NCR-SARE offices:

University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
Lincoln University in Missouri

Kansas SARE office:
Kansas State University

photo credit: Abram Kaplan
Objectives for today

• Introduction to SARE
• SARE Grant Programs
  • Farmer Rancher Grant
• Grant writing tips & help
• How to apply for a SARE Farmer Rancher grant
What is SARE?

Grants and outreach to advance sustainable innovations to the whole of American agriculture.
Something New and Different

SARE was started in 1988, conceived as a decentralized, science-based, grassroots, practical, problem-solving, and inclusive competitive grant-making and outreach program.
The SARE Model

- Four regional councils set priorities and make grants
- SARE Outreach produces practical info
- USDA-NIFA supports SARE
- Other USDA agencies and land-grant universities are partners
Successful SARE grantees are engaged in projects that are guided by the 3 principals of sustainability...

- **Stewardship** of our nation’s land and water
- **Profit** over the long term
- **Quality of Life** for farmers, ranchers, and their communities
Since 1988, SARE has invested in 4,000 projects nationwide

SARE in the North Central Region offers grants for:

- Research & Education
- Professional Development
- Partnership
- Graduate Student
- Farmer/Rancher
- Youth Educator

Visit www.sare.org or www.northcentralsare.org
$61,486,278 awarded from 1988-2016

- **Grad Student (234)**: $2,316,610
- **FarmerRancher (1081)**: $8,306,768
- **Youth*, (73)**: $27,006
- **Youth Ed, (106)**: $201,279
- **PDP, (163)**: $9,605,860
- **Partnership, (22)**: $633,616
- **R&E, (469)**: $40,395,139

* Discontinued in 2012
Stakeholder Involvement

Problem identified by farmer/rancher and researcher

Farmers/ranchers involved in research and outreach

Photo by Beth Nelson
The SARE Portfolio

• Sustainable pest/weed management
• Clean energy
• Marketing
• Stewardship of land and water
• Systems research
• Community development
• Crop diversification
• Soil quality
• Nutrient management
• Rotational grazing

...and much more

Photo by Troy Bishopp
Sustainable Agriculture defined

1990 Farm Bill [Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (FACTA), Public Law 101-624, Title XVI, Subtitle A, Section 1603] Under that law,

“the term sustainable agriculture means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long term:

• satisfy human food and fiber needs
• enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends
• make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls
• sustain the economic viability of farm operations
• enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.”
Farmer Rancher Grant Program

- Grants directly fund farmers and ranchers to explore new production methods or marketing approaches for their farm
- Up to $7500 for Individual farm, $15,000 for Teams of Two, and $22,500 for Groups of 3 or more
- Encouraged to link with university or non-profit partners
- 40 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Joan Benjamin

photo credit: Joan Benjamin
Examples of Farmer Rancher Grants

• Anishinaabe Traditional Food Restoration for Local and Market Consumption
• Apples for Artisanal Cider: Understanding the Characteristics of Single Varietals
• Assessing the Value of Hay Litter During Winter Bale Grazing
• Benefiting the Symbiotic Relationship Between Farmers, Ranchers and Honeybees through Consumer Education with an Emphasis on Beekeeping and Pollinators
• Berkshire Value Added Meat Product Marketing Coalition
• Comparison of Biological Solution, Sea Minerals, or Combination of Both on Pasture Production
• Comparison of Seasonal (High Peak/Summer) Markets for Dairy Farm Product Sales
• Controlling Cedar Tree Invasion by Rotational Grazing Goats through Pasture
• Converting Residual Livestock and Deer Bones into a Locally-Produced Char/Fertilizer Soil Enhancer and Measuring Benefits for Small Farms in Southeast Ohio
• Could Wort Serve as a Viable Soil Amendment?
• Developing a Self Funded Aquaculture Program for High Schools
Examples of Farmer Rancher Grants

