

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 \$309 million to more than 7,407 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.



www.sare.org

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

Texas

Project Highlight: *Training for a Sustainable Agriculture Future*

Thousands of Texas ranchers hurt by drought are seeking new ways to make their land profitable. Large Texas farms are being subdivided. Farms of all sizes are now in closer contact with non-agricultural communities due to urban growth. Agriculture in Texas is changing, and the technical professionals who support producers must keep up by learning innovative, research-based production and marketing strategies relevant to their clientele's interests. This need prompted Texas A&M Extension educators to organize a SARE-funded training program on the sustainable and organic practices that are of emerging interest to Texas' farmers and ranchers. The program reached 45 employees of Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M Extension, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. It included hands-on farm training conducted at six locations, with classroom presentations and discussions over four days. Eleven farmers and ranchers served as trainers during the on-site visits. Participants reported back on what they did in their communities as a result of their involvement in the program. Five months after conclusion of the training, they brought information about sustainable and organic practices to 1,000 farmers in 37 different counties through a combination of events and one-on-one outreach.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number [ES13-120](#).

SARE in Texas

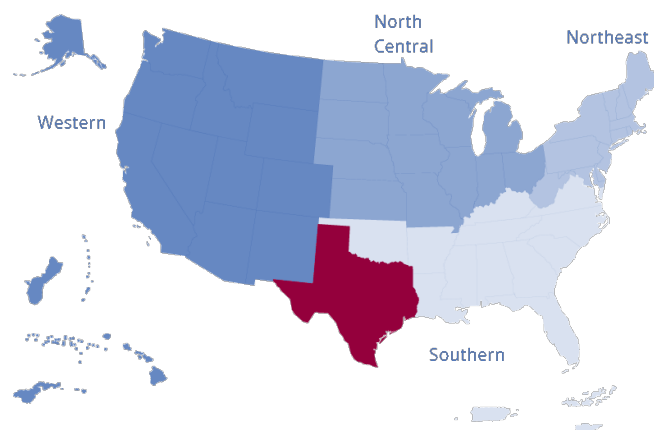
southern.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/texas

\$7,608,522
in total funding

109 grant projects

(since 1988)

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



SARE Grants in Texas

Total awards: 109 grants



25 Farmer/Rancher
23 Graduate Student
17 On Farm
8 Research/Partnership
8 Professional Development Program
36 Research and Education

Total funding: \$7,608,522



\$241,676 Farmer/Rancher
\$268,173 Graduate Student
\$258,413 On Farm
\$643,658 Research/Partnership
\$6,196,602 Professional Development Program
\$6,196,602 Research and Education

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/texas

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/texas to learn more.

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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 TEXAS

by USDA's
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

Texas has been awarded \$7,648,522 grants to support 112 projects, including but not limited to, 35 research and/or education projects, 8 professional development projects and 25 producer-led projects. Texas has also received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
LS20-343	Toward Culturally Responsive Disaster Management for Limited Resource Producers: The Role of Person, Place and Professional Agencies	\$300,000	Dr.Noel Estwick Prairie View A&M University Dr.Nelson Daniels Prairie View A&M University Dr.Marco Robinson Prairie View A&M University
LS20-341	Assessing Water Use Efficiency, Soil Health, and Pollinators within a Transition from Irrigation to Dryland Management in the Texas High Plains	\$299,208	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University Dr.Veronica Acosta-Martinez USDA-ARS Dr.Krishna Bhandari Texas Tech University Dr.Scott Longing Texas Tech University
LS19-313	Organic and Conventional Agriculture: Learning from Each Other to Promote Soil Health and Economic Viability in West Texas	\$299,667	Dr.Katie Lewis Texas A&M AgriLife Research
LS19-312	Regional Food Transportation for Texas Farmers	\$299,311	Caroline Krejci The University of Texas at Arlington
LS18-288	A Southern Regional Water Conference to Improve Producer Adoption of Sustainable Water Management Practices	\$48,000	Dr.Diane Boellstorff Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
LS17-286	Long-term Agroecosystems Research and Adoption in the Texas Southern High Plains - Phase III	\$300,000	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University
LS17-277	Indicators and Soil Conservation Practices for Soil Health and Carbon Sequestration	\$312,000	Dr.Barbara Bellows Tarleton State University/ TIAER
LS17-283	Developing Organic Cropping Systems for Grain Production in Texas	\$276,000	Ronnie Schnell Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences
LS16-271	Intensifying Cropping Systems in Semi-Arid Environments to Enhance Soil Health and Profitability	\$232,827	Dr.Paul DeLaune Texan A&M AgriLife Research / Soil and Crop Sciences
LS16-275	Evaluating Organic Pest Control Products for Strawberries in Combination with High and Low Tunnels for Limited Resource Farmers in the Mid-South	\$246,413	Dr.Russell Wallace Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension
LS14-264	Beyond Fresh: Expanding Markets for Sustainable Value-added Food Products in Texas	\$220,000	Mike Morris National Center for Appropriate Technology

