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 $308 million to more than 7,395 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 an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

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

Rhode Island

Project Highlight: Integrated Strategies for Managing Parasites

Gastrointestinal parasites pose one of the top challenges in raising sheep and goats. A common management strategy is to regularly treat an entire herd with dewormers, without distinguishing sick animals from healthy ones. This represents an unnecessary cost and risks the development of resistance to dewormers.

To help farmers manage parasites in a cost-effective manner that does not overuse dewormers, University of Rhode Island’s Katherine Petersson is leading widespread research and education efforts on integrated control strategies. These include techniques for managing pastures to reduce the incidence of parasites and tools for monitoring animals to identify which ones actually need treatment.

With a 2010 SARE grant, Petersson and a team of New England Extension specialists held dozens of workshops and site visits over three years. They reached hundreds of small ruminant producers and veterinarians. According to a survey of the farmers they worked with, 82 percent adopted new parasite control practices within a year. Most reported reducing their dewormer costs by at least 50 percent.

Petersson’s project, which was expanded with a 2015 SARE grant, included a research component that found vitamin E and cranberry powder can have an antiparasitic effect when added to animals’ diet.

For more information, see sare.org/projects, and do a coordinator search for “Petersson.”

SARE in Rhode Island

northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/rhode-island

$1,828,222 in total funding

37 grant projects

(since 1988)

For a complete list of grant projects state by state, go to www.sare.org/state-summaries
**SARE Grants in Rhode Island**

**Total awards:** 37 grants
- 15 Farmer/Rancher
- 6 Graduate Student
- 3 On Farm
- Research/Partnership
- 1 Professional Development Program
- 12 Research and Education

**Total funding:** $1,828,222
- $96,974 Farmer/Rancher
- $87,268 Graduate Student
- $44,884 On Farm
- Research/Partnership $104,400
- Professional Development Program $1,494,696
- Research and Education

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

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**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.

Learn about local impacts at:

northeast.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/rhode-island

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**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-pages/rhode island to learn more.

Rachel Bespuda
University of Connecticut
(203) 407-3172
rachel.bespuda@uconn.edu

Heather Faubert
University of Rhode Island
(401) 874-2967
hhf@uri.edu

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

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SARE is funded by the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

