



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

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SARE: Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

<https://www.sare.org/>

WSSA

22 March 2022

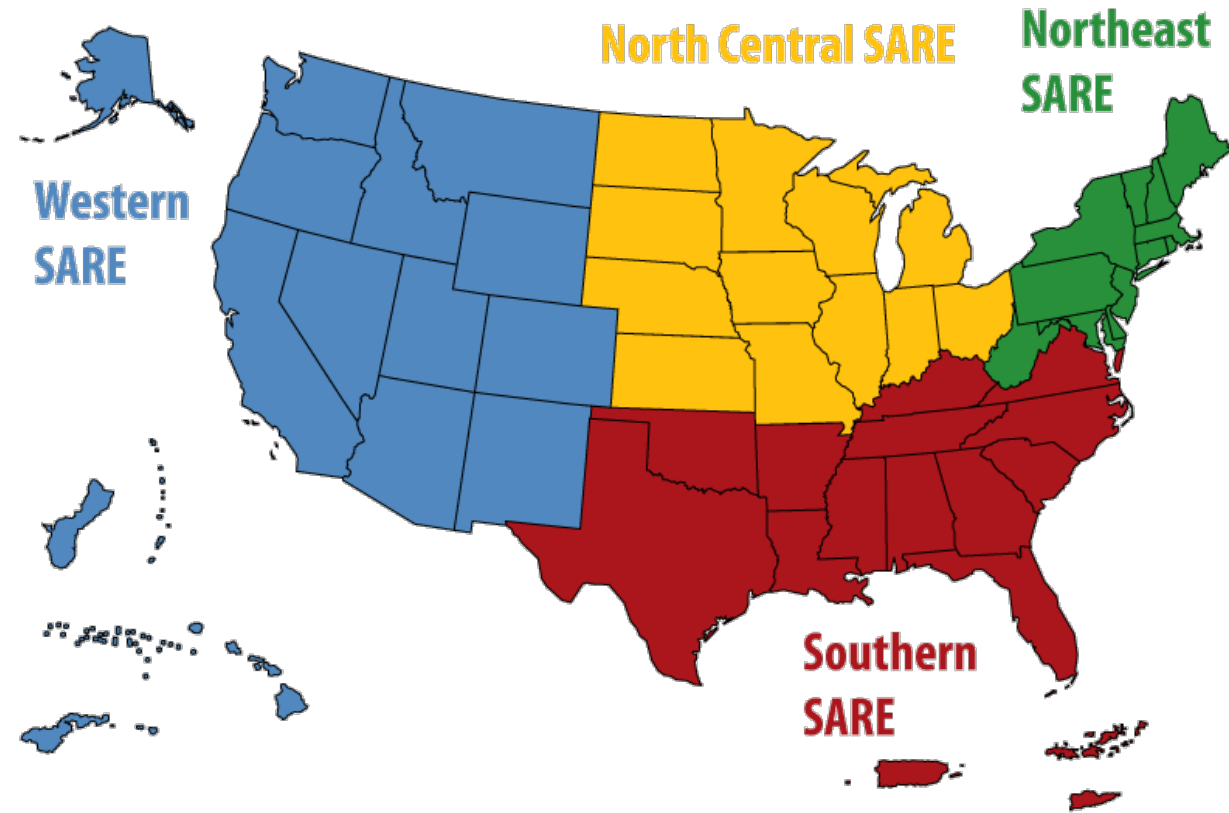


What is Sustainable Agriculture?

- An integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application, that over the long-term will:
 - Satisfy human food and fiber needs;
 - Enhance environmental quality and the natural resources upon which the agriculture economy depends;
 - Make the most efficient use of non-renewable resources and on-farm resources, and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls;
 - Sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and
 - Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole

SARE's Four Regions

- Four Regional Host Institutions—each manages 4-6 competitive grant programs
 - North Central: University of Minnesota
 - Northeast: University of Vermont
 - Southern: University of Georgia
 - Western: Montana State University