LS14-261	Long-term AgroEcosystems Research and Adoption in the Texas Southern High Plains - Phase II	\$300,000	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University
LS12-249	Improving Soil Quality to Increase Yield and Reduce Diseases in Organic Rice Production	\$225,000	Fugen Dou Texas A&M AgriLife Research
LS11-238	Long-term AgroEcosystems Research and Adoption in the Texas Southern High Plains - Phase I	\$329,999	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University Philip Brown Texas Tech University
LS10-229	Integrated Crop and Livestock Systems for Enhanced Soil Carbon Sequestration and Microbial Diversity in the Semiarid Texas High Plains	\$160,000	Dr.Jennifer Moore-Kucera Texas Tech University
LS10-236	Traceability in Specialty Crop Production and Supply Chains: Distilling a Research and Extension Agenda	\$33,000	Kathryn Boys Virginia Tech Kathryn Boys Clemson University
LS08-202	Crop-livestock Systems for Sustainable High Plains Agriculture	\$200,000	Dr.Vivien Allen Texas Tech University
LS08-208	Marketing of locally produced sustainable animal fiber products	\$140,000	John Bernard University of Delaware Hikaru Hanawa Peterson Kansas State University Gwendolyn Hustvedt Texas State University
LS07-201	Pigeon pea: a multipurpose, drought resistant forage, grain and vegetable crop for sustainable southern farms	\$200,000	Dr.John Sloan Texas AgriLife Research
LS05-175	Sustainable and profitable control of invasive plant species by small ruminants	\$178,000	Dr.James Muir Texas A&M AgriLife Research
LS05-214	SARE Research and Education Program Impacts and Diffusion	\$31,526	Marari Suvedi CARRS Center for Evaluative Studies
LS03-144	Expanding the Marketing Opportunities for Organic Growers in Texas	\$19,924	Douglas Constance Sam Houston State University
LS03-150	Sustainable and profitable control of invasive species by browsing goats on small farms	\$14,199	Dr.James Muir Texas A&M AgriLife Research
LS02-131	Forage and Livestock Systems for Sustainable High Plains Agriculture	\$251,805	Dr.Vivien Allen Texas Tech University
LS00-117	System for value-added export of manure nitrogen and phosphorus through turfgrass sod	\$149,726	Donald Viotor, PhD Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences
LS99-100	Systems for sustainability of alfalfa production on acid, Coastal Plain soils using various harvesting strategies	\$149,750	Vincent Haby Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
LS99-108	System for Conserving and Adding Value to Manure Sources of Nutrients in Turf-grass Sod	\$16,854	Donald Viotor, PhD Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences

LS98-097	Introducing Alternative Crops Into Traditional Cotton-Grain Farming to Aid Transition To "Freedom to Farm" Agriculture	\$114,279	Roland E. Roberts Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center
LS97-082	Sustainable Crop/Livestock Systems in the Texas High Plains	\$222,125	Dr. Vivien Allen Texas Tech University
LS95-069	Managing Soil Phosphorous Accumulation From Poultry Litter Application Through Vegetable/Legume Rotations	\$135,000	D. R. Earhart Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
LS92-047	Farm Scale Evaluation of Alternative Cotton Production Systems	\$60,000	William M. Lyle Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
LS92-048	Developing Environmentally Sound Poultry Litter Management Practices for Sustainable Cropping Systems	\$140,000	D. R. Earhart Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
LS89-015	Enhancement of the Stability of Southern Region Agroecosystems Through Profitable Transition to Sustainable Agriculture	\$121,989	Keith Jones Texas Department of Agriculture
LS88-002	Whole-farm Low/Reduced Input Farming Systems and Educational Program	\$90,000	Hoover Carden Prairie View A & M University
LS88-010	Solarization and Living Mulch to Optimize Low-Input Production Systems for Small Fruits (88-87-4)	\$80,000	Charles Long Texas A & M University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
ES20-151	Beekeeping Curriculum and Training for Texas Agricultural Extension Agents and 4-H Youth Leaders	\$79,516	Nicole Gueck AgriLogic Consulting, LLC Elizabeth "Wizzie" Brown Texas AgriLife Extension Service Leesa Hyder Texas Beekeepers Association Molly Keck Texas AgriLife Extension Service Ashley Ralph Texas Beekeepers Association Mary Reed Texas Apiary Inspection Services
ES19-147	Training Texas County Extension Agents and Mentor Ranchers to Improve Small Ruminant Health and Productivity Through Natural Genetic Selection Strategies	\$76,996	Dr. Reid Redden Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
ES18-142	Promotion and Adoption of Sustainable Agriculture Practices in Texas: Training the Trainers	\$80,000	Dr. Jake Mowrer Texas A&M Agrilife Extension
ES18-139	Natural Resource Management for Sustainable Agriculture Production in East Texas	\$42,773	Dr. Vanessa Corriher-Olson Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
ES17-136	Ranching with Wildlife: Teaching Sustainable Livestock Production Practices for Wildlife Habitat	\$78,838	John Tomecek Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service
ES13-120	Farming for the Future: Adopting Sustainable Agriculture Practices	\$55,904	Dr. Megan Clayton Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

