



NCR-SARE offices:
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
Lincoln University in
Missouri



What is SARE?

Grants and outreach to
advance sustainable
innovations to
the whole of American
agriculture.



Photo credit: Sean McGovern

Something New and Different

SARE was started in 1988,
conceived as a
decentralized, *science-based*,
grassroots, practical,
problem-solving,
and *inclusive*
competitive grant-making and
outreach program.

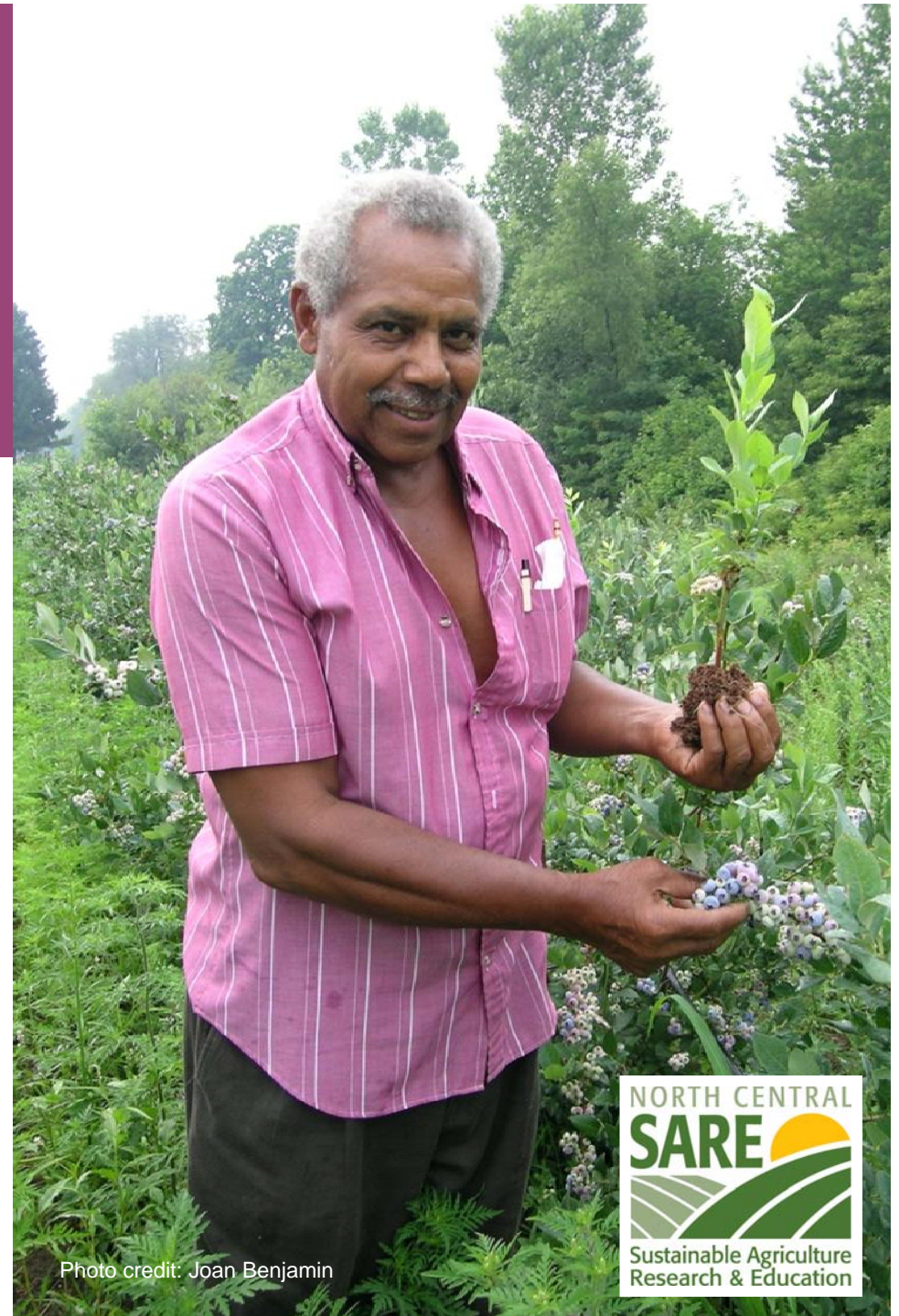


Photo credit: Joan Benjamin



The SARE Model

- USDA-NIFA supports SARE
- SARE Outreach produces practical information



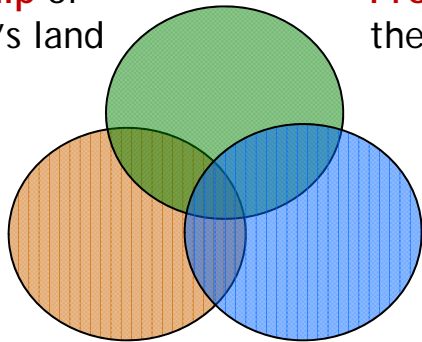
Photo credit: David Baltensperger

The SARE Model

Successful SARE grantees are engaged in projects that are guided by the 3 principals of sustainability...