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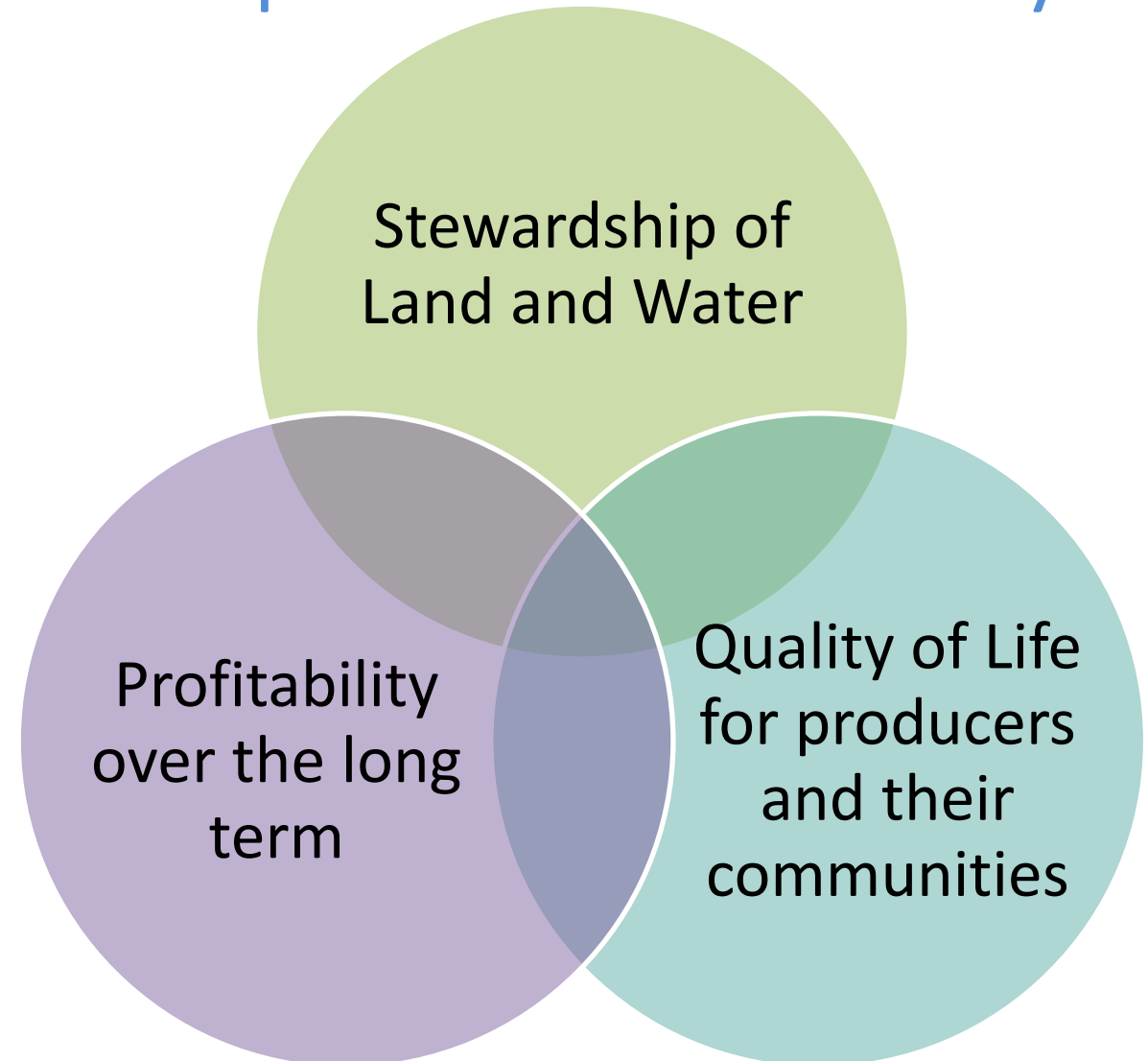
The SARE Model

- USDA NIFA provides funding to Host Institutions through annual cooperative agreements
- Each region has a legislatively mandated Administrative Council who set priorities for several grant programs
- Host institutions administer the grant programs in their region
- SARE Outreach runs the Grant Management System and produces practical informational materials



SARE projects address the three aspects of sustainability

- SARE's **vision** is an enduring American agriculture of the highest quality. This agriculture is **profitable, protects the nation's land and water, and is a force for a rewarding way of life** for farmers and ranchers whose quality products and operations sustain their communities and society.
- SARE's **mission** is to advance – to the whole of American agriculture – innovations that improve **profitability, stewardship, and quality of life** by investing in groundbreaking research and education.





