

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

Rhode Island

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 over \$273 million to more than 6,800 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.



www.sare.org

Project Highlight: *Integrated Strategies for Managing Parasites*

Gastrointestinal parasites pose one of the top challenges in raising sheep and goats. A common management strategy is to regularly treat an entire herd with dewormers, without distinguishing sick animals from healthy ones. This represents an unnecessary cost and risks the development of resistance to dewormers.

To help farmers manage parasites in a cost-effective manner that does not overuse dewormers, University of Rhode Island's Katherine Petersson is leading widespread research and education efforts on integrated control strategies. These include techniques for managing pastures to reduce the incidence of parasites and tools for monitoring animals to identify which ones actually need treatment.

With a 2010 SARE grant, Petersson and a team of New England Extension specialists held dozens of workshops and site visits over three years. They reached hundreds of small ruminant producers and veterinarians. According to a survey of the farmers they worked with, 82 percent adopted new parasite control practices within a year. Most reported reducing their dewormer costs by at least 50 percent.

Petersson's project, which was expanded with a 2015 SARE grant, included a research component that found vitamin E and cranberry powder can have an antiparasitic effect when added to animals' diet.

For more information, see www.sare.org/projects, and do a coordinator search for "Petersson."

SARE in Rhode Island

www.nesare.org/rhode-island

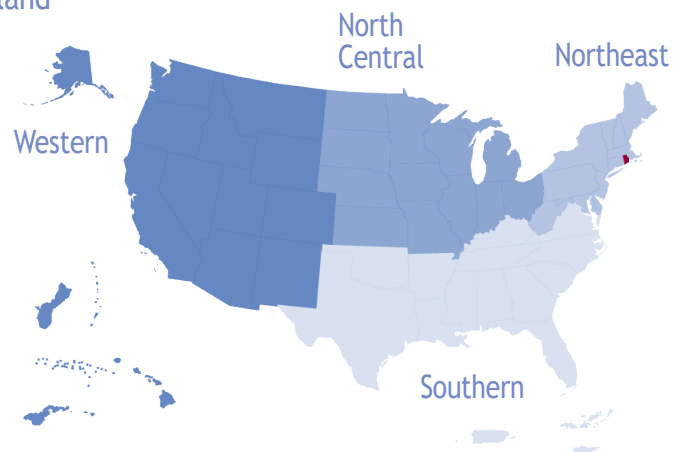
\$1.6 million in total funding

33 grant projects

(since 1988)

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

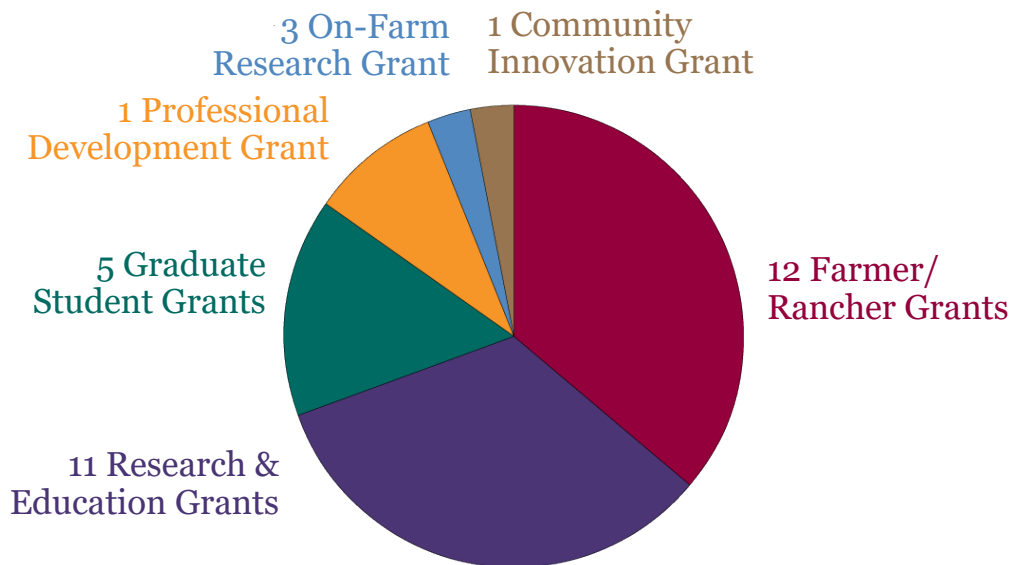
www.sare.org/state-summaries



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

SARE Grants in Rhode Island

SARE has awarded a total of **33 grants** in Rhode Island 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/rhode-island to learn more.

Heather Faubert
Univ. of Rhode Island
(401) 874-2967
hhf@uri.edu



SARE is funded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

For detailed information on SARE projects, go to

www.SARE.org