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 $0.7 million to more than 30 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...

Northern Mariana Islands

Project Highlight: *Improve dragon fruit production in the Northern Marianas Island through hands-on student education*

Before World War II, almost 40,000 acres were farmed in Saipan. That has dropped to just a few thousand acres, and most food is imported.

Additionally, a super typhoon hit the island – the most powerful storm to hit the Marianas Islands ever. Families near the Koberville Elementary School were especially hard hit, with many students living in tents or shelters and without power.

Local farmers believe that dragon fruit is easy to sell and is in strong demand. This project added dragon fruit production to the Koberville school farm to enhance the quality of science and business management education; increase student income that could be used for educational activities; and provide information with the community who can also choose to be part-time or full-time farmers. The students took home or sold the dragon fruit they grew.

Despite challenges faced due to COVID-19, the students were still able to successfully harvest 290 pounds of dragon fruit. Through learning how to use marketing skills to advertise their produce for sale, the students sold the fruit for $3.50/pound. From this project research, they learned that contained potted trellis as a production method was a much more effective way of growing dragon fruit than when grown in the ground.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number FW19-345.

SARE in Northern Mariana Islands

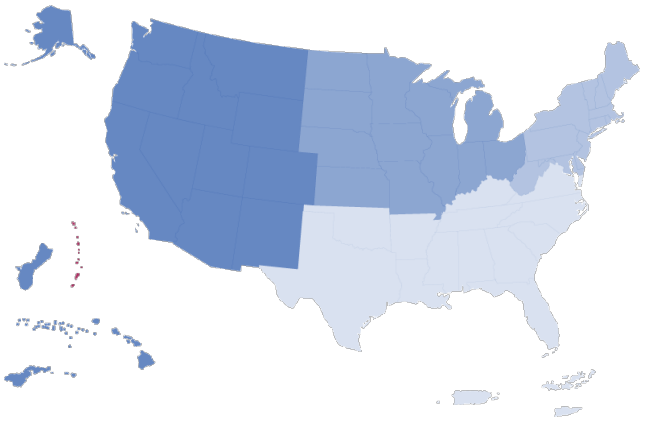
western.sare.org/state-profiles/northern-mariana-islands/

$735,360 in total funding

30 grant projects

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of Northern Mariana Islands 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 Northern Mariana Islands, 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 Northern Mariana Islands visit projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/.

Grants awarded

Total awards: **3 grants**

1 Farmer/Rancher
2 PDP State Program [2]

Total funding: **$235,000**

$25,000 Farmer/Rancher
$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 Northern Mariana Islands awards, visit: projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/

Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

281 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project

19 farmers changed a practice



Learn about local impacts at: western.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/northern-mariana-islands/

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/northern-mariana-islands/ to learn more.

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SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education
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