Western SARE: A Partner in improving agricultural sustainability in New Mexico

Teryl Roper
Western Regional Coordinator
Utah State University

Grants and education to advance innovations in sustainable agriculture
Objectives:

- Inform about Western SARE
- New Mexico needs/objectives
- New Mexico ideas/proposals
Biography

• BS, MS Botany, Brigham Young University
• PhD, Horticulture/Pomology, Washington State University
• Post-Doc, UC Davis, Viticulture
• Faculty, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, Extension Pomology
• Dept. Head, Utah State University
• WSARE Regional Coordinator
SUSTAINABILITY

Western Region
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
WSARE is:

- Grant making
- Focus on the three P’s of Sustainability
- Local Leadership, National Impact
- Communication
WSARE is Grant Making

• Farmers/ranchers
• Ag professionals
  – University faculty
• Private sector
• Land grants, etc.
• NGO
• Tribes

• Pest management
• Energy
• Stewardship
• Marketing
• Systems research
• Organics
WSARE is 3 P’s

- **PROFIT**  
  Over the long term
- **PROTECTION**  
  Of our land and water
- **PEOPLE**  
  Who depend on agriculture
WSARE is Local Leadership

- Administrative Council:
  - Farmers/ranchers
  - Academics
  - Agencies
  - NGO
A broad array of experience in the Administrative Council
WSARE:
A part of the BIG West
WSARE is Communication

- Publish practical information
- Audience: Farmers/ranchers, educators

- Books
- Bulletins
- On-line resources
- Project database
- Factsheets
- Listserv
- Newsletters

All Available on-line at sare.org
Crop Rotation on Organic Farms
A PLANNING MANUAL

Charles L. Mohler & Sue Ellen Johnson, editors
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- Satisfies human food and fiber needs
- Enhances environmental quality and the natural resource base
- Efficiently uses nonrenewable & on-farm resources and integrates natural biological cycles & controls
- Sustains the economic viability of farm operations
- Enhances the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole
WSARE’s Mission:

- WSARE’s mission is to advance—to the whole of American agriculture—in innovations that improve profitability, stewardship, and quality of life by investing in groundbreaking research and education.
- Willing to take risks!
WSARE Background

• Congress also mandated that SARE NOT be “business as usual”

• SARE was mandated to ensure that research results be rapidly disseminated to farmers and ranchers
WSARE Background

- **1994 to 2015:**
- 20 years with WSARE
- >$73 million of USDA-NIFA Competitive Funds
WSARE Funding

• **Formerly came in two portions:**
  • Chapter 1: CSREES with up to 10% overhead
  • Chapter 3: Extension with no overhead

• **2014:**
  • All funds via Chapter 1
  • $5 million for WSARE
WSARE Grant Programs

- **Five types of competitive grants:**
  - Research and Education
  - Graduate Student Fellowships
  - Professional Development
  - Professional + Producer grants
  - Farmer/Rancher
Research & Education

• Large, multi-state, multi-disciplinary
• Systems trials
• Grower participation required at inception
• Outreach required
• Three years
• Pre-proposals in June, full in December
  • Full proposals by invitation
WSARE Grant Programs

• Graduate Student Fellowships
  – Small grants up to $25,000
    • Often to supplement thesis project
  – Up to two years
  – Eight awards per year
  – Outreach required
  – Written by student
  – May 13 deadline
WSARE Grant programs

• Professional + Producer grants
  – Medium sized
  – Perfect for Extension faculty
  – NRCS Technical service providers
  – PCA’s
  – NGO’s
• Up to three years
• Growers involved: Inception → Completion
• Outreach required
WSARE Grant programs

• Farmer/Rancher Grants
  – Small: $20k/1 producer; $25k/3 producers + replicating research
  – Not for capital equipment
  – Not for farm/ranch operating expenses
  – Research is required
  – Outreach is required
  – Reports are required
  – Must have a technical advisor (County Agent or similar)
  – Producers **must** write proposal
WSARE Grant programs

• Professional Development Grants
• PDP Competitive Training Grants
  – Train the trainer type grants
  – Up to $50K
  – Multi-year
# WSARE Grant Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Proposals</th>
<th>Funded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;E</td>
<td>6/3 + 11/4</td>
<td>50-60</td>
<td>6-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad Student</td>
<td>5/13</td>
<td>~40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDP</td>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>~50</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P + P</td>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>60-70</td>
<td>~7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmer/Rancher</td>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>60-70</td>
<td>~15</td>
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## 2013 WSARE Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>West</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; E Pre-proposal</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;E Full proposal</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmer/Rancher</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P + P</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad Student</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDP</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
New Mexico

PDP State Coordinators: Stephanie Walker, John Idowu, New Mexico State University

New Mexico has received $2,069,600 between 1988 and 2014 to support 82 projects, including:

- 14 Research and Education Projects
- 6 Professional Development Projects
- 18 *PDP State Implementation Projects
- 43 **Farmer/Rancher Projects

New Mexico also has received additional SARE support through multi-state projects.

*Professional Development Program  **Farmer/Rancher and Professional + Producer
# New Mexico 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Submitted 2014</th>
<th>Funded 2014</th>
<th>Cumulative Submitted</th>
<th>Cumulative Funded</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; E</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRG/PPG</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDP</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td><strong>Total All Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>304</strong></td>
<td><strong>81</strong></td>
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</table>
Successful Proposals:

• Collaborations:
  – University researchers
  – Producers
  – Commodity associations
  – Government agencies
    • (Rural development, NRCS, Risk Management)
  – Cooperative Extension
  – Marketers

• Sustainability demonstrated
  – 3 Areas included
Successful Proposals:

• **R&E:**
  - 3 areas all included

• **Farmer/Rancher:**
  - Innovative
  - Practical
  - On-farm
  - Strong outreach
  - Answers specific question

• **Grad Student:**
  - Good research
  - Benefits student & University

Meet all requirements described in the Call for Proposals!
ALL projects must have built-in evaluations...
How to apply:

- www.westernsare.org
- www.westernsare.org/Grants/Apply
New Mexico researchable problems/questions?

• What are pressing issues?
• How can we work together to address them?
QUESTIONS?