Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

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 $12.0 million to more than 284 initiatives [1].

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 an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

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

Massachusetts

Project Highlight: The Weed Weasel Prototype: Electric Walking Tractor

Jan Yoder of Woodmetalcanvas in Westport, MA, collaborated with local farmers to build, test and refine a light electric walking tractor to increase production efficiency. Weed management is crucial on vegetable farms of all scales, but it can be particularly challenging for small-scale farms as hand weeding is time consuming and tractor cultivation may not fit with smaller acreages. To address this, Yoder developed the Weed Weasel, an electric walking tractor that can be used for quickly cultivating beds of vegetables and other produce.

With the help of a SARE grant, Yoder was able to fund the construction and testing of three Weed Weasels, as well as to provide support to local farms in their adaptation and use of the Weed Weasel. The trial runs Yoder did during this project showed that the Weed Weasel is safe, creates no pollution in the field and minimizes soil compaction, making it the perfect tool to assist farmers in creating more sustainable and efficient crop production. The success of the Weed Weasel drove Yoder to develop step-by-step instructions that farmers can use to build their own Weed Weasel.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects and search for project number ONE18-324.

SARE in Massachusetts

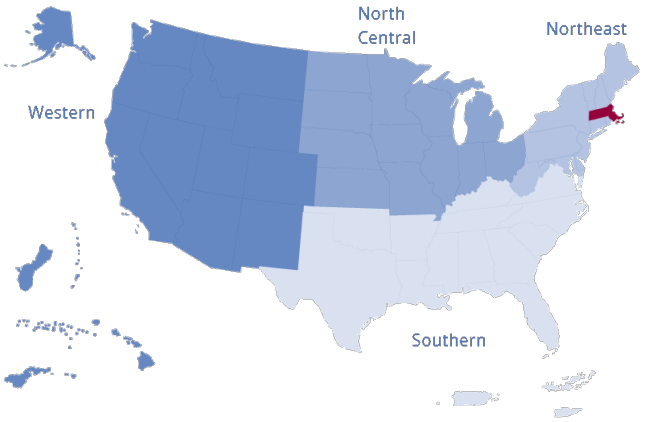
northeast.sare.org/state-profiles/massachusetts/

$12,038,100 in total funding

284 grant projects

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of Massachusetts grant projects, go to projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/



[1] These totals reflect available data; complete information may not be available for all grant programs prior to 2016.

SARE in Massachusetts, 2021–2026

This is a summary of recent SARE-funded activities and impacts in the state. To search all SARE projects visit projects.sare.org. For a list of all projects in Massachusetts visit projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/.

Grants awarded

Total awards: **53 grants**

24	Farmer/Rancher
2	Research and Education
3	Professional Development Program
10	On Farm Research/Partnership
7	Graduate Student
3	PDP State Program [2]
3	Research Only
1	Farming Community

Total funding: **$2,463,961**

$582,837	Farmer/Rancher
$261,419	Research and Education
$368,765	Professional Development Program
$276,708	On Farm Research/Partnership
$102,855	Graduate Student
$268,869	PDP State Program [2]
$357,603	Research Only
$244,906	Farming Community

[2] The Professional Development Program (PDP) State Program is a non-competitive award that funds the activities of the state coordinator(s). See more below.

For a complete list of Massachusetts awards, visit:
projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/

Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

10,089 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project

473 farmers changed a practice



Learn about local impacts at:
northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/massachusetts/

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 northeast.sare.org/state-profiles/massachusetts/ to learn more.

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SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

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