

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 \$287 million to more than 7,000 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

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

Project Highlight: *Training Ag Professionals on Sustainable Vegetable Production Methods*

Kentucky is home to numerous small, limited-resource farms. More than 75 percent of the state's 85,000 farms are smaller than 180 acres and 80 percent have an annual income under \$25,000, according to the USDA Census of Agriculture. Tobacco used to be an attractive option for these growers because it was highly profitable at small acreages compared to other crops, but that has changed with the elimination of price supports and marketing quotas.

Extension professionals at state universities in Kentucky and Tennessee are working to fill the void left by tobacco by increasing the acreage of sustainably farmed and certified organic vegetables. For this to happen, training in sustainable and organic vegetable farming for

agricultural professionals who work closely with small-scale farmers is critical. With a SARE grant, a team led by the University of Kentucky collaboratively sponsored hands-on workshops, regional farm tours, training materials, videos and websites for farm educators.

The team trained 150 ag professionals and 150 growers. Prior to the training, many of the participants expressed their discomfort with organic vegetable production. Yet nearly 200 attended a field day heavily featuring organic production just a few years later, indicating a growing interest on their part.

For more information on this project, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project number ES10-101.

SARE in Kentucky

www.southernsare.org/kentucky

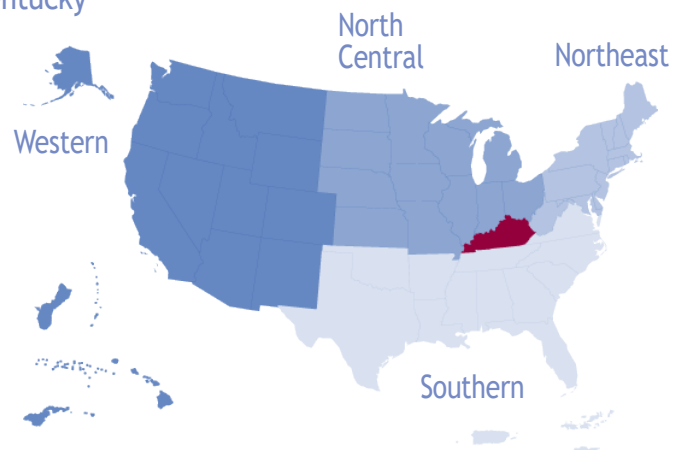
\$4.3 million in total funding

88 grant projects

(since 1988)

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

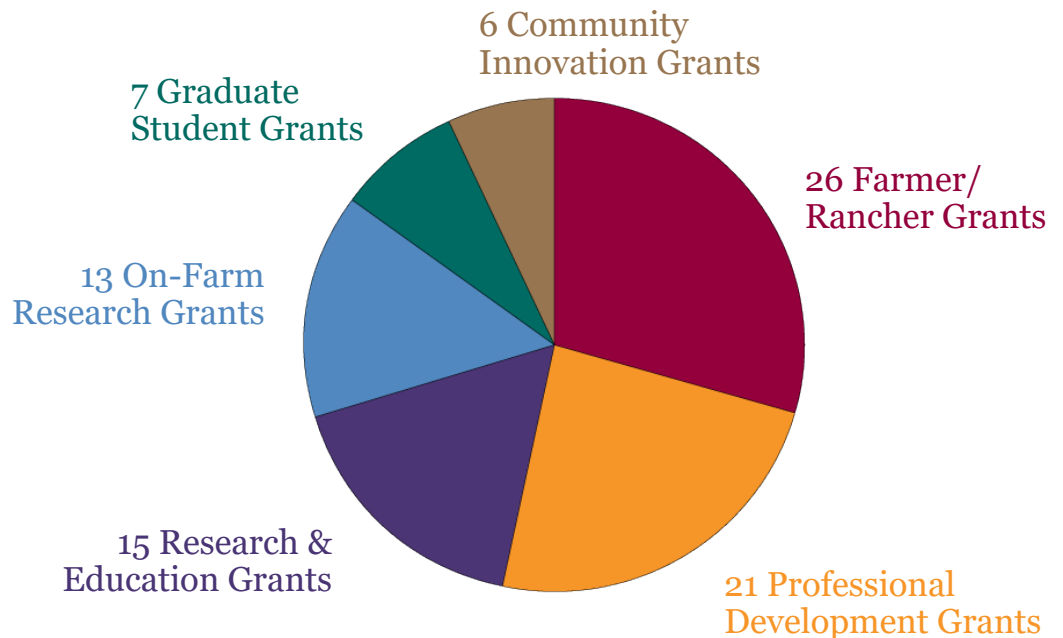
www.sare.org/state-summaries



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

SARE Grants in Kentucky

SARE has
awarded a
total of
88 grants
in Kentucky
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.southernsare.org/kentucky to learn more.

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For detailed information on SARE projects, go to

www.SARE.org