SARE
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

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 $4.1 million to more than 83 initiatives [1].

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...

Arizona

Project Highlight: *Collaborative Training for Southwest Grassland Restoration under Environmental Uncertainty*

Early settlers' descriptions of southeast Arizona told of uninterrupted grassland stretching from one mountain range to another. That's changed. Today much of that land has been invaded by mesquite and other woody shrubs and the ecological services provided by the grassland – including water recharge into the underground aquifers – has been diminished.

One reason for the change has been fire – or more specifically the lack of it. Once viewed as natural to the landscape as rain, total fire suppression became standard practice in the early 1900s throughout the West. Without frequent fires to control their growth, the woody shrubs spread across desert southwest grasslands. But as the importance of preserving the grasslands became more apparent, university researchers, conservationists, ranchers, government agencies and others began looking for ways to preserve these important landscapes, even in the face to today's climate uncertainty.

Western SARE helped the effort by funding an important professional development project to bring all those experts and other interested people together for three day-long workshops looking at the history of the Southwest grasslands and management methods and options for controlling brush and woody species.

One thing that came out of the workshops was a Brush Management Matrix – a decision-support tool for ranchers and land managers to consult when considering brush-management projects. To extend the reach of the project, all of the presentations were recorded and posted on the web, and a series of six videos were produced.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number EW17-006.

SARE in Arizona

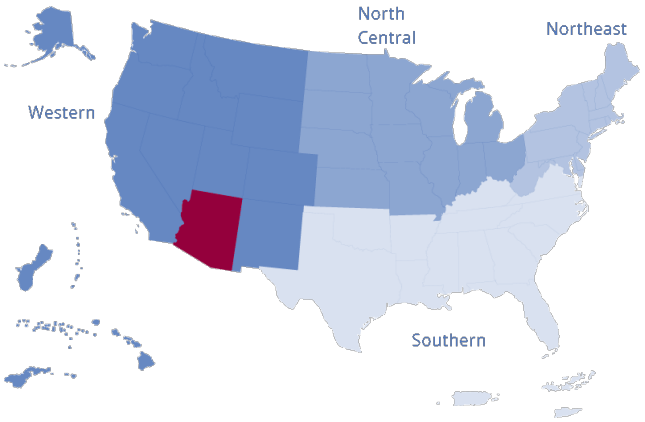
western.sare.org/state-profiles/arizona/

$4,103,854 in total funding

83 grant projects

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of Arizona grant projects, go to projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/



[1] These totals reflect available data; complete information may not be available for all grant programs prior to 2016.

SARE in Arizona, 2021–2026

This is a summary of recent SARE-funded activities and impacts in the state. To search all SARE projects visit projects.sare.org. For a list of all projects in Arizona visit projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/.

Grants awarded

Total awards: **21 grants**

4	Farmer/Rancher
1	Research and Education
10	Professional Development Program
4	Graduate Student
2	PDP State Program [2]

Total funding: **$1,684,153**

$108,974	Farmer/Rancher
$304,450	Research and Education
$961,941	Professional Development Program
$98,788	Graduate Student
$210,000	PDP State Program [2]

[2] The Professional Development Program (PDP) State Program is a non-competitive award that funds the activities of the state coordinator(s). See more below.

For a complete list of Arizona awards, visit:
projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/

Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

1,416 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project

18 farmers changed a practice



Photo credit: Shannon Heuberger

Learn about local impacts at:
western.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/arizona/

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 western.sare.org/state-profiles/arizona/ to learn more.

Randy Norton
University of Arizona - Cooperative Extension
(520) 621-0067
rnorton@ag.arizona.edu

Debankur Sanyal
The University of Arizona
(520) 374-6219
dsanyal@arizona.edu

SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

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