

# Grant opportunities for farmers

## Grant Programs in WI

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Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



# When does applying for a grant make sense?

- The grant's mission aligns with your goals
- The funding and timing meet your needs
- You are eligible to apply
- The chance of getting funded is reasonable
- You have the capacity to deal with the “hassle factor”





# Assistance

Michael Fields Ag. Inst.  
Grants Advice:

[https://www.michaelfields.org  
/grants-advising-resources](https://www.michaelfields.org/grants-advising-resources)



Photo by Sean McGovern

# What is SARE?

**S**ustainable  
**A**griculture  
**R**esearch and  
**E**ducation

Grants and outreach to  
advance environmentally,  
economically, and socially  
sustainable agriculture.



Photo by Sean McGovern



# North Central SARE grant types

- Graduate Student
- Professional Development
- Research and Education
- Partnership
- Youth Educator
- **Farmer-Rancher**

website:

[www.northcentralsare.org](http://www.northcentralsare.org)

phone: (612) 626-3113

email: [ncrsare@umn.edu](mailto:ncrsare@umn.edu)



Photo by Marie Flanagan

# The SARE Portfolio

- Sustainable pest/weed management
- Systems research
- Community development
- Crop diversification
- Soil quality
- Food sovereignty
- Rotational grazing
- Marketing
- Stewardship of land and water
- Clean energy

...and much more



Photo credit: Edwin Remsberg





# Farmer Rancher Grant Program

- Grants directly fund farmers and ranchers to explore new production methods or marketing approaches for their farm
- Up to \$15,000 for individual farm, and up to \$30,000 for 2 or more farms
- Encouraged to link with university or non-profit partners
- Proposals due December 7, 2023
- Funding decisions late Feb 2024



photo credit: Joan Benjamin

# Reviewer Questions for Farmer-Rancher grants

## **Project Leader or Team (10%)**

- Do the people involved have the experience and skills to successfully carry out the project?

## **Project Design (30%)**

- Is there a well-thought-out, detailed plan to **solve a problem** on the farm or ranch using sustainable agriculture practices?
- For education and demonstration projects, is there a well-thought-out, detailed plan to provide potential solutions for other farmers/ranchers through information sharing?
- Are there clear objectives with specific and appropriate activities, materials and methods?
- Is there an appropriate timeline?



# Reviewer Questions for Farmer-Rancher grants

## **Contribution to Sustainable Agriculture (15%)**

- Does the project build on and add to existing sustainable agriculture knowledge?
- Does the project have the potential to help farmers and ranchers in the North Central region produce positive **environmental, economic, and social impacts**?

## **Outreach (20%)**

- Are there specific plans to cooperate with other farmers and/or organizations to share information? Some options for information sharing include: workshops, field days, publications, written materials, social media, a web page, radio, television, making a video, presenting a poster or giving a talk at a conference or other event.

Also reviewer questions on Evaluation, Budget, and Overall Comments

# Recent WI Farmer-Rancher grants

- Pull-Type Hazelnut Combine Development
- Grazing Planted Prairie in WI: Pollinator and Pasture Value
- Evaluating a single-pass alfalfa-corn silage intercrop to enhance forage production, profitability, and soil and water health
- Sustainable Biofungicide for Organic Farms
- Mooningwanekaaning Food Sovereignty and Traditional Agriculture

Search the SARE data base at <https://projects.sare.org/search-projects/>



# Want more information?

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