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 $332 million to more than 7,748 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...

Oklahoma

Project Highlight: Growing a Local Understanding of Soil Health

Some farming practices commonly used in Oklahoma have reduced the state’s soil quality, leading to soils that are often low in organic matter. To remain productive, attention needs to be placed on improving and monitoring soil quality.

Realizing the importance of such attention, Kefyalew Desta used a SARE grant to obtain local soil quality information and develop a soil quality assessment index that can be used to quantify the overall soil quality status of a farm. As Desta was testing soil properties on-farm, 65 percent of the owners participated in the sampling and discussed the results.

This engagement of the farmers paid off. According to Desta, at the beginning of the project, 65 percent of them did not know the difference between soil health and soil fertility. Following the on-farm sampling and trainings, 80 percent of the farmers are now communicating with ag educators to seek help in soil health analysis. At least 60 percent plan to use on-site soil quality testing as part of their routine soil management. Desta also coordinated in-service trainings and demonstrations, reaching over 200 people.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number OS11-058.

SARE in Oklahoma

southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/oklahoma

$3,448,812 in total funding

48 grant projects

(since 1988)

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

Total awards: 48 grants

- 15 Research and Education
- 2 Sustainable Community Innovation
- 8 Professional Development Program
- 13 Farmer/Rancher
- 2 Graduate Student
- 8 On Farm Research/Partnership

Total funding: $3,448,812

- $2,464,653 Research and Education
- $16,864 Sustainable Community Innovation
- $710,963 Professional Development Program
- $122,429 Farmer/Rancher
- $19,969 Graduate Student
- $113,934 On Farm Research/Partnership

Find a complete list of projects on page 3.

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: southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/oklahoma

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 southern.sare.org/state-pages/oklahoma to learn more.

Terry Gipson  
Langston University  
(405) 466-6126  
terry.gipson@langston.edu

Jason Warren  
Oklahoma State University  
(405) 744-1721  
jason.warren@okstate.edu

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

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.
AGRICULTURE PROJECTS FUNDED IN OKLAHOMA
by USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

Oklahoma has been awarded $3,448,812 grants to support 47 projects, including but not limited to, 14 research and/or education projects, 8 professional development projects and 13 producer-led projects. Oklahoma 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>LS20-338</td>
<td>Researching &amp; Networking Native American &amp; Socially Disadvantaged Farmers Traditional Market Gardening Production System Resiliency</td>
<td>$298,066</td>
<td>Dr. Joshua Ringer&lt;br&gt;Langston University School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences&lt;br&gt;Julie Gahn&lt;br&gt;Oklahoma Farmers and Ranchers Association&lt;br&gt;Denis Haga&lt;br&gt;Pawnee Nation College&lt;br&gt;Dr. Tracey Payton-Miller&lt;br&gt;Langston University School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences&lt;br&gt;Dr. Monte Randall&lt;br&gt;College of the Muscogee Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS20-344</td>
<td>Developing a Sustainable Meat Goat Production and Marketing System for the Southeastern United States through an 1890 Universities Consortium</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>Terry Gipson&lt;br&gt;Langston University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Richard Browning, Jr.&lt;br&gt;Tennessee State University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Nirodha De Silva&lt;br&gt;Langston University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Kesha Henry&lt;br&gt;Prairie View A&amp;M University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Una Karki&lt;br&gt;Tuskegee University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Brou Kouakou&lt;br&gt;Fort Valley State University&lt;br&gt;Angela McKenzie-Jakes&lt;br&gt;Florida A&amp;M University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Roger Merkel&lt;br&gt;Langston University&lt;br&gt;Dr. Dahlia O’Brien&lt;br&gt;Virginia State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>LS06-189</td>
<td>Increasing Sustainability of Southern Great Plains’ Agriculture Through No-till Production Systems</td>
<td>$183,000</td>
<td>Jeff Edwards&lt;br&gt;Oklahoma State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>LS02-139</td>
<td>Developing Sustainable Stored Grain IPM Systems in Oklahoma and Texas</td>
<td>$133,371</td>
<td>Thomas Phillips&lt;br&gt;Oklahoma State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>LS01-119</td>
<td>Use of goats for sustainable vegetation management in grazing lands</td>
<td>$172,210</td>
<td>Arthur Goetsch&lt;br&gt;Langston University</td>
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<tr>
<td>LS00-116</td>
<td>Developing Plans for Sustainable Beef Marketing Strategies</td>
<td>$19,700</td>
<td>Eric Allenbach&lt;br&gt;The Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS99-102</td>
<td>Demonstration of a Sustainable Integrated Production System for Native Pecan and Beef Cattle Producers and its Effect on Ecology in Flood Prone Areas</td>
<td>$210,188</td>
<td>B. Dean McCraw&lt;br&gt;Dept. of Horticulture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Controlling Cheat and Annual Ryegrass in Small Grains Using Novel Crop Harvesting Technologies (AS96-025) $83,624
- Thomas F. Peeper
- Oklahoma State University

