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.

SARE
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

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

Connecticut

Project Highlight: *Arming Basil Growers with Disease-Control Solutions*

Whenever a new pest enters the scene, farmers must quickly learn how to deal with it if they are to remain profitable. Two SARE-funded projects are helping Connecticut farmers cope with this very situation in the case of a serious outbreak of Downy mildew of basil, a new disease to the eastern United States.

Typically, organic farmers depend on cultural practices to reduce disease problems, with control products complementing these practices. In the case of Downy mildew, Connecticut farmers could find no solutions due to the lack of published research on the efficacy of available control products. So Extension agent Joan Allen looked at disease-control products on two species of basil in one SARE-funded project, and then in a second project focused on the most promising contenders. Because of her work, basil growers now have access to possible solutions.

The results from Allen's first project provided basil farmers information about two products, narrowed down from an original five. Farmers started using the better performers, MilStop and Oxidate. Allen also looked at the effect of nitrogen fertilization rate alone and in combination with the fungicides on the severity of the disease. Close to 500 farmers and gardeners learned of possible new practices through presentations.

For more information on these projects, see **www.sare.org/projects**, and search for project numbers ONE11-132 and ONE12-152.

SARE in Connecticut

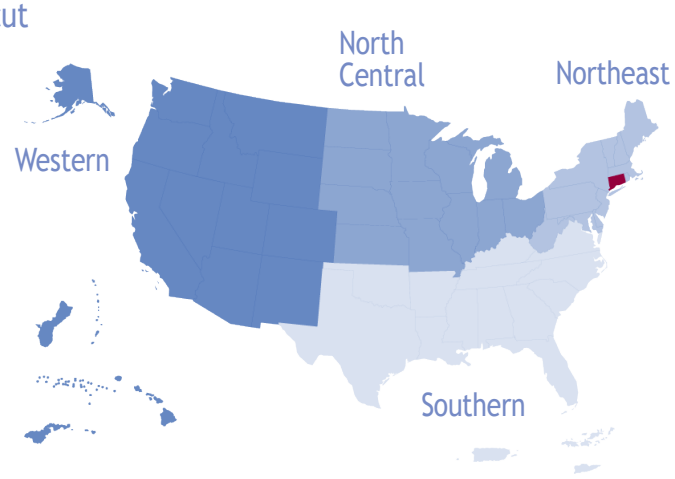
www.nesare.org/connecticut

$2 million in total funding

69 grant projects

(since 1988)

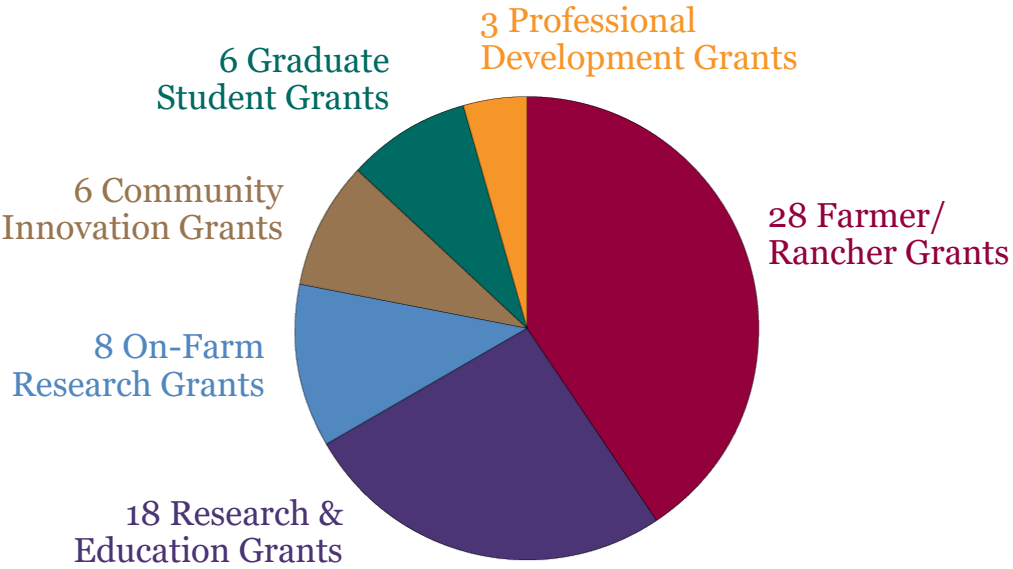
For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to www.sare.org/state-summaries



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

SARE Grants in Connecticut

SARE has awarded a total of **69 grants** in Connecticut 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/connecticut to learn more.

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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