Stewardship of our nation's land and water

Profit over the long term



Quality of Life for farmers, ranchers, and their communities



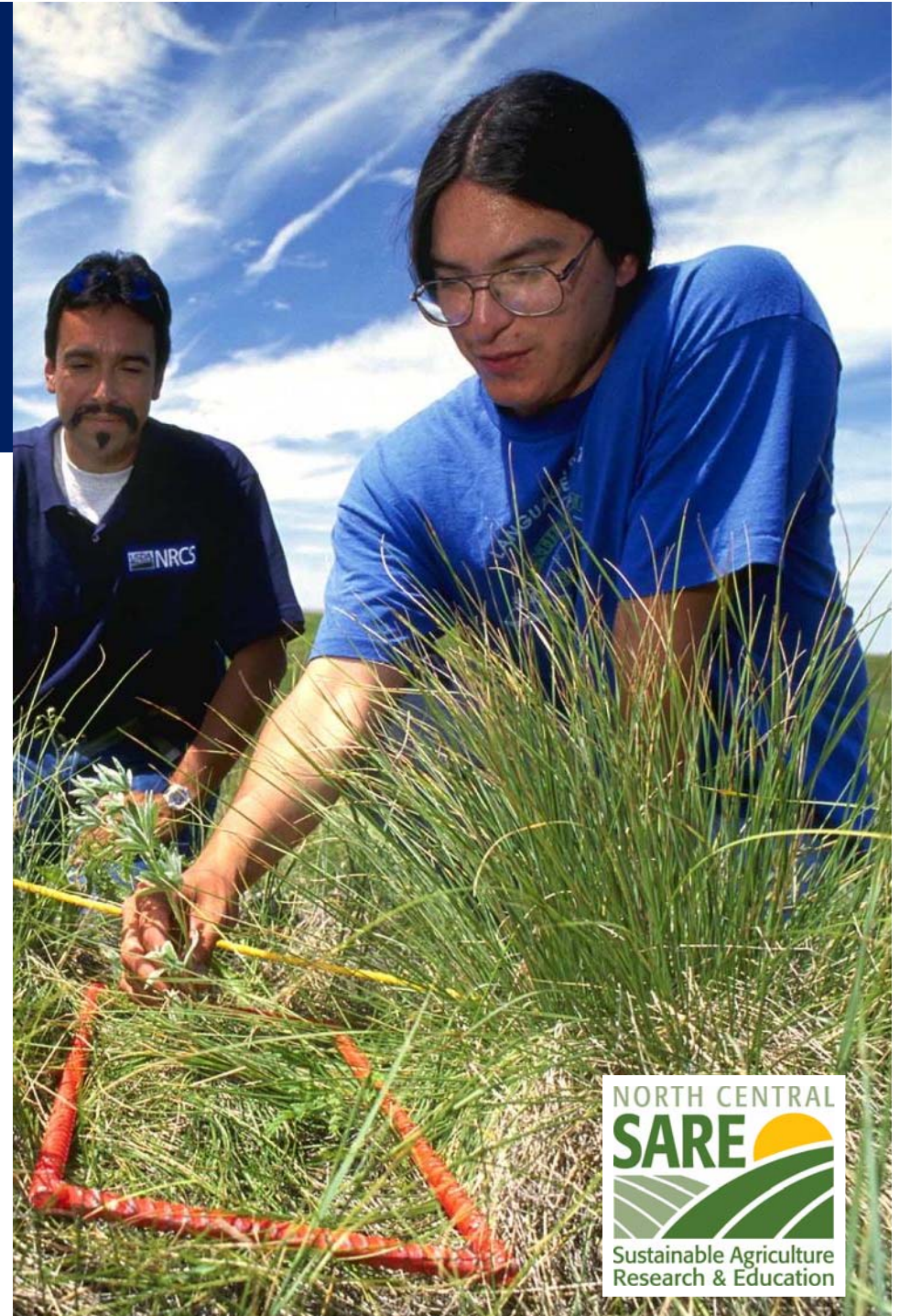
photo credit: Ken Schneider



The SARE Model

SARE has educational
partnerships with agencies,
universities,
Extension, NGOs and other
ag professionals in each of
the four regions.

Photo credit: Bob Nichols, USDA NRCS



The SARE Portfolio

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

...and much more

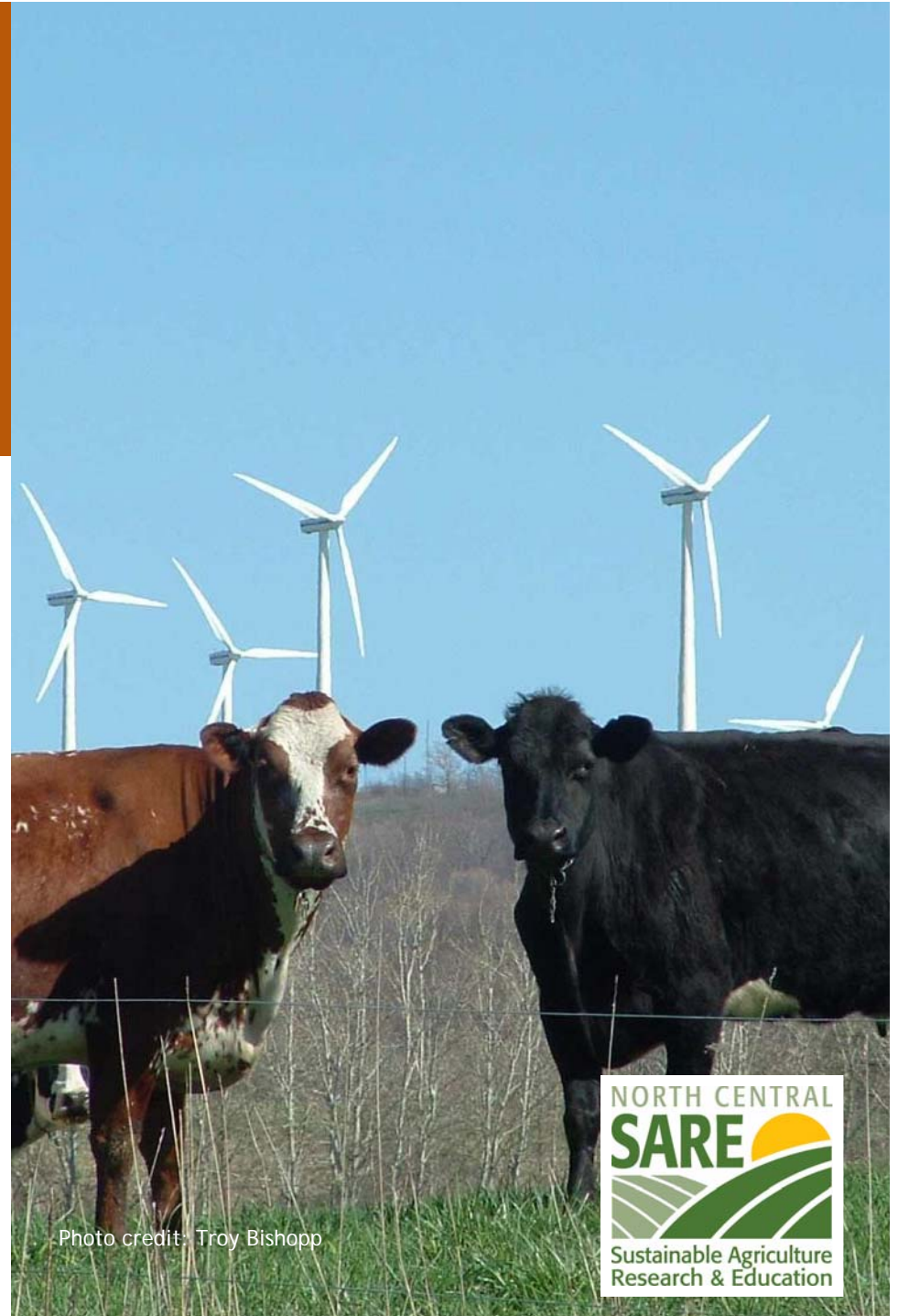


Photo credit: Troy Bishopp



27 Years of Impact

79 percent of producers said they improved soil quality through their SARE project

