

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.



Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

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

Indiana

Project Highlight: *Online Budgeting Tools for Small-Scale Livestock Producers*

There are many decisions to make before pursuing a small-scale livestock operation, and having realistic budget and profitability expectations are a critical part of that decision-making process. To assist potential producers in making informed choices about their operations, Anna Lee Allcorn, then a graduate student at Purdue University, received a 2010 SARE grant to evaluate the economic returns and business opportunities for alternative sustainable livestock enterprises, and to develop a decision-support tool.

“When decision-makers are able to make better investment decisions, there is a greater chance they will be successful, which in turn has a positive long-term impact on the quality of life of the participants, the economies of the rural

communities where they live and the livestock industry overall,” said Allcorn.

The resulting Comparative Decision Support toolkit includes a spreadsheet that allows users to create an operating budget based on their own fixed and variable costs, cash flow and expected revenue. The profit/loss analysis function uses cost and price information to calculate potential earnings from multiple livestock enterprises, including cow-calf, dairy steers, sheep, goats and turkeys. After completing the mini-module, users across the region will have evaluated multiple objectives to make a small-scale livestock enterprise entry decision.

For more information on this project, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project number GNC10-133.

SARE in Indiana

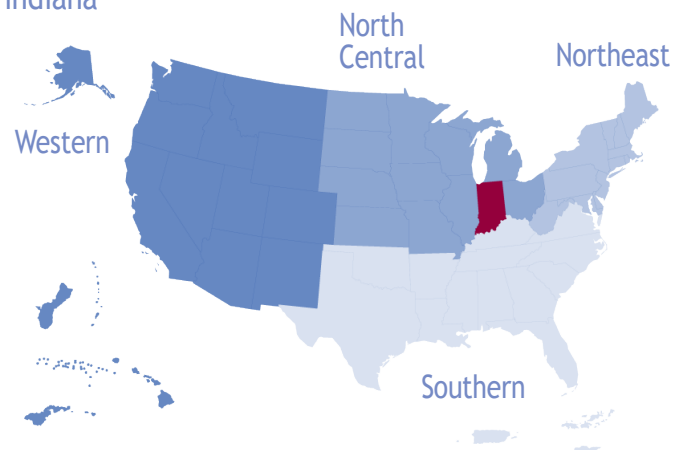
www.northcentralsare.org/indiana

\$3.8 million in total funding

127 grant projects

(since 1988)

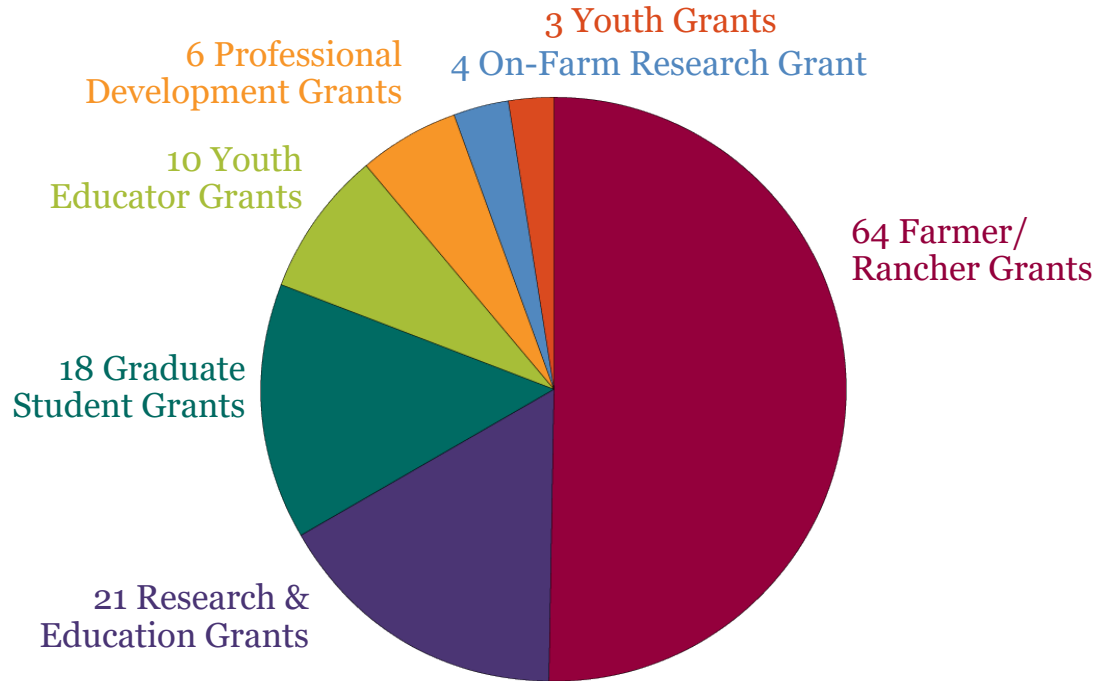
For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to www.sare.org/state-summaries



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

SARE Grants in Indiana

SARE has
awarded a
total of
127 grants
in Indiana
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.northcentralsare.org/indiana to learn more.

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