• Developing a System of Tissue Culture and Hydroponic Growing Medium for Hop Plant Production
• Developing Effective Alternative Pest and Disease Management Strategies for Sustainable Hop Production
• Developing Sustainable Roller Crimped Cover Cropping Systems for Corn and Soybean Production: Effects on Cover Crop Winter Hardiness, Biomass, N Mobilization, Weed Suppression and Yields
• Developing Sustainable, Natural Farming Techniques to Implement a Farmer’s Market and Educate Underserved African American Communities
• Economic Implications of Using Tomato Suckers to Produce Late Season Tomato Plants instead of Starting Late Season Plants from Seed
• Enhancing Economic Stability by Building Financial Resilience: A Model for Collaborative Learning Among Beginning Farmers in Southwest Wisconsin
• Evaluating On Farm Value Added Production in Utilizing Unmarketable Produce to Reduce Waste While Helping Small Farms Engage in Agritourism and Become More Profitable
• Evaluation of Alternative Coverings for Year Long Utilization of Caterpillar Tunnels
• Examination of the Productivity of Four Hops Varieties (Humulus lupulus L.) in Two Soil Types in Southwest South Dakota.
The 2017 Research and Education Call for Preproposals is now available. Preproposals are due October 20, 2016. Word | PDF

The 2017 Partnership Call for Proposals is now available. Proposals are due October 27, 2016. Word | PDF

The 2017 Youth Educator Call for Proposals is now available. Proposals are due November 10, 2016. Word | PDF

The 2017 Farmer Rancher Call for Proposals is now available. Proposals are due December 8, 2016. Word | PDF
www.ciids.org/ncsare/fr

The North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program is a USDA competitive grants program supporting agriculture that is profitable, environmentally sound, and good for communities.

If you wish to submit a grant application, first read through the application instructions available in the Call for Proposals on the North Central Region SARE website, then login using your username and password on the side menu login form. If you do not have an account yet, or have forgotten your account information, use the side menu links to navigate to the appropriate form.

Proposal Year: 2017
Submission open: August 15, 2016
Submission deadline: December 8, 2016 4:00 PM CST
SUCCESS: Your NCR SARE Farmer Rancher Grant account has been successfully created. You may immediately login and start using the system. An email will be sent to you with your login information for your records.
Proposition Year: 2017
Submission open: August 9, 2016
Submission deadline: December 8, 2016 4:00 PM CST

Please note the server time and your own machine's time when submitting a proposal. The deadline to submit is based on the server time.

Server time: Fri Sept 04 2016 2:16:39 PM EDT
Submission deadline: December 8, 2016 4:00 PM CST
Enter the Project Title

NCR SARE Farmer Rancher Grant - Online Submission System

New Proposal

*Title of Proposal (25 word max.)

The Small Dairy Resource Book

Applicant Demographic Information

The North Central Region SARE program is committed to an ethic of openness, inclusiveness, and diversity in all of its programs, policies, and procedures. To monitor our performance in these areas, we are now collecting demographic information from grant applicants. Demographic information is not linked to your proposal and is compiled in a separate database.

*Your Race:

Select One

*Are you of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?:

Select One

*Your Age:

Select One

*Your Gender:

Select One

Submit
Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Project Title (25 word max.)

The Small Dairy Resource Book

(This lets reviewers know what your project is about - be descriptive but not too wordy. Use words that are useful for finding your project in a website search. Use 25 words or less.)

*One Sentence Description of Project:

(Provide a summary of your project in 50 words or less. This should give reviewers a good idea of what your project is about.)

Farmer/Rancher

(This person serves as Project Coordinator. If funded, the grant contract will be in this farmer/rancher's name.)

*First Name:

*Last Name:

*Farm Business Name:

*Address:

*City:

*State:

*Zip Code:

*County:

*Phone:

*E-mail:
Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Description of farm or ranch and project coordinator background
Describe your farm/ranch and include the size of your operation, crops grown, etc. Briefly explain your background so reviewers know what qualifications you bring to the project. If you are submitting a Team of Two or Group proposal, provide names and a brief description of the farms/ranches of the other participants. (For Team of Two projects, both participants must be farmers or ranchers. For Group projects, at least three members of the group must be farmers or ranchers. Once the farmer/rancher requirement is met, feel free to add participants who are not farmers or ranchers.)