64 percent of producers said their SARE project helped them achieve higher sales

75 percent of educators surveyed led at least one program to share innovations



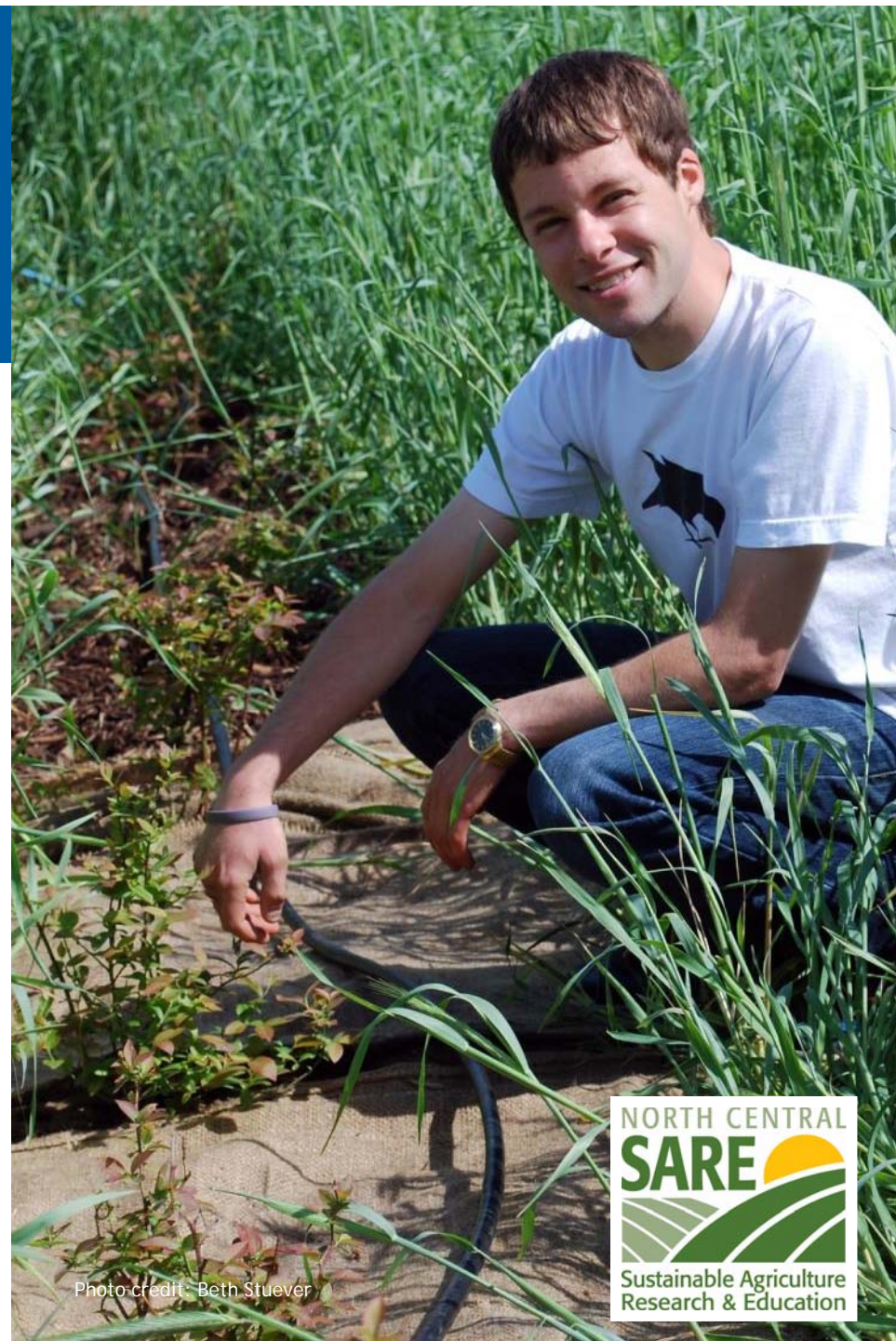
Photo credit: Karl Kupers



Supporting Tomorrow's Experts

75 percent of Research
and Education grant projects
employ graduate students

Up to 50 percent of
those students co-author
scholarly papers



Stakeholder Involvement

- Problem identified by farmer/rancher and researcher
- Farmers/ranchers involved in research and outreach

