

## **NESARE Report**

**By**

**Zane R. Hesel**

Submitted to NEED on June 26, 2001

The NE-SARE program continues to provide grant opportunities to research and educational organizations as well as farmers and growers. This is handled by a technical review panel and Administrative Council. This past winter the program received more than 50 research and education grants and more than 150 farmer/grower grants of which 19 and 40 were funded respectively.

Each state continues to receive educational training dollars.

This July the Administrative Council will meet in Martinsburg, WV to develop final plans for the coming year and tour SARE funded and related projects in the area.

A new program is being launched entitled "Sustainable Farmer-Educators" where seasoned sustainable ag farmers will serve as independent contractors who will provide a variety of educational services including speaking at meetings and taking phone calls from other farmers.