ES99-045	Achieving Rangeland Sustainability Through Total Resource Management	\$157,061	William Fox, Ph.D. Texas Cooperative Extension C. Wayne Hanselka, Ph.D. Texas Cooperative Extension
LST94-002	Environmentally and Economically Sustainable Use of Rangeland	\$72,570	James F. Cadenhead Texas A & M Research and Extension

FARMER/RANCHER GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
FS19-312	Tagasaste: A new feed source for West Texas	\$9,670	Malinda Beeman
FS18-306	Subsoiling as an Effective and Affordable Water Capture Tool	\$9,720	Amanda Krause Parker Creek Ranch
FS17-299	Organic Sweet Potato as a Commercial Crop in South Texas	\$10,000	Lois Kim Farmer
FS14-281	Organic Cultivation Methods for Asparagus as an Alternative Crop in South Texas	\$14,736	Gilbert Garza Texas/Mexico Border Coalition CBO
FS13-277	Evaluating switchgrass in marginal land as a beneficial insect habitat and as compost source for vegetable production	\$8,379	Cynthia Remsing Lynn Remsing
FS12-262	Development of an innovative forage crop system for pasture raised swine	\$8,303	Ron Luce Poppa Skinny's Farm
FS10-246	Low Cost Geothermal Greenhouse Heating System for Southern Climates	\$9,999	Tanya Miller Millican Farms, LLC
FS07-219	Treating Soil Compaction Using Woven Weed Fabric	\$9,886	Roy Riddle
FS06-198	Evaluation of Mulches for Organic Cantaloupe Production in Semi-Arid Regions	\$9,855	John Chandler
FS06-205	Cover Crop Optimization for Sustainable Forage Systems on a Southern Dairy Farm	\$9,872	Neil R. Miller World Hunger Relief, Inc.
FS05-190	Addressing Cedar Infestations - Using Animal Impact to Increase Forage Production and Improve Soil Health	\$14,987	Peggy Cole Jones Holistic Resource Management of Texas, Inc
FS05-196	Weed Control for Row Crops Using Corrugating Linerboard/Medium Paper	\$7,399	Michael E. Tolbert The Landowners Association of Texas-Tyler Chapter
FS03-161	Sustainable Pastured Layer Research Project	\$14,992	Graciela Alvarado Texas/Mexico Border Coalition Community Based Org.
FS03-174	Goat Range-Nutrition Performance Test	\$13,113	Marvin F. Shurley Meat Goat Association
FS02-151	Increase Soil Organic Matter in Citrus Soils	\$8,112	Jim Hoffmann

FS01-142	Pepitas de Ajo: permanent ground cover in garlic production	\$14,132	Lydia Villanueva Comm. Approaching Sustainability w/ Agroecology
FS99-088	Internal Parasite Resistance Selection Method for Sheep	\$4,844	Ray Cloudt
FS99-090	Crop Rotation and Rotational Grazing Study	\$9,876	Ken Graff
FS98-075	An Intensive Marketing Workshop for Growers and Ranchers	\$7,561	Sue Johnson Texas Organic Growers Association
FS97-050	Effects of Conservation Tillage on Water Quality in Southern Texas	\$8,000	Charles Eubanks Cameron County Field
FS97-053	Cool Season and Warm Season Grasses to Stabilize Erodible Soils and Increase Profitability	\$10,000	David Kearney Wichita County Field Crops Committee
FS96-036	Native Warm Season Grasses As Alternative Hay Source to Annual Sorghum/Sudan Grasses on Family-Operated Goat Dairy	\$9,640	Lee B. Dexter White Egret Farm
FS95-021	Pecan IPM Using Black-Eyed Peas as a Trap Crop	\$4,000	Kyle Brooksheir
FS94-001	Controlling Aphids with Harmonia Lady Beetle in Pecan Orchards	\$4,600	Cindy Wise Texas Pecan Growers Assoc.
FS94-010	Site Specific Applications of Seed/Fertilizer/Chemicals	\$10,000	Ricky & Becky Meinen