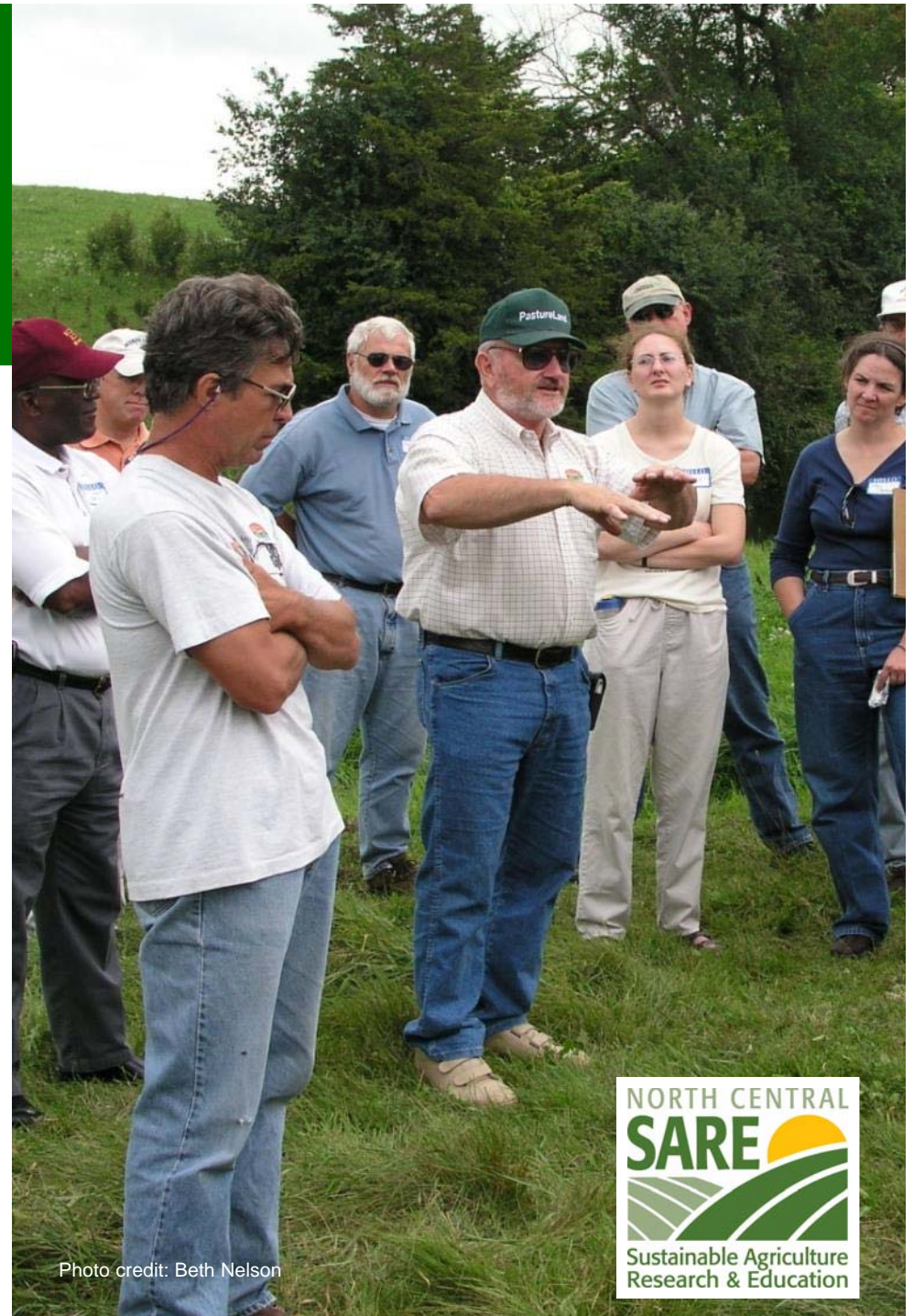


Photo credit: Beth Nelson



NCR-SARE Grant Types

North Central SARE grant programs are:

- Research & Education
- Professional Development
- Graduate Student
- Farmer/Rancher
- Youth Educator
- Partnership