This report includes summaries of competitive grant programs only. Some competitive grant programs that are no longer offered may be included or excluded from the totals in this report depending on the grant program and SARE region.
Rhode Island has been awarded $1,849,999 grants to support 36 projects, including but not limited to, 10 research and/or education projects, 1 professional development project and 15 producer-led projects. Rhode Island has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LNE19-381</td>
<td>Expanding Opportunities for Sustainable Management of Small Ruminant Gastrointestinal Parasites</td>
<td>$242,071</td>
<td>Katherine Petersson University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE15-342</td>
<td>New approaches for improving integrated parasite control strategies in the Northeast</td>
<td>$236,815</td>
<td>Katherine Petersson University of Rhode Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>LNE11-311</td>
<td>Rhody Native: Propagation for Sustainable Landscapes</td>
<td>$122,333</td>
<td>Vanessa Venturini URI Outreach Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE10-293</td>
<td>Cover cropping strategies for year-round weed control on mixed vegetable farms in southern New England</td>
<td>$117,360</td>
<td>Dr. Rebecca Brown University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE10-300</td>
<td>Improving small ruminant parasite control in New England</td>
<td>$179,205</td>
<td>Katherine Petersson University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE07-256</td>
<td>Improving Oyster Aquaculture in Rhode Island: Development and Testing of the “Rhodoxyter”</td>
<td>$127,254</td>
<td>Dr. Marta Gomez-Chiarri University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE05-225</td>
<td>Creating a technical support system for Rhode Island small-scale farms</td>
<td>$149,990</td>
<td>Ernest Morreira URI Cooperative Extension Kristen Castrataro University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE04-208</td>
<td>Rhode Island Agricultural Tourism Project</td>
<td>$84,980</td>
<td>Stuart Nunnery RI Center for Agricultural Promotion and Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE98-100</td>
<td>Producing Native &amp; Ornamental Wetland Plants in Constructed Wetlands Designed to Reduce Pollution from Agricultural Sources</td>
<td>$72,840</td>
<td>Brian Maynard University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNE90-024</td>
<td>Sustainable SOD Production for the Northeast</td>
<td>$161,848</td>
<td>Richard A. Casagrande University of Rhode Island</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENE10-117</td>
<td>Northeast Pollinator Conservation Planning Short Course</td>
<td>$104,400</td>
<td>Eric Mader The Xerces Society</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FNE19-923</td>
<td>Viability of Hogging Down Corn and Peas as Swine Feedstock</td>
<td>$9,673</td>
<td>Ben Coerper Wild Harmony Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE19-927</td>
<td>Evaluation of Microclover Black Beauty as a Semi-Permanent Cover Crop and Living Mulch in Organic Tomato Production</td>
<td>$4,228</td>
<td>John Eidson Sodco, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE19-943</td>
<td>Effect of an Indigenous Soil Microbial Inoculant on Soil, Soil Microbial Community and Leaf Nutrient Density</td>
<td>$12,323</td>
<td>Rebecca Roberts Endless Farm LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE15-823</td>
<td>Comparing a centrifuge to a maple syrup filter press</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>Charles Chase Charlie’s Sugarhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE11-726</td>
<td>Hop Trellis Systems Comparison: High versus Low</td>
<td>$14,077</td>
<td>Matt Richardson Ocean State Hops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE10-683</td>
<td>Marketing Analysis of New State Shaped Maple Candies</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>Charles Chase Charlie’s Sugarhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE09-675</td>
<td>Compost Windrow as Greenhouse Heat Source</td>
<td>$9,998</td>
<td>Bruce Vanicek The Rhode Island Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE07-619</td>
<td>A method for overwintering and propagating honeybees in the Northeast</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Mark Robar Trail’s End Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE05-555</td>
<td>Rhode Island pastured poultry association</td>
<td>$5,250</td>
<td>Patrick McNiff Southside Community Land Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE05-556</td>
<td>A feasible method for organic fertilization of greenhouse tomatoes through drip irrigation</td>
<td>$3,430</td>
<td>Arthur Mello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE03-470</td>
<td>Grow Organic Vegetables From Western Nigeria</td>
<td>$4,288</td>
<td>John Kamson Koka Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE99-237</td>
<td>High Density Maple Sugar Orchard and Tapping of Immature Trees</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>Charles Chase Charlie’s Sugarhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE93-006</td>
<td>Development and Evaluation of an Alternative Ice House Refrigeration System</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Charles Chase Charlie’s Sugarhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNE93-008</td>
<td>Flame Weed Control in Cut Flower Production</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>Paul Pieri Maurolo Farm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GNE19-192</td>
<td>Best Management Practices for Small-scale Egg Producers</td>
<td>$14,901</td>
<td>Becky Sartini, PhD University of Rhode Island Julie Bosland University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNE17-145</td>
<td>The effect of season upon the life cycle and development of Haemonchus contortus in experimentally infected lambs</td>
<td>$14,640</td>
<td>Katherine Petersson University of Rhode Island Marissa Brummett University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Developing production protocols and connecting producers to consumers of vegetable amaranth

Dr. Rebecca Brown
University of Rhode Island
Sarah Schweig
University of Rhode Island

Anthelmintic efficacy of pelleted cranberry leaf powder against experimental Haemonchus contortus infection in lambs

Katherine Petersson
University of Rhode Island
Carly Barone
University of Rhode Island

Using green seaweed (Ulva spp.) as a soil amendment: Effects on soil quality and yield of sweet corn (Zea mays L.)

Dr. Steven Alm
University of Rhode Island
Dr. Jose Amador
University of Rhode Island
Dr. Rebecca Brown
University of Rhode Island
Angela Possinger
University of Rhode Island

Inclusion of soybean meal into summer flounder (Paralichthys dentatus) feeds: An environmentally-friendly protein alternative to fish meal and a potential immunostimulant

Dr. David Bengtson
University of Rhode Island
Dr. Marta Gomez-Chiarri
University of Rhode Island
Dr. Daniel Ward
Ward Aquafarms, LLC

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ONE17-291 | Testing laser scarecrows for neighbor-friendly bird damage reduction in sweet corn on periurban farms | $14,925 | Dr. Rebecca Brown
University of Rhode Island |
| ONE17-304 | Efficacy and cost effectiveness of foliar nutrient applications to vegetable crops on a large Rhode Island farm | $14,963 | Andy Radin
University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension |
| ONE13-191 | Realizing the potential of high tunnel tomato production and income in southern New England | $14,996 | Andy Radin
University of Rhode Island |

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SARE Support</th>
<th>Project Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| CNE09-058 | The Rhode Island “Market Mobile”: Easing channels for distribution for farmers and food buyers | $21,777 | Sheri Griffin
Farm Fresh Rhode Island |

Total funding from the USDA SARE program to Rhode Island
$1,849,999

For further information on projects, contact Deb Heleba, Northeast SARE communications specialist, at 802-651-8335, ext 552 or debra.heleba@uvm.edu.
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).