SARE
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 $7.4 million to more than 151 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...

North Dakota

Project Highlight: *Bale Grazing for Soil Health*

When siblings Erin and Drew Gaugler, who grew up on a farm, decided to turn to agriculture full time as adults, they found themselves ranching on land in North Dakota severely degraded from years of mismanagement by previous occupants. Farming and overgrazing had left the soil with low fertility and susceptible to wind and water erosion.

The Gauglers began to rejuvenate the land with cover crops and intensive rotational grazing. They also became interested in bale grazing, or the practice of leaving hay bales in fields during the winter for livestock to graze. University research has shown that bale grazing can increase soil health and reduce winter feeding costs, but the Gauglers couldn't find good examples of how to bale graze on a working ranch, giving them little guidance on moving forward.

Supported by a SARE Farmer/Rancher grant, the Gauglers set up and monitored a system that involved planting multi-species cover crops and grazing them in the fall, then putting out bales for livestock to graze over the winter. They used permanent and temporary fencing to rotate the animals and control their access to the hay. Bales were placed in areas that had especially low levels of organic matter. The Gauglers took soil samples and tracked body condition scores.

While some of their work is ongoing, the Gauglers have achieved one of their primary goals: showing themselves and their neighbors that bale grazing is viable. "Folks in the local area have asked us several questions about what we are doing with the bales, and they wonder how it works," said Erin. "Drew and I have noticed that a handful of those same people have begun implementing bale grazing on their own operation."

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number FNC20-1218.

SARE in North Dakota

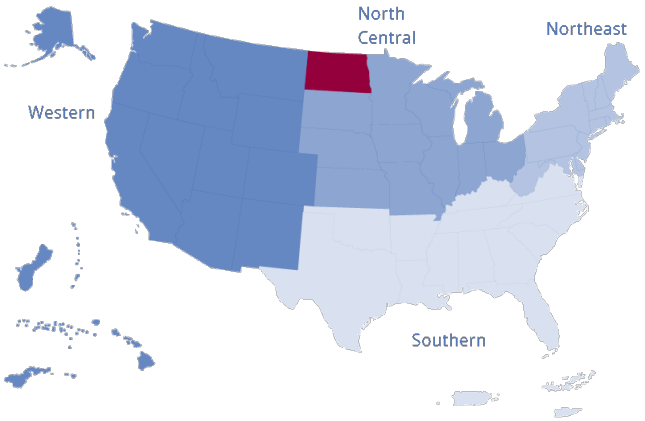
northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/north-dakota/

$7,352,052 in total funding

151 grant projects

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of North Dakota 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 North Dakota, 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 North Dakota visit projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/.

Grants awarded

Total awards: **23 grants**

10	Farmer/Rancher
3	Research and Education
1	Professional Development Program
1	On Farm Research/Partnership
5	Graduate Student
3	PDP State Program [2]

Total funding: **$1,590,686**

$175,998	Farmer/Rancher
$746,874	Research and Education
$108,774	Professional Development Program
$49,913	On Farm Research/Partnership
$89,127	Graduate Student
$420,000	PDP State Program [2]

[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 North Dakota awards, visit: projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/

Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

9,849 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project

218 farmers changed a practice



Learn about local impacts at: northcentral.sare.org/state-programs/north-dakota/

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 northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/north-dakota/ to learn more.

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SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
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