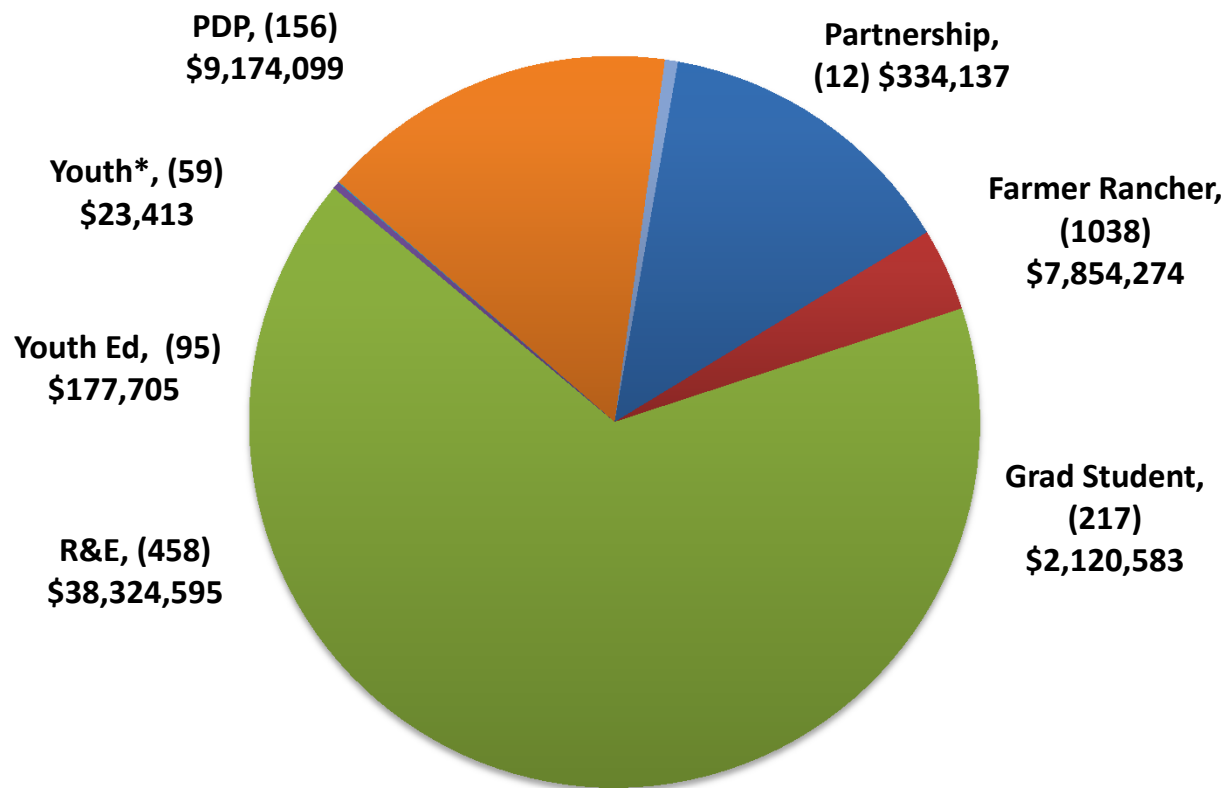


Visit www.sare.org or
www.northcentralsare.org

Photo credit: Carol Flaherty

NCR-SARE Grants Funded 1988-2015

\$58,008,806 awarded from 1988-2015



* Discontinued in 2012



Research & Education Grant Program

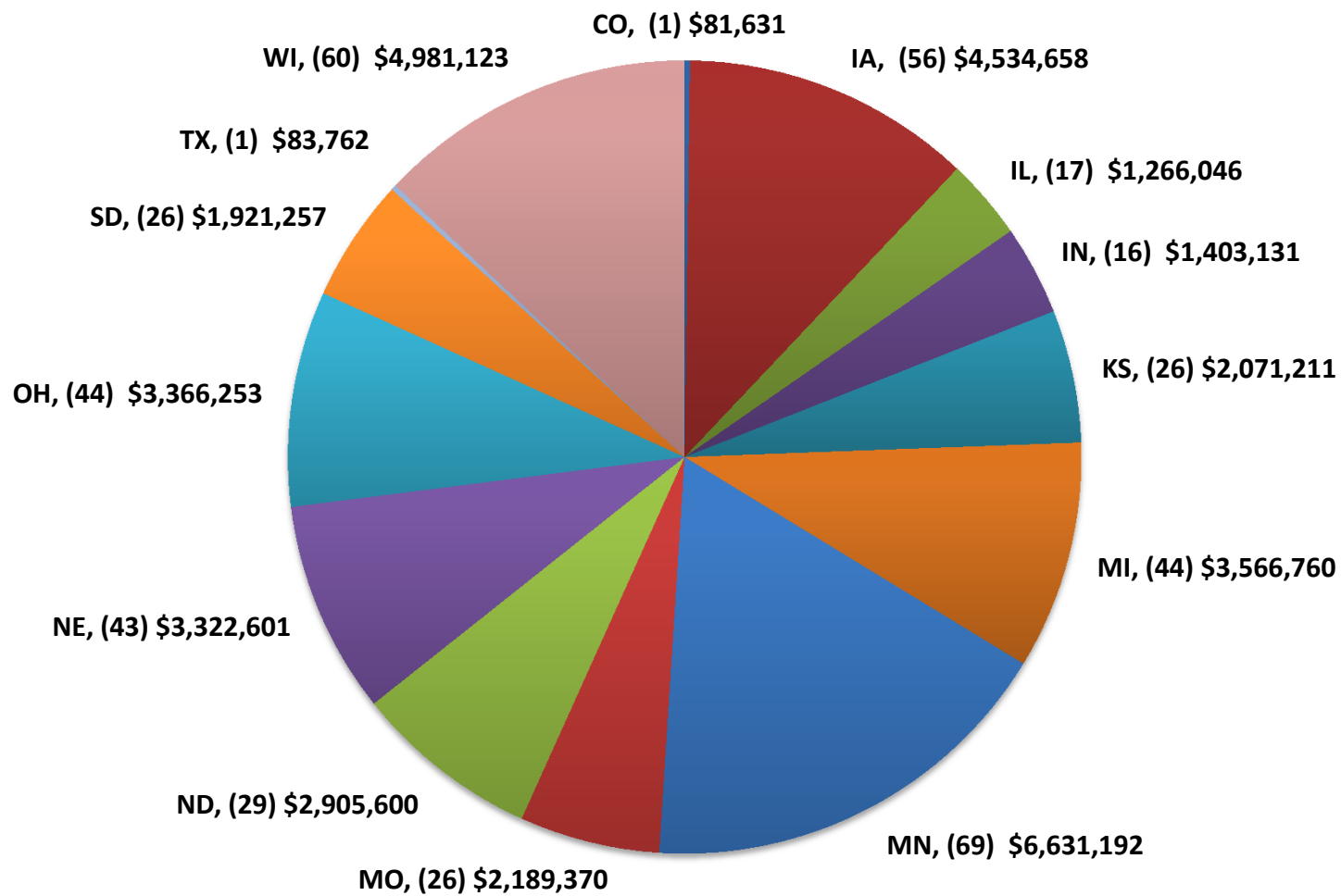
- Grants for researchers or educators to explore sustainable ag
- Up to \$200,000 per project
- Grants go primarily to organizations
- 8 to 10 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Beth Nelson



photo credit: Clark Lemley



Research and Education (R&E) Grants Funded 1988-2015



Graduate Student Grant Program

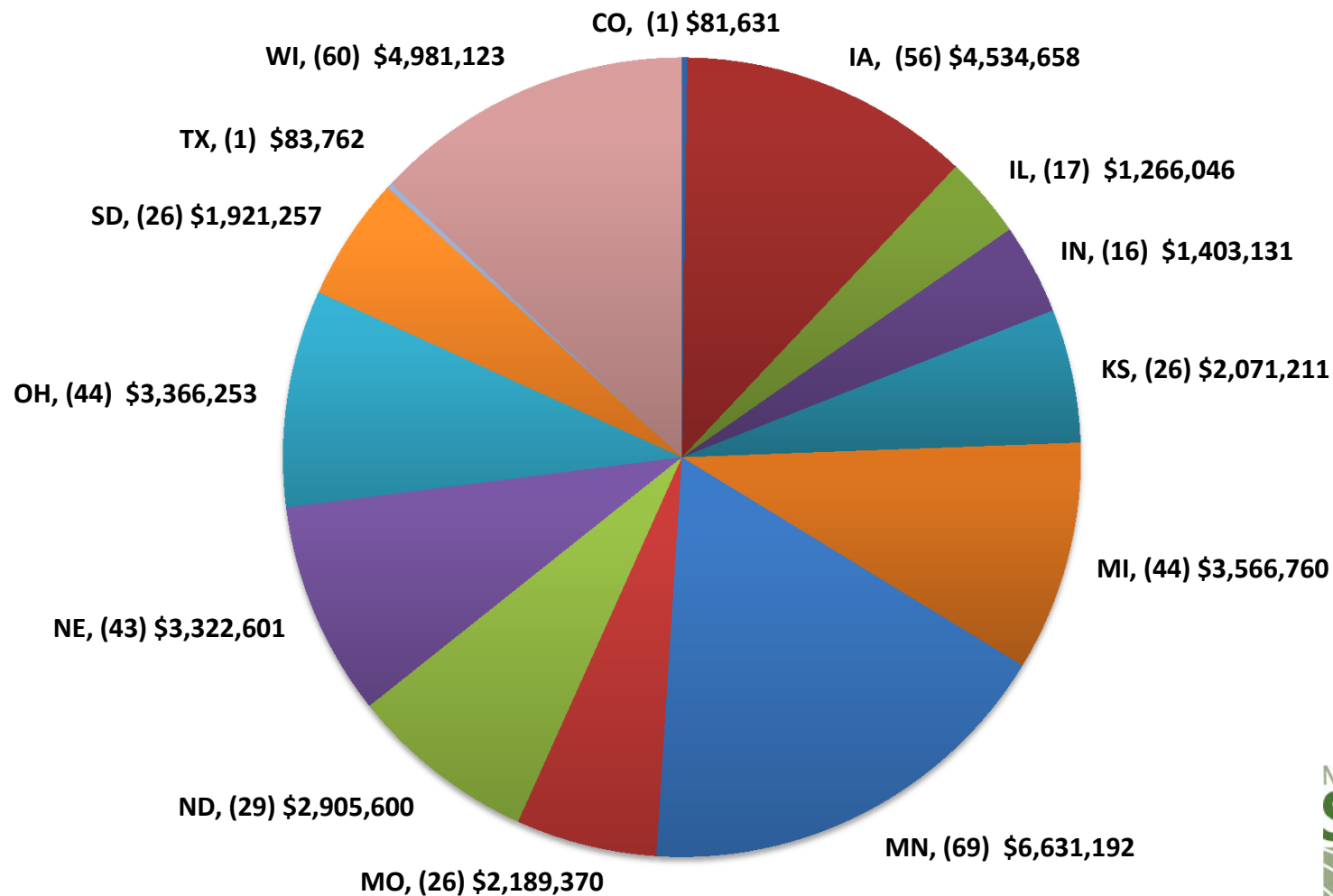
- Grants for graduate students to explore sustainable ag as part of their degree program
- Up to \$10,000 per project
- Grad student must write proposal and lead work on project
- 12 to 16 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Beth Nelson



