

SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

Delaware

Project Highlight: *Decreasing reliance on chemical dewormers*

When they overuse chemical dewormers, sheep and goat producers run the risk of selecting for parasites with increased resistance. This can be a serious economic setback for small-scale operations.

So, to help local producers avoid such a pitfall, Delaware State University Extension specialists used SARE funding to research and promote integrated pest management (IPM) strategies that decrease reliance on chemical treatments. Through workshops they trained more than 30 producers on techniques for identifying the severity of infection on an animal-by-animal basis, allowing them to use fewer treatments through better targeting.

The team also conducted on-farm and experiment station trials on the

efficacy of natural dewormers, and found that pumpkin seeds administered as a drench or oil could lower fecal egg counts, an indicator of infection. Animals treated with pumpkin seeds required fewer dewormer treatments than control animals in most cases. Other natural products tested included garlic, ginger and papaya seeds, but they did not appear effective—also a valuable discovery for farmers.

While the team needs to continue researching pumpkin seeds as a natural dewormer, by the end of the project four local producers had adopted them as part of their overall parasite management strategy.

For more information on this project, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project number LNE08-269.

SARE in Delaware

www.nesare.org/delaware

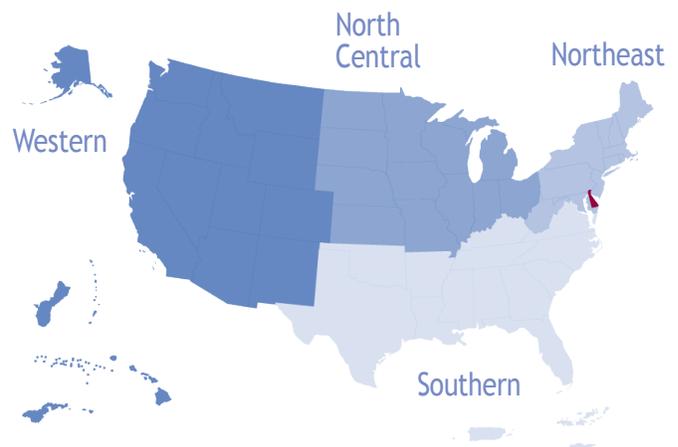
\$801,913 in total funding

20 grant projects

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to

www.sare.org/state-summaries



SARE's four regional programs and outreach office work to advance sustainable innovations to the whole of American agriculture.

What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded \$245 million for more than 6,100 initiatives.

SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining the SARE Learning Center—a library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

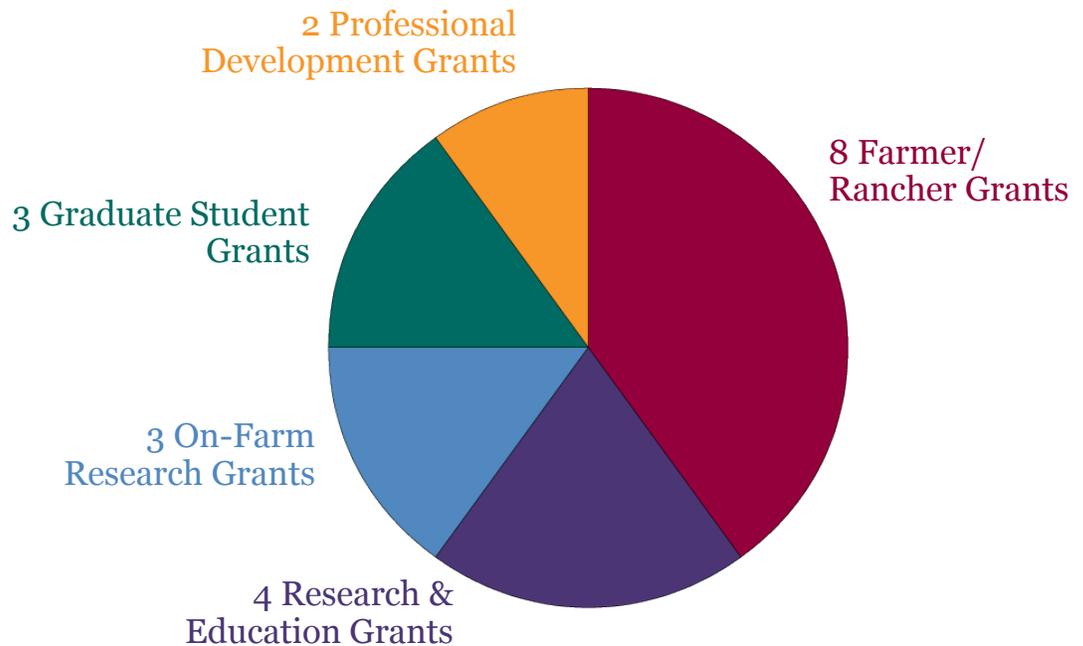


Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

SARE Grants in Delaware

SARE has
awarded a
total of
20 grants
in Delaware
since 1988



SARE's Impact



53 percent of producers report using a new production technique after reading a SARE publication.

79 percent of producers said they improved soil quality through their SARE project.

64 percent of producers said their SARE project helped them achieve higher sales.

Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit www.nesare.org/delaware to learn more.

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For detailed information on SARE projects, go to
www.SARE.org