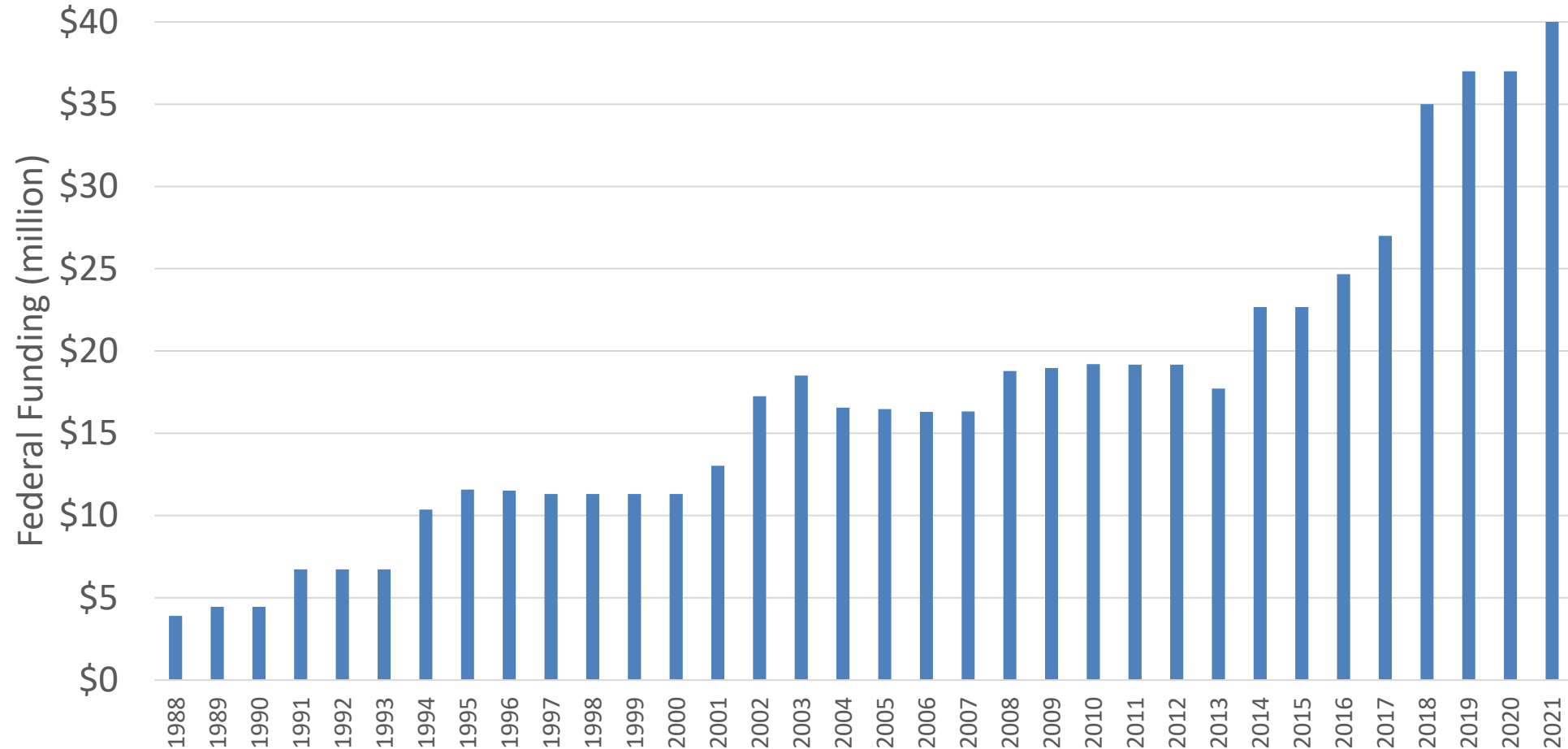
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SARE Funding 1988-2021