photo credit: Silka L. F. Kempena



Graduate Student Grants Funded 2002-2015



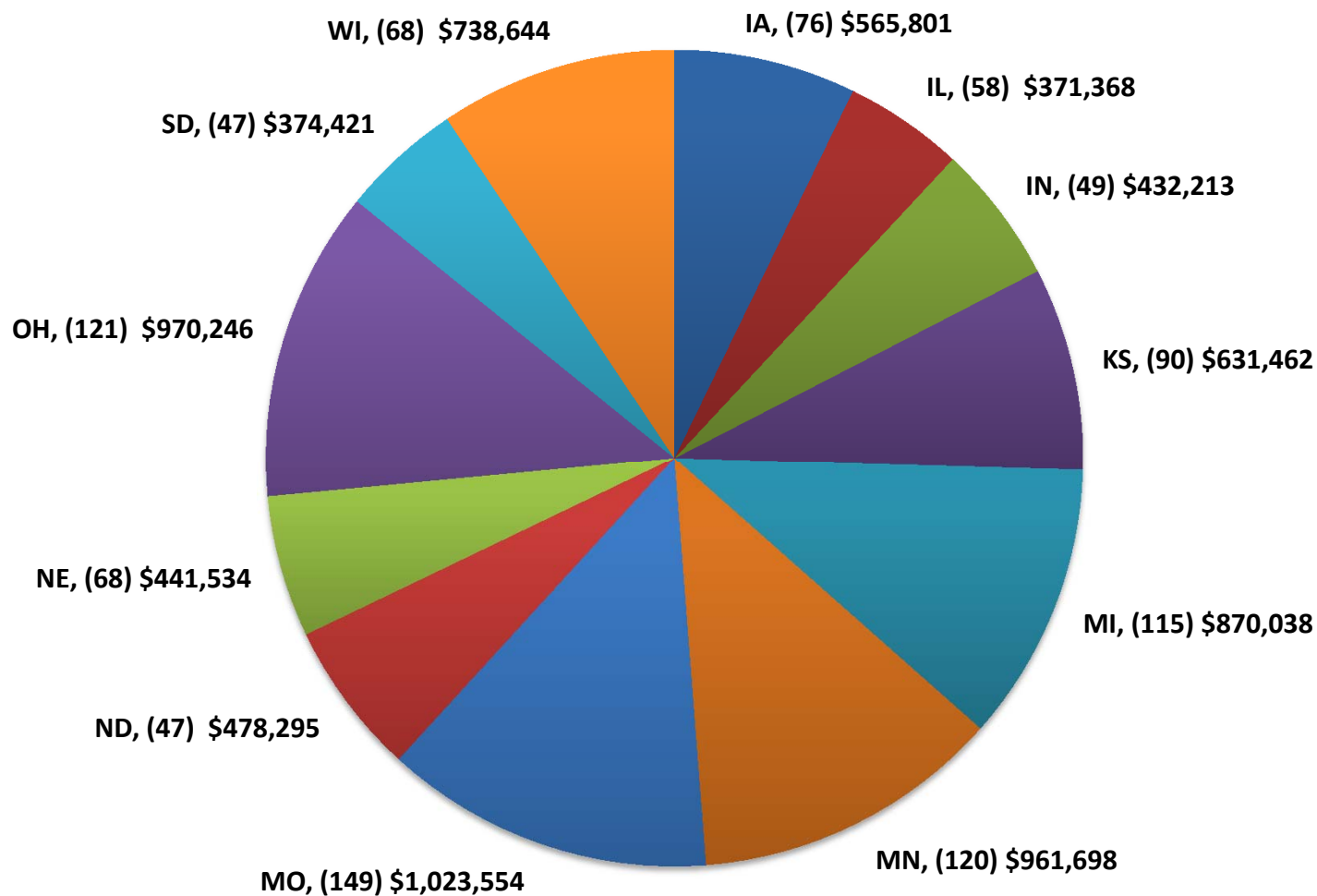
Farmer Rancher Grant Program

- Grants directly fund farmers and ranchers to explore new production methods or marketing approaches for their farm
- Up to \$7500 for individual farm, \$15,000 for teams of two, and \$22,500 for groups of 3 or more
- Encouraged to link with university or non-profit partners
- 40 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Joan Benjamin



