



Western SARE

Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education



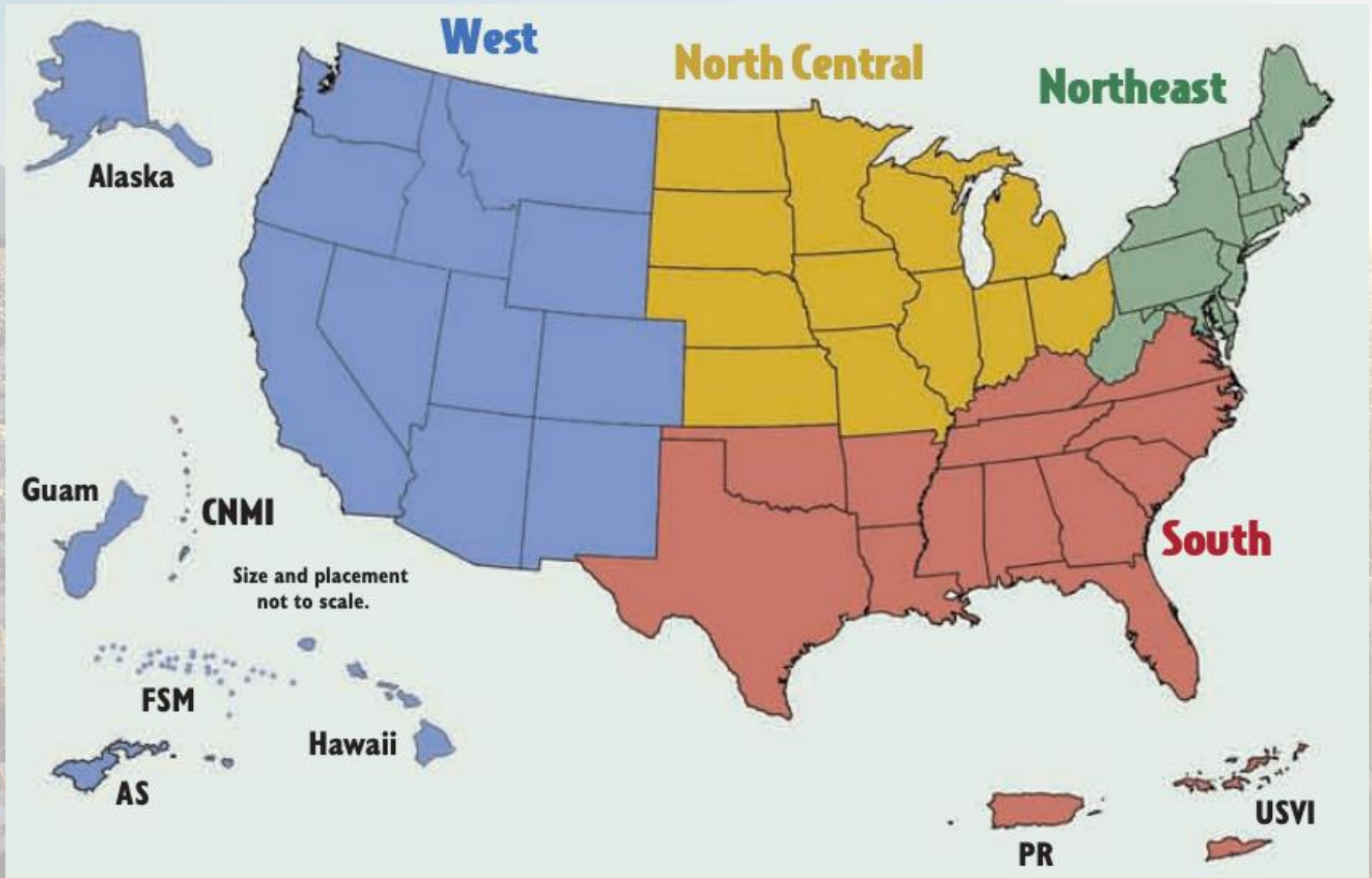
What is Western SARE?

- Mission is to advance the whole of American agriculture with innovations that improve profitability, stewardship and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.
- Vision is an enduring American agriculture of the highest quality. This agriculture is profitable, protects the nation's land and water and is a force for a rewarding way of life for farmers and ranchers whose quality products and operations sustain their communities and society.

