

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

Ohio

Project Highlight: *Improving Domestic Prawn Production*

The average American eats four pounds of shrimp and prawns per year, making it the country's most popular seafood. Almost all of the shrimp and prawns sold in the country are imported, mostly from Southeast Asia. There are concerns that these countries do not follow best practices in areas such as antibiotic use or sustainable management of fisheries, so an increase in domestically produced freshwater prawns would be appealing.

However, domestic farmers face challenges producing consistently sized prawns and obtaining good yields, which has compelled Ohio shrimp farmer Don Maloney to explore improved practices. Using three SARE grants, he has set out to identify the cause for varying size and yield.

One problem he recognized was with feeding by hand, which meant large areas of his ponds were not being covered by feed. So, he compared hand feeding with a mechanical device that evenly distributed feed, and found that the mechanical device increased yields. The device cost less than \$300 and increased yields by 17 percent. These shrimp were also rated highly in taste tests. In follow-up projects, Maloney discovered other best practices, such as to not deviate from the use of commercial aerators and to place substrate in ponds such as bird netting.

For more information on these projects, see www.sare.org/projects, and search for project numbers FNC14-962, FNC15-1003 and FNC16-1045.

SARE in Ohio

www.northcentralsare.org/ohio

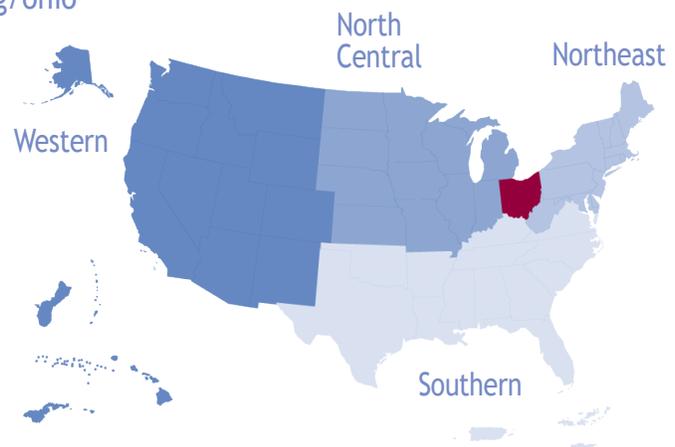
\$6.6 million in total funding

228 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 \$287 million to more than 7,000 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

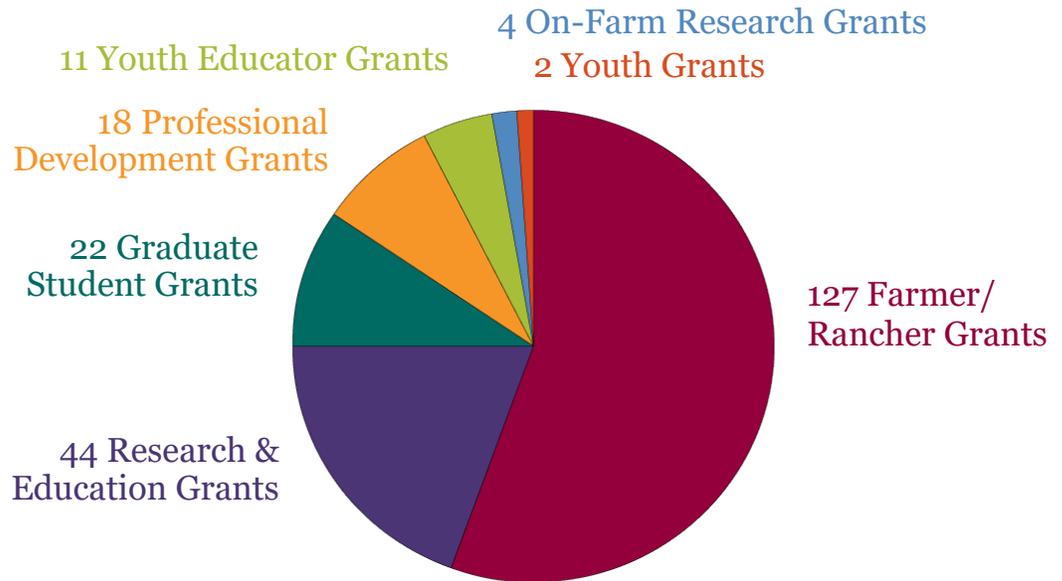
SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining the SARE Learning Center—a library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.



www.sare.org

SARE Grants in Ohio

SARE has
awarded a
total of
228 grants
in Ohio
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.northcentralsare.org/ohio to learn more.

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For detailed information on SARE projects, go to

www.SARE.org