photo credit: Joan Benjamin

Farmer Rancher Grants Funded 1988-2015



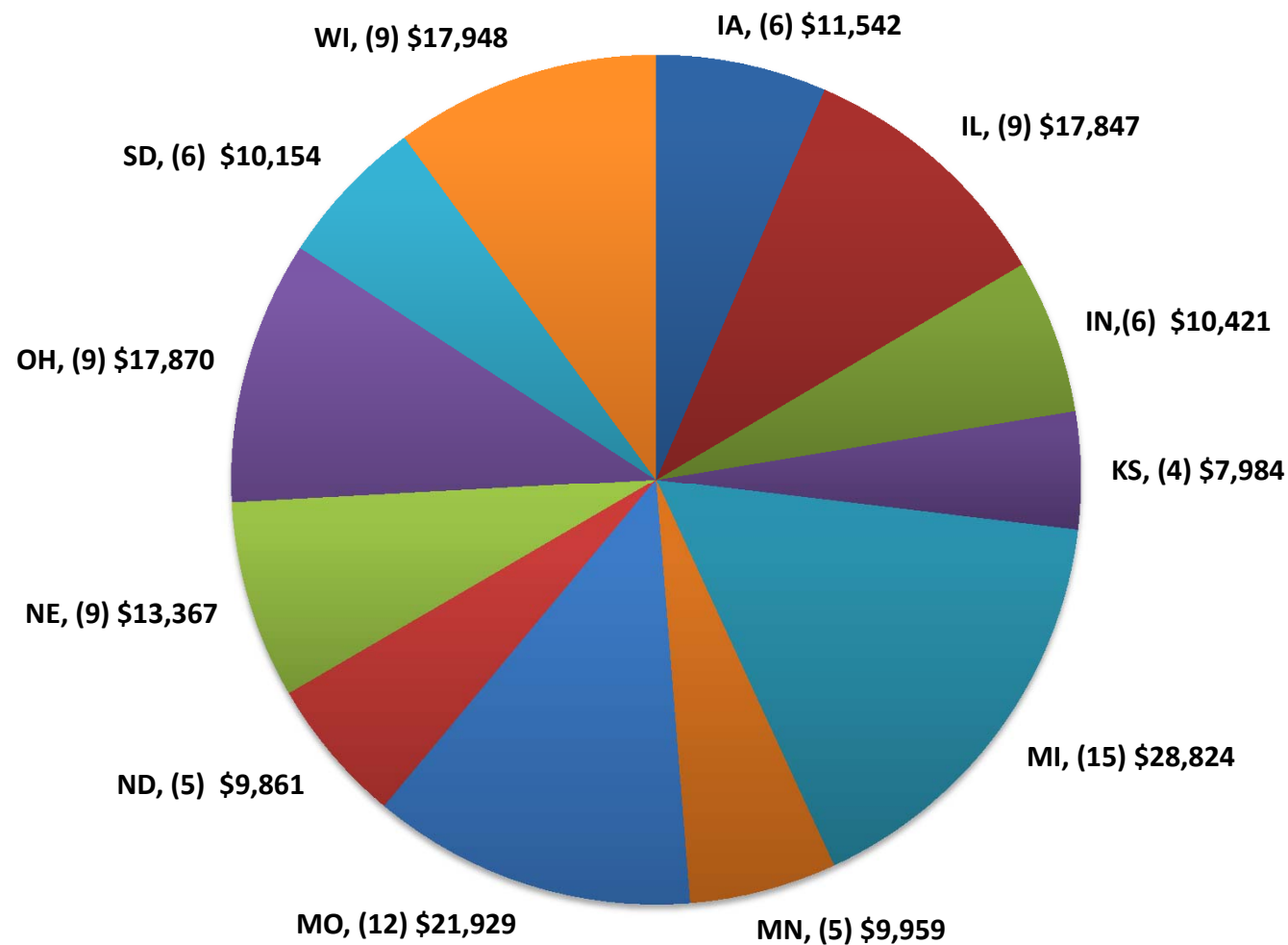
Youth Educator Grants

- Grants for young people and educators to understand sustainable practices and see sustainable agriculture as a viable career option
- Up to \$2000 per project
- Appropriate for vo-ag teachers or other youth educators
- 10 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Joan Benjamin