Word Limit: 600
Describe Your Problem

Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book
Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Problem
Describe the problem you hope to solve with your project. Explain why solving this problem is important to your farm/ranch and to other farmers/ranchers in your area and the North Central Region.
Word Limit: 300

Save and Continue
Describe Your Proposed Solution

**Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book**

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with ** are required.

**Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form.** Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Solution*

Describe the innovative research, demonstration, or education project you propose. Explain the sustainable agriculture solutions you will test to solve the problem. Focus on the piece of the project you can reasonably complete during the 23 months of the grant. If results will take more than 23 months, include what you hope to accomplish short term (during the grant) and long term.

Word Limit: 300
Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "**" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Timeline

Provide a timeline for your project and include dates. List the activities you will complete and when. Be as detailed as you can.

Word Limit: 300
Outreach

Each project must include outreach. How will you share information from your project with other farmers and ranchers? Who else will you share information with? Be specific. However you share information (articles, conferences, field days, social media, website, etc.) provide details about when and where you will provide outreach and the audience and numbers of people you hope to reach.

Word Limit: 300
Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes.

*Previous Research Review

Briefly summarize research that has been done on this topic by others -- include SARE and non-SARE research in your review. Focus on how you will build on this research and what makes your project innovative and different from what has already been done. See the resources listed on pages 13 and 14 of the Call for Proposals for help finding previous work done on your topic. For example:

- Review reports from previous SARE grants (see www.sare.org and click on the Project Reports tab at the top of the page or call 1-800-529-1342).
- Contact ATTRA (The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service) to speak to an Ag Expert about work done on your topic. Call 1-800-346-9140 or see: https://attra.ncat.org/
- Search the Internet for previous solutions to the problem you are trying to solve.

Word Limit: 600
Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with '*' are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Impact

Explain how your project will make a meaningful contribution to sustainable agriculture. Summarize how your approach or solution will affect other farmers/ranchers and the community economically, ecologically, and socially. How likely is your project to produce useful results that others can reproduce or adapt? Is your solution practical financially for other farmers/ranchers who don't have a grant?
**Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book**

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with '*' are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Save and Continue' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

### *Measuring Results*

Reviewers will assess how likely your project is to produce useful and reproducible results. Solutions may not work out the way you expect, but SARE considers it a success if you gather usable results and share that information with others so they can build on it. Describe what you will measure to determine environmental, economic, and social (family/community) benefits. Tell us your techniques for collecting data and evaluating the results. Reviewers need to know the project will have valid, measurable results. For example: yield changes, increased income, more diversity, environmental or lifestyle improvements. (Documenting the results of your project may involve recordkeeping, taking photos, measuring results with simple surveys, etc. Call the NCR-SARE office if you have questions since this is an important part of this proposal.)

How will you measure the following?

- Environmental benefits
- Economic benefits
- Social benefits

Word Limit: 600

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Benefits:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Benefits:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Benefits:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Add Budget Item' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

Read the BUDGET TIPS and EXAMPLE BUDGET on pages 6-9 of the Call for Proposals before you complete your budget.

Choose the budget categories that apply to your project. Choose from the following categories: Personnel; Materials and Supplies; Travel; Other Direct Costs; Equipment, Permanent fencing, Perennial seed, or Livestock (the 50% rule applies to the last 4 items).

For each category list the items you want to purchase with grant funds along with a brief description of each item. For equipment (items over $2500 with a useful life of more than 1 year), livestock, permanent fence, and perennial seeds and plants, limit your request to 50% or less of the cost of the item. For travel costs, use a mileage rate of $0.54.

Under Personnel, list everyone who is participating in your project except consultants and service providers who should be listed under Other Direct Costs. Include a realistic estimate of the amount of labor and the cost for each participant being paid with grant funds. If participants are not being paid with grant funds, include them but enter $0 for the grant request.