SARE Grant Characteristics

- Open to all types of farming: large or small; organic or conventional; urban or rural; row crop, livestock, small fruit and vegetable, and aquaculture
- Open to different points on the value chain: production, processing, or marketing
- Not restricted to specific disciplines

SARE Grant Types (Amount and type vary by region)

- Research Grants
 - Larger **Research and Extension** (~\$300k)
 - Smaller grants (\$5-50k)
 - **Farmer/Rancher**
 - **Farmer + Professional**
 - **Graduate Student**
- Professional Development and Training
 - State Programs
 - **Professional Development Program: Train-the-Trainer** (\$50-100k)
- Check regional websites for funding amount and deadlines



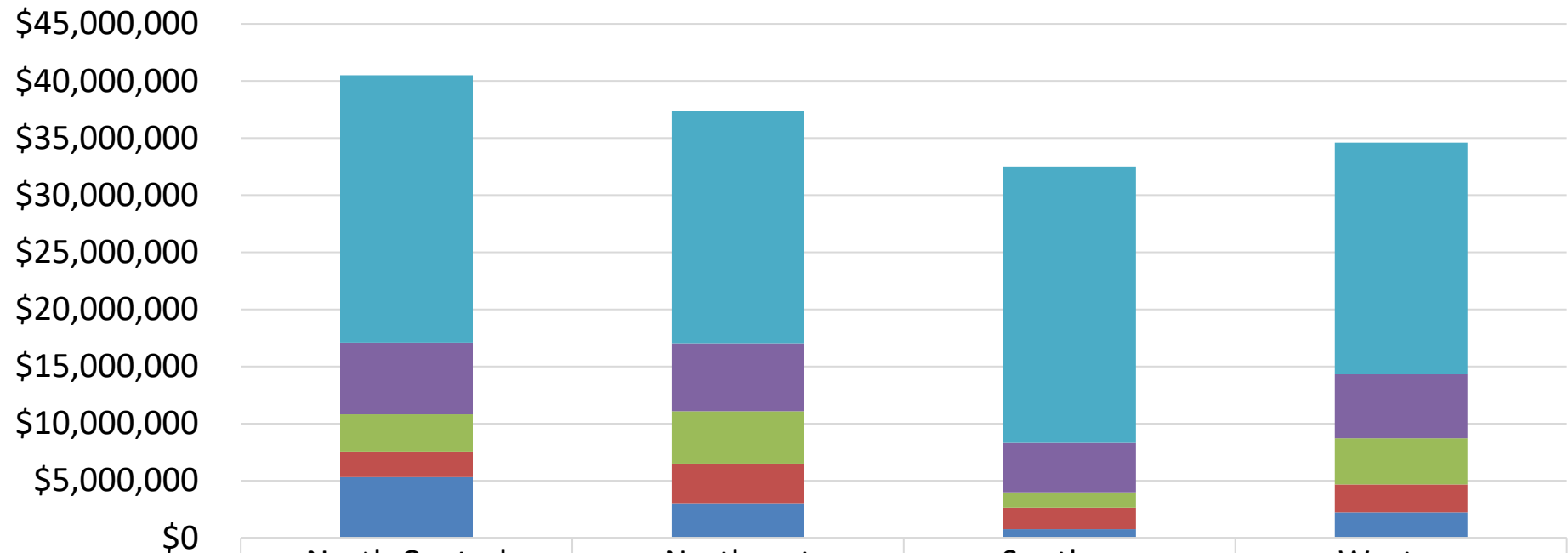
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SARE Funding by Grant Type (2012-2021)



■ Research and Education	North Central	\$23,408,390	Northeast	\$20,304,059	Southern	\$24,184,825	Western	\$20,272,639
■ Professional Development Program		\$6,274,578		\$5,954,620		\$4,336,830		\$5,602,281
■ On Farm Research/Partnership		\$3,263,518		\$4,580,179		\$1,341,936		\$4,043,901
■ Graduate Student		\$2,230,032		\$3,470,160		\$1,880,962		\$2,456,241
■ Farmer/Rancher		\$5,317,368		\$3,033,628		\$757,805		\$2,220,373