SARE Beginnings and Authorization

- The SARE program is supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and is authorized under Subtitle B of Title XVI of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990.
- Congress has defined sustainable agriculture as 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 agriculture 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; and
 - enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole. (U.S. Code Title 7, Section 3103)

SARE Regional Structure



How SARE Works

- The SARE program works primarily through competitive grants offered through four regions under the direction of administrative councils that include farmers and ranchers along with representatives from universities, government, agribusiness and nonprofit organizations
- Since 1988 SARE has funded more than 3,700 projects

For Information on all SARE Grants

- Go to the Western SARE website;
<https://westernsare.org>
- Information about all grants as well as a great library on sustainable agriculture

Types of SARE Grants

- Chapter 1
 - Emphasize research; at Montana State University, Dr. Clayton Marlow Interim Regional Coordinator at MSU
- Chapter 3 (PDP);
 - Emphasize training, led by Jim Freeburn and Jill West at Wyoming and Al Kurki at NCAT in Montana
- All oversight and decisions by the Western SARE Administrative Council

The PDP Grants

Openly Competitive

PDP – Professional Development:
“train the trainer” grants

Research to Grass Roots (R2GR), to apply
SARE research results to production
agriculture

PDP Competitive Grants

- Any entity eligible to receive for federal funds is eligible to apply
- Funds are targeted at training agricultural professionals
- Must be “train the trainer” grants
- Funding limit \$75,000
- 2 years for training and 1 year for evaluation

Who gets PDP grants?

- About 60% to land grants
- About 40% to NGO's
- A few to Conservation Districts, other universities and tribes
- About 30 applications per year
- Estimated \$800,000 for 2020 grants
- Applications due early November 2020

Research to Grass Roots Grants

- Must be based upon previous SARE research
- Are NOT research grants
- Again all entities eligible to receive federal funds may apply
- Apply previous research results “on the ground”
- At least 3 farmers/ranchers involved
- \$75,000 over 3 years again
- \$300,000 available for 2020

R2GR Grants

- New in 2018
- A way to use the SARE portfolio and test or share results from previous research.
- Previous SARE project does not have to be Western SARE, just SARE
- Demonstrations, trainings, focus groups, etc are encouraged, but no replicated research
- Works well for visiting experts in remote areas

Chapter 1 Grants

- Research and Education
- Farmer-Rancher
- Ag Professional plus Producer
- Graduate Student

Research and Educations Grants

- Most go to Land Grant Faculty
- Usually 3 years in duration
- 5 farmers or ranchers required to be involved
- Up to \$350,000 per project
- Focus usually on replicated research
- Very diverse topically

Farmer-Rancher Grants

- Must have a researchable question
- Most innovative grants; creativity emphasized
- No funds for land purchase
- Equipment purchases no more than \$5,000
- \$20,000 for 1 producer, up to \$25,000 for three or more producers
- Technical advisor required
- Shorter term; usually 2 years or less

Ag Professional plus Producer

- Led by ag professional with farmer/rancher involvement
- Up to \$50,000
- Grassroots oriented
- Both FRG and P+P due in November

Graduate Student Grants

- Producer collaboration still required
- Evidence of student involvement is paramount
- Faculty advisor is key
- Up to \$25,000
- Open early December to early February 2021

Application Website

- All WSARE grant applications are found at the following website:
- <https://projects.sare.org>
- Create a username and password and start writing

The Timeline – Summary for 2021 Grants

- Applications are not open – usually RFPs released in late summer
- Mid-November – PDP grants due
- Mid-November – R2GR grants due
- Mid-January – All proposals reviewed
- Early March – Administrative Council makes funding decisions
- Mid to late March – applicants notified
- Summer-Fall 2021 – Funded projects begin

Arizona SARE

- Coordinators – Rick Gibson since mid 90's (James Wade - AREC)
 - Randy Norton - 2018 as co-coordinator
 - Rick Gibson retirement
 - Will appoint a new co-coordinator
- Receive small State PDP (approximately \$26K) grant each year to facilitate state SARE activities
 - Traditionally used for travel scholarships for Ag Professionals (Extension)

Arizona SARE

- Shifting focus toward
 - Educational materials
 - Video productions
 - Mini-grants
 - Small grants to Arizona Ag Professionals (Extension) to conduct SARE related research and education
 - Will still have some travel scholarships
- Arizona SARE Advisory Committee
 - University, growers, industry
 - Not functioning at present
 - Reinstate with new co-coordinator appointment



Thank You!

Questions?