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
GS20-226	Comparing the Effects of Forage Mix and Nutrient Management on Soil Greenhouse Gas Flux in Semi-arid Improved Pastures	\$16,450	Lindsey Slaughter Texas Tech University Billi Petermann Texas Tech University
GS20-227	Texas Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium) Phenotypic Attribute Correlations to Collection Site Environment Characteristics	\$11,889	Dr. James Muir Texas A&M AgriLife Research Kimberlee Howell Tarleton State University
GS20-229	Cannabis sativa L. as a Feed Source in Backyard Rabbit Production	\$16,419	Dr. William Smith, Ph.D. Tarleton State University Kristen Jacobson Tarleton State University
GS19-198	The Success of Organic and Other Sustainable Dual-Purpose Wheat Systems Depend on Access to Adapted Varieties	\$16,500	Dr. Curtis Adams Texas A&M AgriLife Research Philip Hinson Tarleton State University
GS19-211	Roadblocks to Success: Needs assessment of small producers in Texas	\$10,132	Ken Mix Katie Tritsch Texas State University
GS19-209	Improving Resilience, Sustainability and Nutritional Properties of Specialty Crops Using Composted Spent Coffee Grounds	\$16,044	David Reed Amanda Birnbaum Texas A&M University

GS18-193	Investigating Controls Over Nodulation and Nitrogen Fixation in Leguminous Cover Crops in Subtropical South Texas	\$16,500	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley Stephanie Kasper University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
GS18-196	Effects of Cumulative Cattle Trampling on Soil Bulk Density and Infiltration of Rain Water on an Annual Forage Crop Pasture	\$9,001	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University Kathryn Radicke University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
GS18-179	Developing Suitable Cover Crop Systems for South Texas: Evaluating Different Late-Summer and Winter Cover Crop Species	\$16,352	Muthu Bagavathiannan Spencer Samuelson University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
GS16-160	Agroecological methods to manage brassica pests on organic farms	\$11,000	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley Madiline Marshall University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
GS16-161	Examining the role of bats in pest management in agroecosystems of south Texas	\$10,223	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley Katharine Jones The University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley
GS15-148	Multifunctionality of Cover Crops in South Texas: Looking at multiple benefits of cover cropping on small farms in a subtropical climate	\$8,953	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley Savannah Rugg University of Texas Pan-American
GS15-152	Evaluation of winter annual cover crops under multiple residue managements: Impacts on land management, soil water depletion, and cash crop productivity.	\$9,383	Dr.Charles West Texas Tech University Dr.Lisa Baxter University of Georgia (Tifton Campus)
GS14-133	Effects of Simulated and Insect Herbivory on Total and Protein Percipitable Phenolic Concentrations of Two Legumes	\$9,040	Dr.James Muir Texas A&M AgriLife Research Tiana Blackmon Tarleton State University
GS14-138	Use of Artificial Lighting to Increase Photoperiod Length for Pasture-Raised Laying Hens to Improve Egg Productivity and Quality	\$10,997	Dr.Jackie Wahrmund University of Kentucky Margaret Morgan Texas A&M University-Commerce
GS12-109	Factors contributing to the economic impact of cotton fleahoppers, Pseudatomoscelis seriatus	\$9,336	Micky Eubanks Auburn University Loriann Garcia Texas A&M University
GS11-107	Managing Climate Change on Apple Orchards	\$9,954	Dr.James Veteto University of North Texas Stephen Carlson University of North Texas
GS11-108	Evaluating functional diversity in an organic intercropping system	\$10,000	Dr.Astrid Volder Texas A&M University Jose Franco Texas A&M University
GS07-056	Allelopathic effects of small grain cover crops on cotton plant growth and yields	\$10,000	Dr.Vivien Allen Texas Tech University Yue Li Texas Tech University
GS07-064	Cropping systems for sustainable nutrient management and dairy production	\$10,000	Donald Vietor, PhD Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences Ronnie Schnell Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences
GS04-040	Cycling of composted biosolids through turfgrass sod enhances sustainability across agricultural and urban landscapes	\$10,000	Donald Vietor, PhD Texas A&M University, Soil & Crop Sciences Nels Hansen Soil & Crop Sciences Department

