SARE Farmer Rancher Grants

Tom Buller
K-State Research and Extension
Douglas County
Why are you here?

- Why am I here?
My Experience with SARE Farmer Rancher Grant

- FNC10-830 - Evaluating the suitability of low-trellises and various hop cultivars for small organic farm production in Northeast Kansas
- 2013 Growing with Biochar
- Food Hub- Failed application
- FNC17-1093 - Food Hub Development in the Rural Midwest
- FNC16-1029 - Exploring the Economic and Environmental Sustainability of No-Till Organic Sweet Potato Production
Constructing your Application

- Why?
- Framing the Question
- Building your Project
- Engaging the Community
- Building your Budget
Hints

- Read the Call for Proposals Thoroughly
- Be Specific
- Think about impact
- Focus on clarity
- Read the Call for Proposals Again!
Why

• SARE- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education
• Sustainable Agriculture is farming that is ecologically sound, profitable and socially responsible
• Farmer Rancher grant is unique

• What problems are you facing?
• Where do you feel constrained by lack of knowledge or equipment?
Framing the Question

- Identify your problem
- Be Specific
- Clear Objectives
- IMPACT?
Building your Project

- Explore Sustainable Solutions to Problem
- Build on Existing Knowledge
- Appropriate Activities
- Timeline
- Measure Benefits and Impacts
Project Reports

We are transitioning to a new reporting system. Grantees will not be able to post new reports from May 22-28, 2017.

Thank you for your understanding as we acclimate to the new system, and please contact us if you have questions.

Producers, agriculture professionals and researchers awarded NCR-SARE grant funds have found wide-ranging outcomes that can help farmers and ranchers sustain their operations and the environment in which they operate.

As part of the contract for receiving SARE funds, project investigators provide progress and final reports on their research efforts. These reports list the contact information, the participants and their cooperators. They summarize project findings and outline objectives, research methods and results. This growing body of knowledge on sustainable agriculture can be accessed in a variety of ways.

You can review descriptions of NCR-SARE projects, search the National SARE database for all progress and final reports, or submit a report if you are a project investigator.

Search the Database
IMPACTS?

- Think beyond your farm gate…
- Why should they care?
- How do you measure that your project has contributed?
Engaging the Community

- Think about Outreach
- How to communicate the benefits and impacts
- Engage Partners? - Other farmers, Extension, etc
Building your budget

- Think realistically
- Account for extra work that grant entails!
- In my experience SARE is fair--- farmer time can be compensated!
Remember

- Read the Call for Proposals Thoroughly
- Be Specific
- Think about impact
- Focus on clarity
- Read the Call for Proposals Again!
- Let someone proofread your application before you hit submit
- If at first you don’t succeed… try again!
Questions??

tombuller@k-state.edu

785-843-7058