Multi-Cropping Cattle and Watermelon in the Southern Plains $54,752
- Warren Roberts
- Oklahoma State University, Department of Horticulture

Improving Integrated Resource Management Skills of Beef Producers $163,642
- Damona Doye
- Oklahoma State University

Post-CRP Land Management and Sustainable Production Alternatives for Highly Eroapsible Land in the Southern Great Plains $196,100
- Thanh H. Dao
- USDA ARS

Pest Management and Orchard Floor Management Strategies to Reduce Pesticide and Nitrogen Inputs $150,000
- Michael Smith
- Oklahoma State University

Substitution of Cultural Practices for Herbicides to Control Annual Rye Grass and Cheat in Small Grains $60,000
- John B. Solie
- Oklahoma State University

Substitution of Cultural Practices for Herbicides to Control Annual Rye Grass and Cheat in Small Grains $140,000
- John B. Solie
- Oklahoma State University

Assisting Agricultural Professionals in Training and Developing Community-Based Prescribed Fire Cooperatives $75,574
- John Weir
- Oklahoma Prescribed Burn Association
- Russell Stevens
- Noble Research Institute

Southern Region SARE Professional Development Grant -- The Road to Soil Health $59,442
- Amy Hays
- Noble Research Institute, LLC

A Training and Educational Program to Ensure the South's Future $119,905
- Jim Horne
- Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture

Oklahoma Master Woodland Owner Program $23,640
- William Ross
- Oklahoma State University Department Of Forestry

A Training Program for Agriculture Educators Targeting Integrated Cow/calf Operation Management Systems $342,389
- Steven Smith
- Oklahoma State University

State Training in Integrated Erosion Control Systems $70,013
- Gerrit Cuperus
- Oklahoma State University

State Training Enhancement Project to Ensure Effective Sustainable Agriculture Training in Integrated Erosion Control Systems $10,000
- Gerrit Cuperus
- Oklahoma State University

