At CFANS, our unique collaborative approach helps us unearth hidden, but obvious, solutions to critical problems.

Every problem has a solution.
Finding it is just a matter of where and how you look.

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CFANS sees what others can’t.

And when it comes to producing winter-hardy fruits, vegetables and flowers, we’ve got it down cold.

Minnesota has earned its reputation as “The Nation’s Icebox.” Growing horticultural plants in this climate takes a special kind of toughness. For over a century, CFANS has used plant-breeding innovations along with new growing techniques to keep locally grown fruits and flowers on Minnesota tables year-round.

Cold front

In CFANS, we use selective plant breeding techniques to develop fruit and flower cultivars that can survive temperatures well below 0 degrees. Dozens of varieties of cold-hardy fruits and flowers have been introduced to the public since the 1920s. But plant breeding is only part of the picture; research, education and outreach also includes techniques and technologies that extend plants’ growing seasons and allow gardeners and commercial food producers to grow local, healthy food no matter how low the wind chill drops.

Want to know more?
z.umn.edu/CFANSColdHardy