

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

# Guam

## Project Highlight: *Training on a Better Way to Fight Banana Weevil*

**A**griculture has not played a large role in Guam's economy since the significant changes brought by World War II. For example, bananas sold in the past few years were mostly imported. Today, local farmers on Guam and other Pacific Islands are growing more bananas and the number of banana plantations is on the rise. But as Guam's banana industry is on the rise, so too is the banana weevil, a pest that can decimate the crop and cause a complete loss of yield if not controlled.

To help producers cope with the pest, the University of Guam's Gadi Reddy used a 2009 SARE grant to advance local agriculture professionals' knowledge of semiochemicals in pest management. Semiochemicals are pheromones and other chemicals used

to attract insects to physical traps, a potentially low-cost way of managing the banana weevil without resorting to over-use of pesticides.

Reddy increased his colleagues' knowledge base by creating a variety of training publications on the use of semiochemicals. In conjunction with the publications, he led a four-month class for 10 agricultural professionals on the benefits and methods of trapping the four most prominent weevil pests. Twenty-four ag professionals also attended a shorter workshop. Of those workshop participants, 67 percent reported leaving the event prepared to implement techniques learned.

For more information on this project, see [www.sare.org/projects](http://www.sare.org/projects), and search for project number EW09-012.

## SARE in Guam

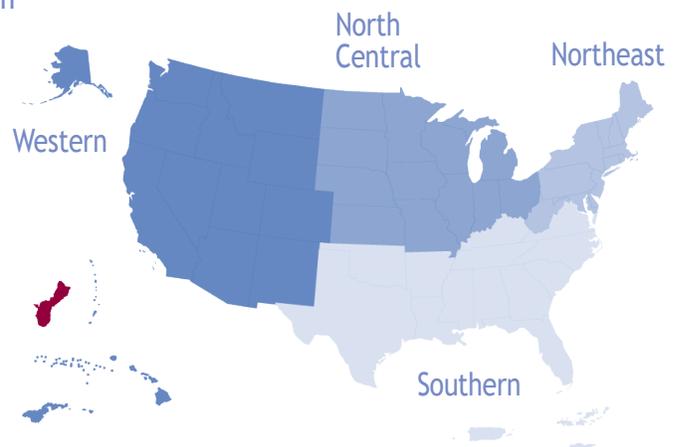
[www.westernsare.org/guam](http://www.westernsare.org/guam)

**\$1.4 million in total funding**

**40 grant projects**

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to [www.sare.org/state-summaries](http://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 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.

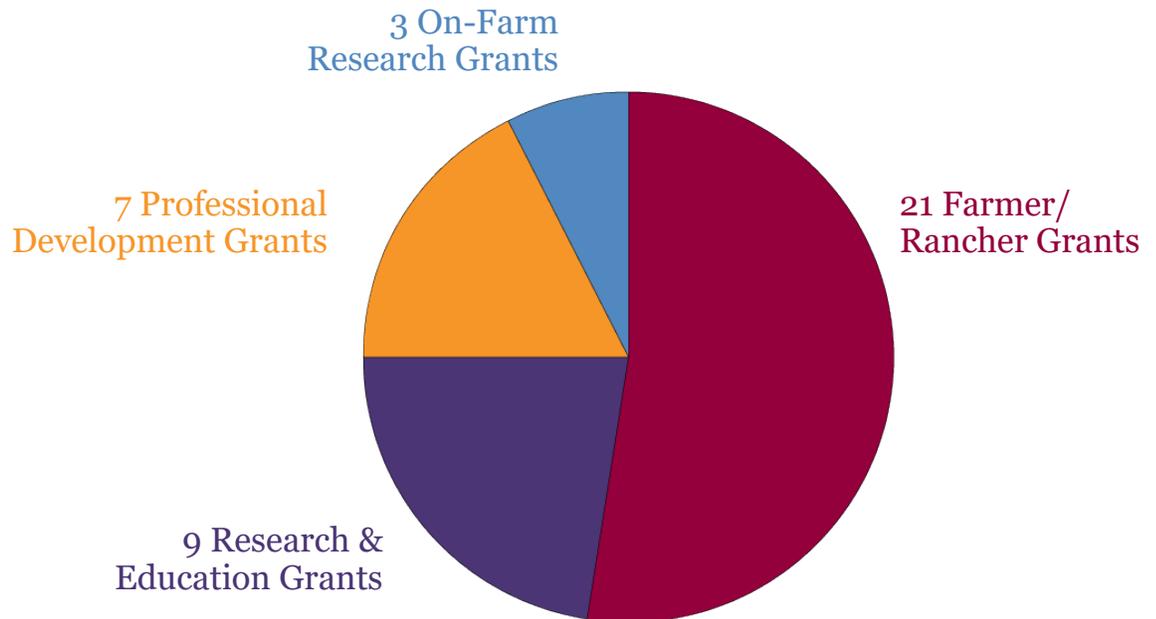


**Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education**

[www.sare.org](http://www.sare.org)

# SARE Grants in Guam

SARE has  
awarded a  
total of  
**40 grants**  
in Guam  
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.westernsare.org/guam](http://www.westernsare.org/guam) 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](http://www.SARE.org)