

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

Missouri

Project Highlight: *Cereal Rye Reduces Erosion in No-Till Systems*

High demand and favorable prices for grain crops such as corn and soybeans has led farmers to plant record acreages of these crops. In Missouri, the expansion of acreage is happening on erosion-prone soils and pastures, where the ground is experiencing 2.5 to 3 tons per acre per year of soil loss and extensive rill erosion. A solution to this erosion problem may lie in incorporating cereal rye as a cover crop into corn/soybean rotations.

With SARE funding, regional Extension staff and local farmers partnered to test and demonstrate the use of cereal rye in a no-till corn/soybean rotation. They found that soil erosion is reduced to 1.8 tons per acre by planting a cereal rye cover crop between the corn and

soybeans, and if cereal rye is planted after soybeans, erosion is reduced to 0.8 tons per acre per year.

Over 600 farmers and ag professionals learned of these results through field days and presentations. Forty percent of farmers reached say they will increase cover crop acreage in the next year. And as for farmers already using cover crops, almost half of their acreage now has a cover crop, indicating that they have moved past the small-scale testing stage.

For more information on this project, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project number ONC15-002.

SARE in Missouri

www.northcentralsare.org/missouri

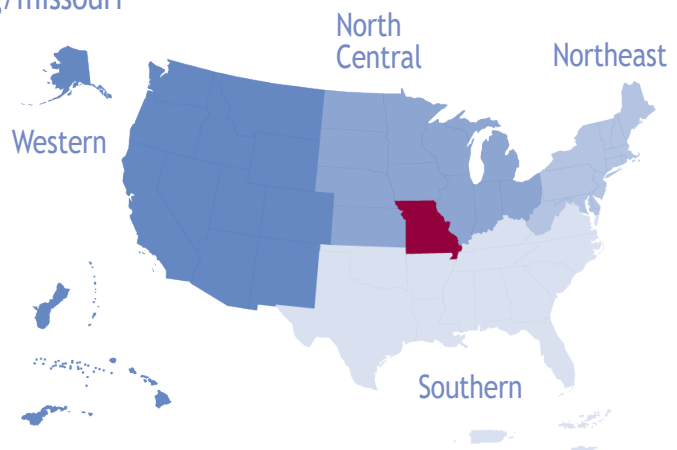
\$4.8 million in total funding

252 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.

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.

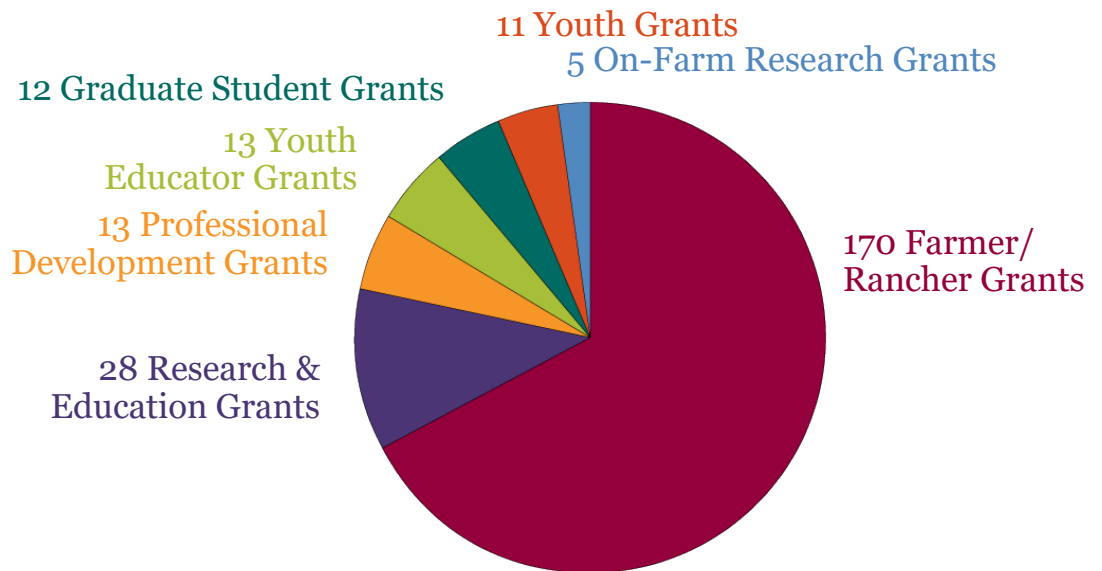


Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

SARE Grants in Missouri

SARE has
awarded a
total of
252 grants
in Missouri
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/missouri to learn more.

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