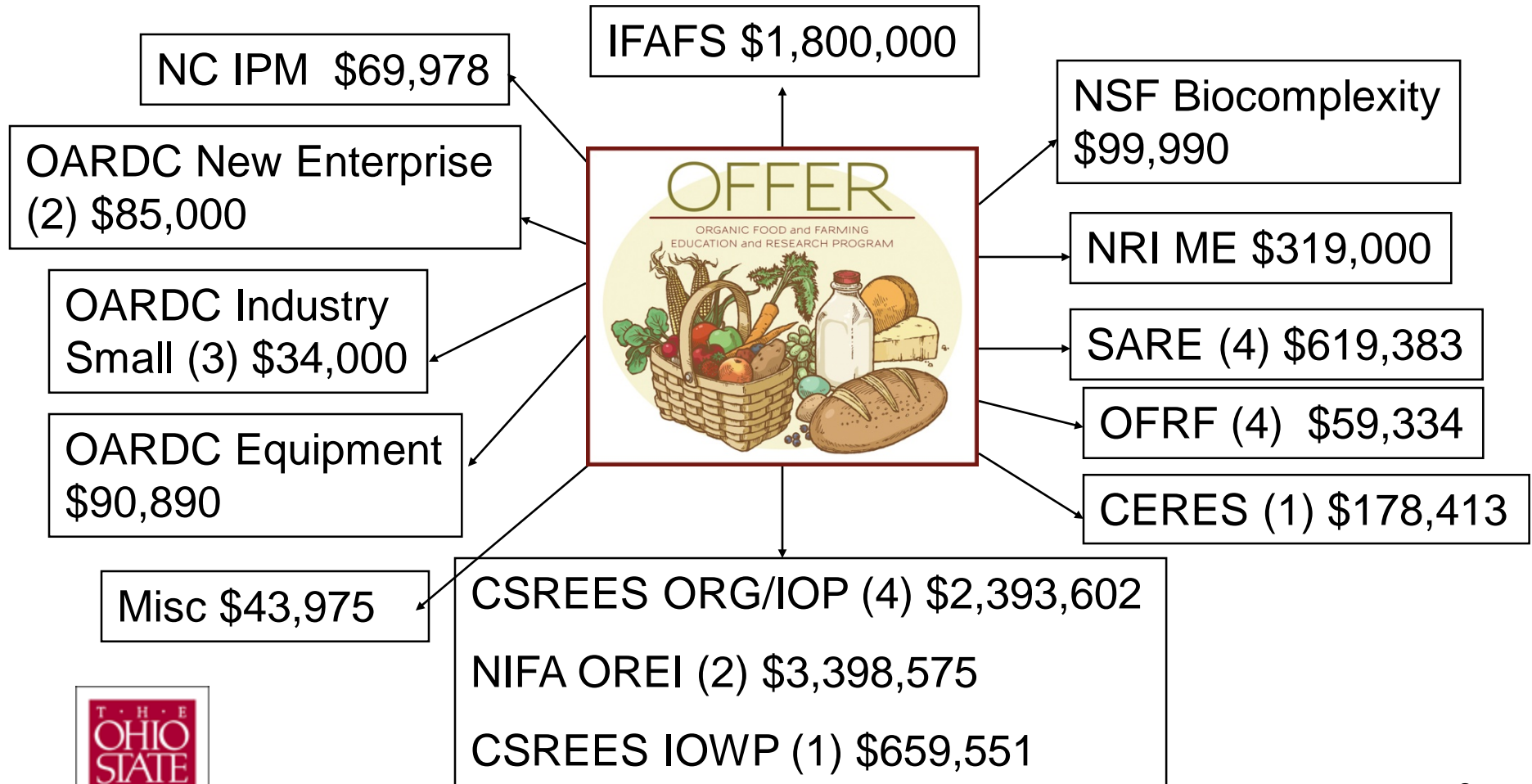
2001-2003

Program Highlights in 2010

- 100 acres of certified organic research land on 5 research farms at two locations in Ohio
- Partial OARDC support for organic farm manager and program assistant
- Research/extension faculty, farmers, consumers, processors, retailers, non-profits
 - **16 PI' s; 26 Co-PI' s**
 - **17 Departments/units**
 - **30 Actively involved stakeholders since program began**
- \$9,851,091 leveraged in competitive grants



Competitive Grants Leveraged as of 2010



Future Vision

- Expand food quality studies – in particular, analyses of relationships between soil and food quality- field to table
 - Work with nutrition, medical and veterinary researchers to integrate production research with human and livestock health
 - Organic livestock research and education
 - Environmental impacts of organic farming, including carbon sequestration, water quality and biodiversity, and economic costs and benefits to individual farms and communities.
- Local food systems

