

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

Texas

Project Highlight: *Training for a Sustainable Agricultural Future*

Thousands of Texas ranchers hurt by drought are seeking new ways to make their land profitable. Large Texas farms are being subdivided. Farms of all sizes are now in closer contact with non-agricultural communities due to urban growth. Agriculture in Texas is changing, and the technical professionals who support producers must keep up by learning innovative, research-based production and marketing strategies relevant to their clientele's interests.

This need prompted Texas A&M Extension educators to organize a SARE-funded training program on the sustainable and organic practices that are of emerging interest to Texas' farmers and ranchers. The program reached 45 employees of Texas A&M

and Prairie View A&M Extension, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. It included hands-on farm training conducted at six locations, with classroom presentations and discussions over four days. Eleven farmers and ranchers served as trainers during the on-site visits.

Participants reported back on what they did in their communities as a result of their involvement in the program. Five months after conclusion of the training, they brought information about sustainable and organic practices to 1,000 farmers in 37 different counties through a combination of events and one-on-one outreach.

For more information on this project, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project number ES13-120.

SARE in Texas

www.southernsare.org/texas

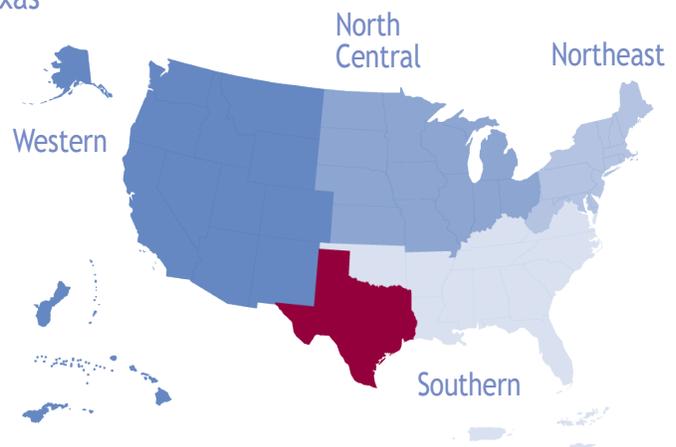
\$6.1 million in total funding

96 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 \$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

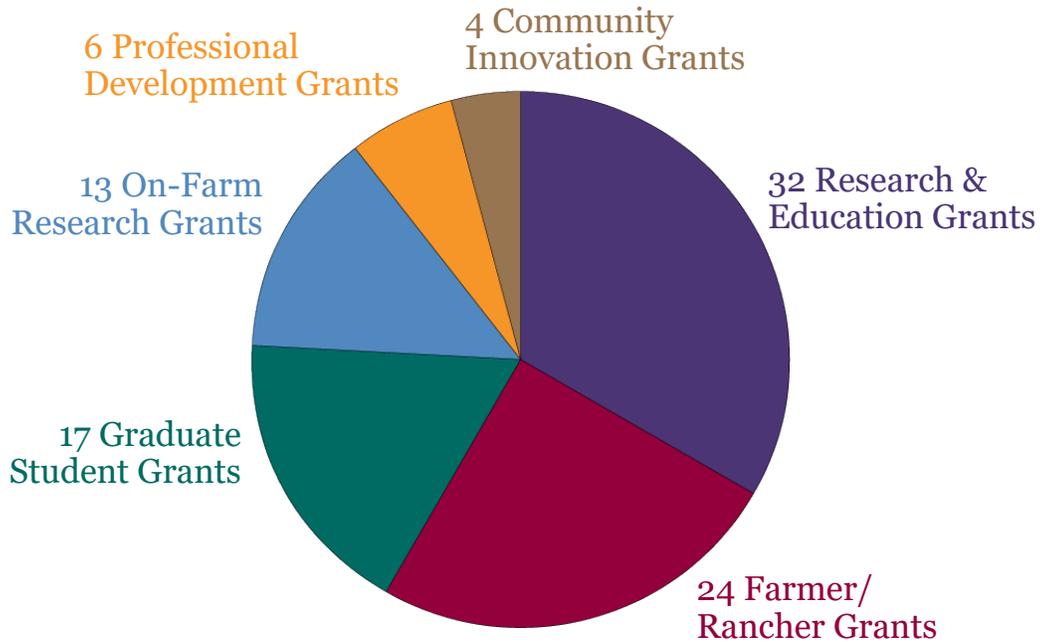
SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining the SARE Learning Center—a library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.



www.sare.org

SARE Grants in Texas

SARE has
awarded a
total of
96 grants
in Texas
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/texas 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