GS03-021	Development of Methodology to Measure Net Feed Efficiency in Bulls to Enhance Profitability and Environmental Sustainability of Beef Production	\$10,000	Gordon Carstens Texas A&M University
GS02-012	Optimizing Water Use for Three Old World Bluestems in the Texas High Plains	\$10,000	Dr.Vivien Allen Texas Tech University Dirk Philipp Texas Tech University

ON FARM RESEARCH/PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
OS20-138	Strategic Management of Legume Cover-forage Crops to Optimize Utility in a Challenging Environment	\$20,000	Dr.Reagan Noland Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
OS20-139	Incorporating Native Plants in Insectary Strips to Promote Insect Diversity and Belowground Beneficial Microbes	\$20,000	Pushpa Soti University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
OS19-128	Sustainable Pasture Management in Texas: Optimizing forage production and nutrient use in various environments and soils	\$14,298	James Kiniry
OS19-131	Advancing the Frontier of Legume Cover Crops and Building Integrated System Resilience in Semi-arid West Texas	\$15,000	Dr.Reagan Noland Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
OS18-119	Supporting Alternative Crop Options Through Improved Fertility Recommendations for Canola in Central and South Texas	\$14,811	Larry Redmon Texas Cooperative Extension
OS18-121	Integrating Cover Crops as Potential Weed and Pest Management Strategy in Organic Vegetable Farms in South Texas	\$15,000	Pushpa Soti University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
OS17-108	Using Mycorrhizal Fungi to Improve Soil Health and Increase Yield in Organic Vegetable Farms	\$14,995	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley
OS16-095	Deep Soil Profile Sampling of Nitrate for Residual Nitrogen Credit in Winter Wheat - Texas Blacklands	\$15,000	Dr.Jake Mowrer Texas A&M Agrilife Extension
OS14-087	Determining accurate nitrate level requirements in an aquaponic system.	\$9,737	Dr.Joseph Masabni Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
OS14-089	Developing farmer- appropriate integrated pest management strategies in South Texas: The potential of push-pull technologies to regulate organic brassica pest	\$15,000	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley
OS13-072	Huitlacoche Production as an Alternative Crop in South Texas	\$14,962	Dr.Alexis Racelis University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley
OS12-067	Adaptable Wide Stale Seedbed System Combining Precision Fertilizer Placement, Conservation Irrigation Management with Reduced Tillage Practices for Long Term Farm Sustainability	\$15,000	Dionicio Valdez Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

OS10-053	BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF SALT CEDAR ON WEST TEXAS RANCHES CONSERVES FORAGE AND WATER RESOURCES	\$14,965	Allen Knutson Texas AgriLife Extension Service
OS06-031	Use of Guar (Cyamopsis tetragonoloba (L.) Taub) for cover crop rotation and green manuring	\$15,000	Dr. Russell Wallace Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension
OS05-023	Livestock and Feedstock: Distiller's Grain and Fuel Ethanol	\$15,000	Peggy Korth Water Assurance Technology Energy Resources
OS04-021	Comparison of Stockpiled Bermudagrass + Annual Ryegrass and Traditional Hay-Only Winter Feeding Practices	\$14,645	Larry Redmon Texas Cooperative Extension
OS02-006	Evaluation and Maintenance of Sustainable Systems for Alfalfa Production and Marketing Strategies on Coastal Plain Soils	\$15,000	Larry Redmon Texas Cooperative Extension

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY INNOVATION GRANTS

Project #	Project Title	SARE Support	Project Leaders
CS10-076	Investing in Community Linkages to Improve our Food System	\$10,000	Jay Crossley Houston Tomorrow
CS10-081	Establishing Sustainable Agriculture & Community Development in Elgin Texas	\$10,000	Amy Miller City of Elgin
CS06-040	Building Local Food & Local Communities in Western Oklahoma	\$10,000	Darryl Birkenfield Ogallala Commons
CS03-012	Sustainable Agriculture Innovations Lead to Rural Success	\$10,000	Gayla Kessinger Canutillo Independent School

**Total funding from the USDA SARE program to
Texas
\$7,648,522**



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).