Barriers to Sustainable Agriculture Training in Oklahoma $10,000
- Derrell Peel
- Oklahoma State University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project #</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS14-283</td>
<td>Diversification of Winter Wheat &amp; Beef Cattle Production fields Through Agroforestry &amp; Covercrop integration</td>
<td>$9,107</td>
<td>Doug Ringer Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS11-254</td>
<td>Hitting Seasonal Market Highs by breeding Meat Goats during the Summer months</td>
<td>$2,821</td>
<td>James Jones Rockin Double J Boer Goats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS04-183</td>
<td>Sustainable Hair Sheep Silvopastoral System</td>
<td>$9,980</td>
<td>Brother Joseph-Marie Owen</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS03-166</td>
<td>White Wheat Marketing System</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Bob Dietrick Oklahoma White Wheat Producers’ Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS03-162</td>
<td>Oklahoma Farm Direct Retail Market Project</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Kathy Carter-White Cherokee Small Farm Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS02-150</td>
<td>Fixed Film Anerobic Methane Digester</td>
<td>$9,184</td>
<td>Michael H. Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS01-133</td>
<td>Low Cost Method of Establishing High Seral Native Grass Species</td>
<td>$8,519</td>
<td>Terry Stuart Forst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS99-092</td>
<td>The Effect of Crop Land Applied Poultry Litter on Water Quality</td>
<td>$9,556</td>
<td>Rick Jeans</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS98-069</td>
<td>Integrated Goat Management System for Fiber and Meat</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Claud Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS97-060</td>
<td>Economics of Extended-season Cut Flower Production</td>
<td>$8,100</td>
<td>Vicki Stamback Bear Creek Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS97-063</td>
<td>Sustainable Wheat Management Systems</td>
<td>$9,344</td>
<td>Curtis Torrance</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS95-022</td>
<td>Demonstration of No-Tillage Grain Production for Soil and Moisture Conservation</td>
<td>$9,818</td>
<td>Bob Dietrick Oklahoma White Wheat Producers’ Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS94-014</td>
<td>Cut Flowers as a Sustainable Agriculture Alternative</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>Vicki Stamback Bear Creek Farm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GS08-066</td>
<td>Conservation of Predatory Carabid Beetles (Coleoptera: Carabidae) in agroecosystems of the Southern Great Plains</td>
<td>$9,996</td>
<td>Kristopher Giles Oklahoma State University Sarah Donelson Oklahoma State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>GS03-025</td>
<td>Integrating Effects of Natural Enemies into Winter Wheat Greenbug Management</td>
<td>$9,973</td>
<td>Kristopher Giles Oklahoma State University Douglas Jones Oklahoma State University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>OS18-120</td>
<td>A Comparison of Row Cover Materials for Use in Excluding Major Insect Pests from Cucurbit Crops</td>
<td>$14,933</td>
<td>Dr.Eric Rebek Oklahoma State University Dr.Jim Shrefler Oklahoma State University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OS18-115  Practical Approaches to Microbial Community Analyses for Production Agriculture in the Southern Great Plains  $9,745  Dr. David Brown  USDA-ARS  Dr. Curtis Dell  USDA-ARS

OS14-091  Row Cover Use Methods for Cucurbit Pest and Pollinator Management  $14,995  Dr. Jim Shrefler  Oklahoma State University

OS13-080  Companion Plants as Tools for Pest Management of Squash Bug on Summer Squash  $14,792  Dr. Brian Kahn  Oklahoma State University

OS11-058  Comparison of soil quality of farms managed with sustainable and conventional soil management practices in Oklahoma  $15,000  Dr. Kefyalew (Girma) Desta  Montana State University

OS09-048  Teff: An Alternative Crop for Oklahoma  $14,948  Dr. Kefyalew (Girma) Desta  Montana State University  Kefyalew Desta  Oklahoma State University

OS08-041  Increasing the Sustainability of Oklahoma Cropping Systems Using Cover Crops  $15,000  Dr. Chad Godsey  Oklahoma State University

OS03-012  Introducing Legume Cover Crops into Large Scale Grain-Cattle Production Systems  $14,521  Steve Kraich  Oklahoma State University Extension

<table>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>CS11-084</td>
<td>Traditional Mvskoke Foods Recovery Project</td>
<td>$9,964</td>
<td>Stephanie Berryhill  Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>CS02-007</td>
<td>Pioneering the Way to the Future</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
<td>Diann Neal  Okemah Chamber of Commerce</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS**

Total funding from the USDA SARE program to Oklahoma  $3,448,812

For further information on projects, contact Candace Pollock, Southern SARE public relations coordinator, at (770) 412-4786 or cpollock@uga.edu. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is funded by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).