Word Limit: 2400

Add a Budget Item - Grants are capped at $7,500

*Budget Category:
Select Budget Category

*Budget Item Description:

*Budget Item Request (integer value only):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personnel</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Jean Andreasen — farm labor</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Joan Benjamin — hired labor</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Materials and Supplies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• computer paper</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• printer cartridges</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• farm visits</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Direct Costs</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Componet testing</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Marie Flanagan, communications consultant</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ima Sylvan, Veterinarian</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Refreshments at field day</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment, Permanent fencing, Perennial seed, or Livestock</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No items</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REQUEST</strong></td>
<td>$3,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jean Andreasen, 25 hours @ $20 / hour = $500. Farmer and project coordinator. Research small dairy resources and availability.

Etc.
NCR SARE Farmer Rancher Grant - Online Submission System

My Proposals
- Start New
- Edit Existing
  - Cover
  - One Sentence Description of Project
  - Description of farm or ranch and project coordinator background
  - Problem
  - Solution
  - Timeline
  - Outreach
  - Previous Research Review
  - Impact
  - Measuring Results
  - Budget summary
  - Budget narrative and justification
  - Team or Group Statements of Support
  - Attachments - Letter of Support
  - Attachments - Animal Care Plan
  - Final Submission
  - View Submitted Proposals

Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book
Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Upload' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

*Team or Group Statements of Support
For Team or Group grants only, include a statement from each Team or Group member where they describe their role in the project (1 to 2 paragraphs each).

Attachment Limit: 3

Add an Attachment

Note: Allowed file formats are as follows:
- Adobe PDF - .pdf
- Microsoft Word Document - .doc
- Microsoft Word - .docx
- Microsoft Excel - .xls
- Microsoft Excel - .xlsx

*Create a title for your attachment:
*File: Joan Benjam...pport.docx

To upload your attachment please click one of the 'Upload' form buttons below. To skip uploading an attachment, click 'Go To Next Page' below.

Upload Attachment  Upload & Go to Next Page  Go to Next Page
Letters of Support
*Attachments - Letter of Support*

You must submit one letter of support from a community member (not a family member) who can explain why the project is needed and how it will benefit the community. You can submit a second letter but this is optional. You cannot submit more than two letters. Contact references early and make sure they are familiar with the details of your project so they can write a strong letter. The letter should include detailed information that will support the proposal. Support letters must include the name, address, phone number, and e-mail (if available) of the reference. Ask reference to use letterhead if possible.

Attachment Limit: 2

- Adobe PDF - .pdf
- Microsoft Word Document - .doc
- Microsoft Word - .docx
- Microsoft Excel - .xls
- Microsoft Excel - .xlsx

*File Title:*

Dennis Johnson Ltr of Ref

*File:*

Choose File Dennis Johnson Ltr of Ref.docx
Letters of Support

**Edit Proposal: The Small Dairy Resource Book**

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "*" are required.

**Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Upload' button at the bottom of the form.** Using the navigation links in the side menu **will not save** any changes that have been made.

*Attachments - Reference Letter*

You must submit one letter of reference from a community member who can explain why the project is needed and how it will benefit the community. You can submit a second letter but this is optional. You cannot submit more than two letters. Contact references early and make sure they are familiar with the details of your project so they can write a strong letter. The letter should include detailed information that will support the proposal.

Attachment Limit: 2

**Add an Attachment**

Note: Allowed file formats are as follows:
  » Adobe PDF - .pdf
  » Microsoft Word Document - .doc
  » Microsoft Word - .docx
  » Microsoft Excel - .xls
  » Microsoft Excel - .xlsx

*File Title:

*File: Choose File  No file selected.

To upload your attachment please click one of the 'Upload' form buttons below. To skip uploading an attachment, click 'Go To Next Page' below.

Upload Attachment  Upload & Go to Next Page  Go to Next Page

**Current Attachments**

Dennis Johnson Ltr of Ref  [docx format]  Delete
Changes to your proposal are saved only by clicking the 'Upload' button at the bottom of the form. Using the navigation links in the side menu will not save any changes that have been made.