photo credit: Nathan Papendorf

Youth Educator Grants Funded 2008-2015



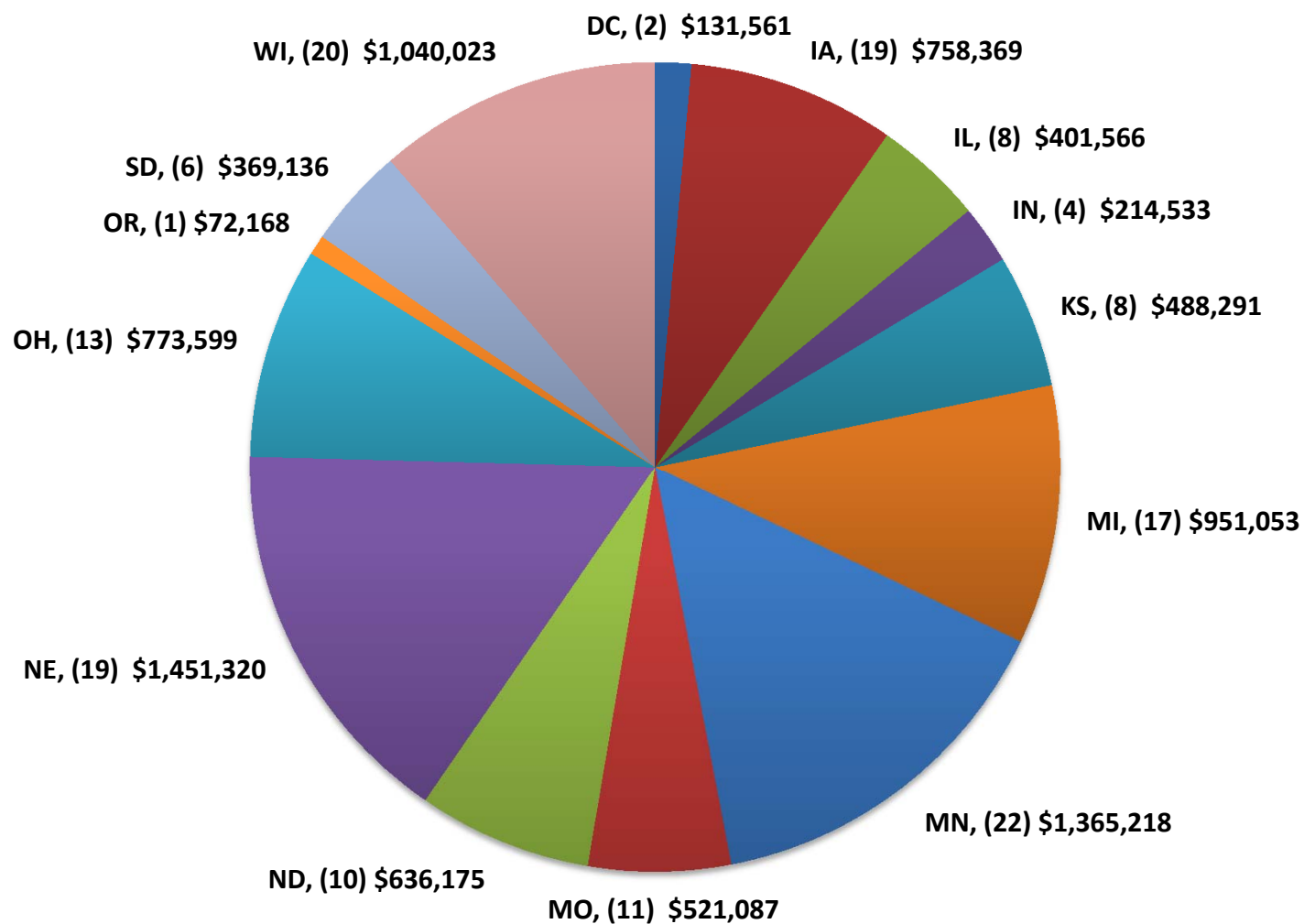
Professional Development Program

- State activities organized by State Coordinators
 - Face of SARE—communicating about SARE programs
 - Workshops, webinars, mini-grants, travel scholarships funded by \$50,000 in annual support from the SARE program
- Competitive grants
 - Grants for ag professionals to train other ag professionals using farmers/ranchers as educators
 - Up to \$75,000 per project
 - 5-10 projects funded per year
- Coordinated by Rob Myers



photo credit: Teresa Webb

Professional Development Program (PDP) Competitive Grants Funded 1994-2015



NCR-SARE Partnership Grant Program

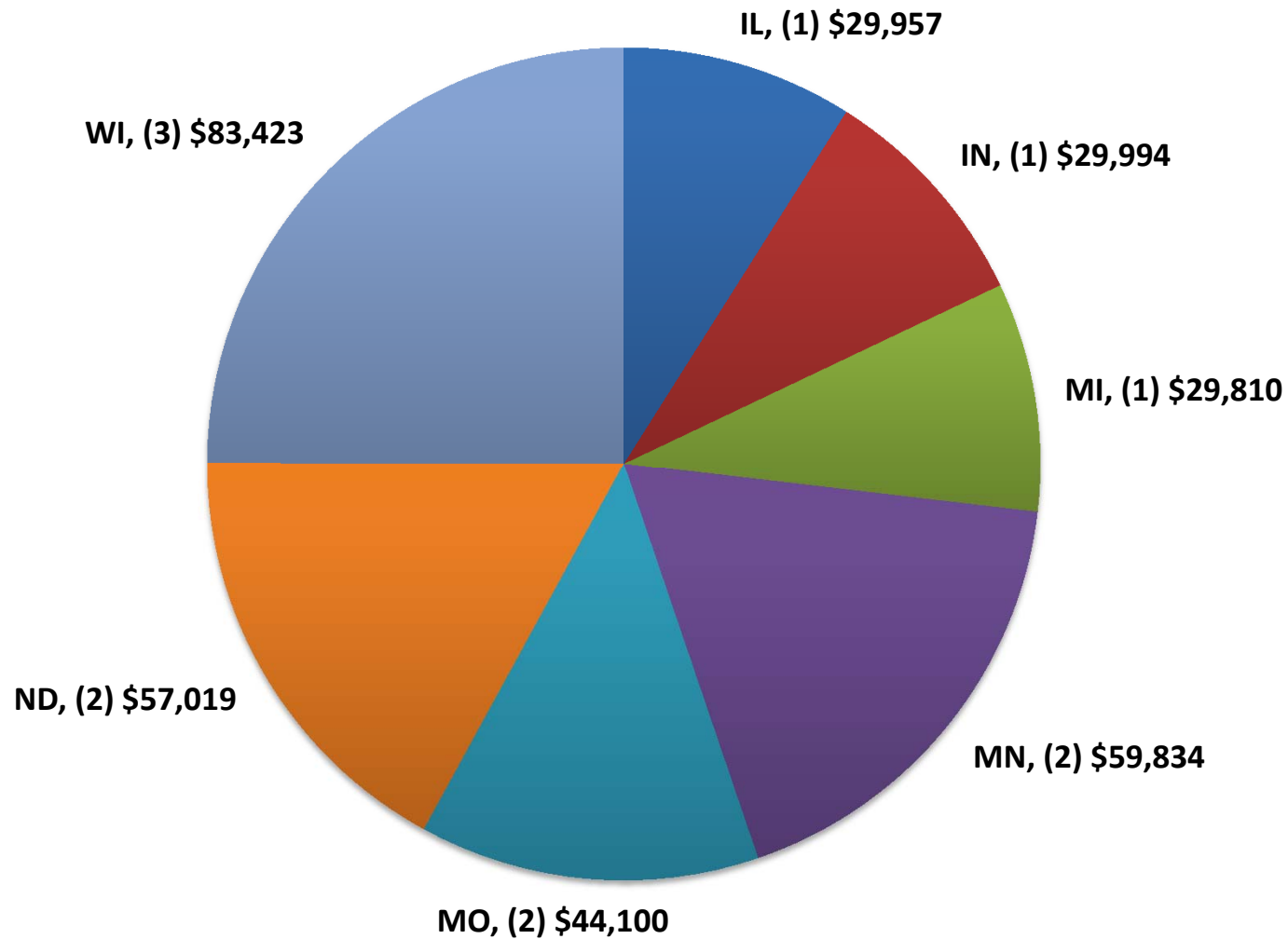
- Grants for on-farm research, demonstration, and/or educational projects
- Up to \$30,000 per project
- An Agricultural Professional is the grant applicant and principal investigator
- Typically three or more farmers or ranchers involved in the project
- 8 to 9 projects funded per year
- Co-coordinated by Beth Nelson and Rob Myers



photo credit: Joan Benjamin



Partnership Grant Program — 2015



SARE Outreach

- A library of practical, how-to books and bulletins (in print or free download)
- Media outreach
- A portfolio of in-depth reports on current topics
- Conference sponsorships
- Countless online resources, including project reports



New and Future Directions

“Ratchet up” NCR-SARE’s programming by collaborating with other organizations

Broaden outreach to the whole of American agriculture - sponsoring conferences, packaging information

Strengthen training for ag professionals at the state level, including extension and NRCS



photo credit: Sean McGovern



For more information about NCR-SARE:

by phone: 612.626.3113

by email: ncrsare@umn.edu

www.northcentralsare.org

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