

Maine Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) enhances competitiveness of Maine’s specialty crop industry and expands markets for producers, both domestically and abroad.

Since 2006

\$6.18M awarded



invested in over **100** Maine projects

In 2024

\$604,305 awarded

to **8** specialty crop entities for



marketing, education, & research projects.

Program Goals



Increase Market Access



Enhance Food Safety



Develop New Crop Varieties



Mitigate Pests & Diseases



Increase Knowledge of Specialty Crops Nutrition



Improve Sustainability & Conservation

Maine Project Highlights

Marketing

The Maine Flower Collective launched an in-person wholesale flower market that provides Maine flower growers with a dynamic new channel to sell their Maine-grown floral products to a wider consumer base. The market allows floral designers to pick up products which reduces order fulfillment costs and the Collective’s carbon footprint over time.

Education

North Spore, LLC is creating multimedia educational video modules that will teach farmers how to sustainably and profitably cultivate mushrooms. North Spore will also facilitate a day-long workshop for regional farmers about cultivation methods for species including Oyster, Lions Mane, Shiitake, Chestnut, and Winecaps.

Research

The University of Maine is working with Maine wild blueberry growers to determine the impacts of foliar applications of calcium and boron to improve pollination, pollinator health, pest management, and fruit quality. Results will be shared through factsheets and field day demonstrations.