Attachments - Animal Care Plan
If your proposal involves livestock (vertebrate animals such as cows, sheep, poultry, fish, etc.), fill out this form and return it with your grant proposal. You may find the document here:
Animal_Care_Plan_form.pdf
Attachment Limit: 1

Add an Attachment

Note: Allowed file formats are as follows:
» Adobe PDF - .pdf
» Microsoft Word Document - .doc
» Microsoft Word - .docx
» Microsoft Excel - .xls
» Microsoft Excel - .xlsx

File Title:  
File:  
Choose File  No file selected.

To upload your attachment please click one of the 'Upload' form buttons below. To skip uploading an attachment, click 'Go To Next Page' below.

Upload Attachment  Upload & Go to Next Page  Go to Next Page

Current Attachments
Dennis Johnson Ltr of Ref  [docx format]  Delete
Submit as Final the proposal entitled "The Small Dairy Resource Book"

If you are not ready to submit your proposal, select "Continue without submitting proposal" and submit. It is advisable to review your proposal and uploaded document for mistakes.

If you are ready to submit your proposal, select "Yes, submit my proposal" in the select box below, and submit the form.

Be sure you have uploaded the required letter of reference.

Be sure to submit the proposal by the deadline of December 8, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. CST.

Note: Your proposal will no longer be editable after submitting as final.

*I want to submit proposal.

- Select Option
- Select Option
- Continue WITHOUT submitting proposal
- Yes, submit my proposal
NOTE: Your proposal has NOT been submitted. It is still editable and will not be reviewed by NCR SARE until you have submitted the proposal as final.

The North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program is a USDA competitive grants program supporting agriculture that is profitable, environmentally sound, and good for communities.

If you wish to submit a grant application, first read through the application instructions available in the Call for Proposals on the North Central Region SARE website. When you submit your proposal the system will generate a PDF of the proposal.

NOTE: It is recommended that you have the latest version of Adobe Reader installed to view the PDFs generated by this system. Download Adobe Reader

Proposal Year: 2017
Submission open: August 15, 2016
Submission deadline: December 8, 2016 4:00 PM CST

Please note the server time and your own machine’s time when submitting a proposal. The deadline to submit is based on the server time.

Server time: Mon Sep 23, 2016 17:14:46 GMT-0400 EDT
Your time: Mon Sep 23, 2016 17:14:46 GMT-0400 CDT
Editing Your Proposal

Edit Proposal: The Small Diary Resource Book

Note: Please complete the form; items denoted in the color RED and marked with "**" are required.

Submit as Final the proposal entitled "The Small Diary Resource Book"
If you are not ready to submit your proposal, select "Continue without submitting proposal" and submit. It is advisable to review your proposal and uploaded document for mistakes.

If you are ready to submit your proposal, select "Yes, submit my proposal" in the select box below, and submit the form.

Be sure you have uploaded the required letter of reference.

Be sure to submit the proposal by the deadline of November 14, 2013.

Note: Your proposal will no longer be editable after submitting as final.

*I want to submit proposal.*

Select Option

Select Option

Continue WITHOUT submitting proposal
Yes, submit my proposal
Proposal number: FRG17-011
Submitted to NCR SARE on September 26, 2016 at 11:06 PM CT

Attachments:

Dennis Johnson Ltr. of Ref  (.docx) format
Still need help?

- Call SARE State Coordinator
- SARE web page - sare.org
  - Grants
  - Tutorials and Assistance
- Michael Fields Institute
  - Kitt Healy, 630-346-4749-4279
  gracekhealy@gmail.com
- AFSIC - USDA - funding sources

Photo by Jerry DeWitt
Good luck with your proposal!

If you have questions contact:

by phone: 612.626.3113
by email: ncrsare@umn.edu
www.northcentralsare.org

Follow us on:

Facebook  Twitter

Kerri Ebert, KS SARE Coordinator
785-532-2976
kebert@ksu.edu