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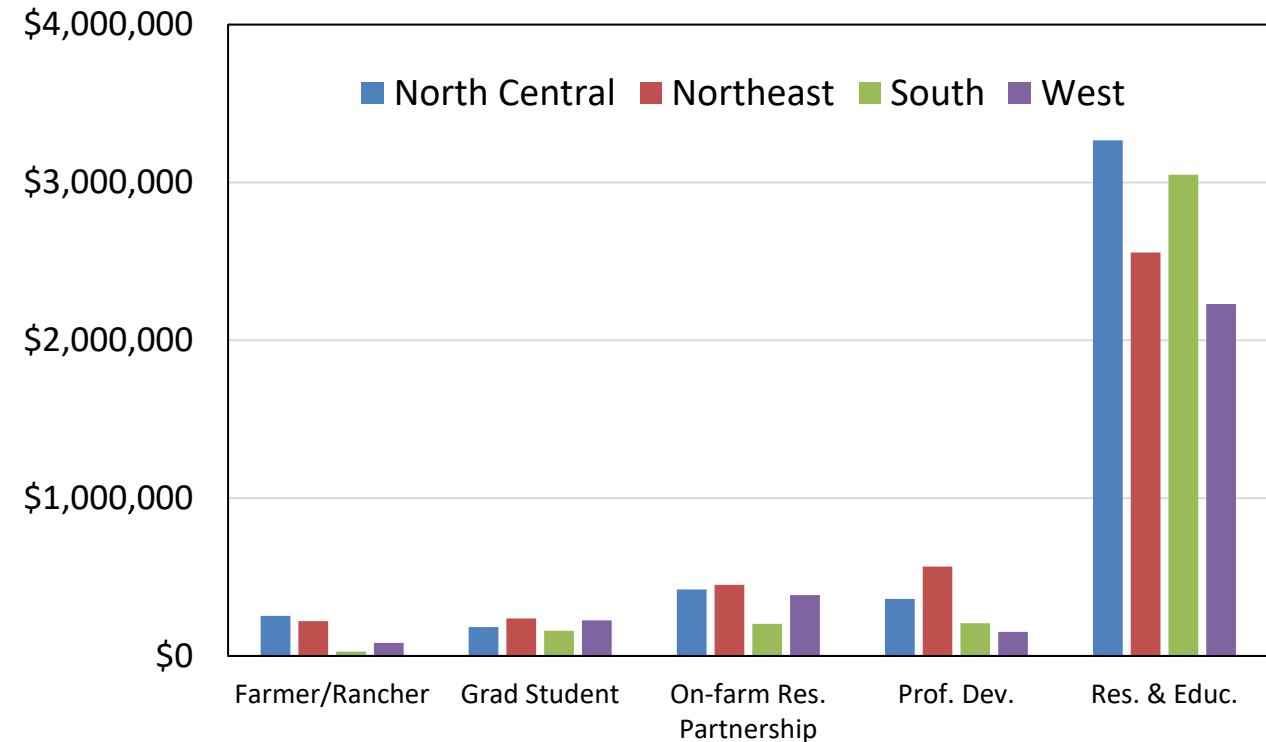
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Number/funding of “Weed Management” Projects by SARE Region (2012-2021)

	Farmer/ Rancher	Graduate Student	On- Farm/Res Partnership	Prof. Dev.	Research and Education
North Central	21	15	13	5	16
Northeast	18	17	26	4	13
South	4	12	13	2	14
West	6	9	8	3	10
Total	49	53	60	14	53



Key SARE websites/contacts

- SARE: <https://www.sare.org/>
 - Grant coordinators contact information at each regional website
- SARE Grant Management System: <https://projects.sare.org/>
- NIFA SARE National Program Leader
 - Name: Vance Owens
 - Phone: 816-283-6925
 - Email: vance.owens@usda.gov