

EXTENSION Today

IN GREEN COUNTY

In Green County we're growing ideas that make a difference in your life, your family, and your community. We have a dedicated staff of trained professionals delivering educational programs in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H/youth development, and community and economic development. The Green County Cooperative Extension Office is your connection to UK and the world.

You'll see some key numbers in this report. But the numbers don't show you the people or the impact of our work. So the rest of this report shows the faces behind some of the numbers.

Cumberland Trace Farm, Home and Garden Show

The Cumberland Trace Farm, Home, and Garden Show gave people in the community an opportunity to familiarize themselves with local businesses and the products and services those businesses provide. The two day show consisted of over 40 local businesses around the tri-county area as well as over 1500 spectators. The show featured numerous guest speakers from all different genres including topics on how to get rid of moles and voles, 2007 Color Trends, healthy soils, and farming trends in Kentucky.

An evaluation was given to the exhibitors after the show and it confirmed 100% of exhibitors believe the show benefited their business and was a positive experience for the community. The evaluation also showed 55% of the exhibitors felt like the show increased business or economic profit and 77% of the exhibitors felt like they gained visibility within the community. The show also resulted in 15 new members of the Greensburg Chamber of Commerce. One business owner whom participated in the show stated, "During the show I had over \$3000 worth of sales and gained 15 new clients. Participating in the show was definitely worthwhile and gave me visibility in the community to people whom might not have known my business existed." One spectator commented "the show allowed me to meet the

owners and employees of each individual business as well as ask them any questions I had about their products. There were many businesses I did not know existed locally. Going forward I feel I will now use more local businesses having developed that relationship at the farm, home, and garden show."



Reaching Out to Green County

<i>Educational Programs</i>	
Programs presented	259
Total participants	12,460
<i>Educational Contacts</i>	
Clientele visits	301
Telephone consultations	3,063
Newsletters distributed	10,061
<i>Volunteer Development</i>	
Volunteers	221
Volunteer hours	9,303
Clientele reached by volunteers	27,149

Forages in the Center of Kentucky

The largest crop grown in Green County by volume is its forage base. Forages in Green County encompass more than 175,000 acres. Over 40,000 head of grazing livestock thrive on this crop and they annually add 11 million dollars to Green County's agriculture economy.

The Green County Agriculture Advancement Council identified forage production as a major concern to Green County livestock. The Green County Cooperative Extension Service has made a strong effort the past three years to meet the forage producer's needs.

Newspaper articles, radio programs, publications, and newsletters were utilized to help producers efficiently produce quality forage.

Alfalfa and a red clover research trial, a grazing study, hay quality contest, forage production programs in accordance with Taylor and Adair Counties, and several field days have been utilized in efforts to help producers understand variety selection, harvesting practices, and hay storage, along with maturity levels in hay.

Many producers sought further information on how to enhance their individual programs on their farms. Of the participating producers being evaluated with written evaluations this year, 100%, or 25 of 25, acknowledged that they had a better understanding of the importance of species selection and establishment phase of forages. Green County producers signaled that they were able to increase the crude protein levels of their forage by 2-6% and the relative feed value from 7-38% per cutting of hay.

GPS Technology

Have you ever been lost? Have you ever tried to give directions to a stranger in your community? Have you tried to tell a stranger what is unique about your community? The Green County Cooperative Extension Service completed their third year of exposing our youth to global positioning systems (GPS) which prepared our youth to handle these and similar questions.

In a joint 4-H Ventures grant with the Adair County 4-H program, we received \$10,000 to develop the program. Our 4-H members were exposed to GPS through day camps and school enrichment programs.

One hundred twelve youth now understand how to use GPS unit to find locations of interest. One of the service learning projects for the group was to map the coordinates of historically significant areas of our community. These will be added to our 4-H website for our community and visitor's benefits. One of our teen members was invited to attend the National ESRI Conference this year; this conference is the premier international conference on GPS utilization. Along with an adult leader, they participated with other youth organizations from around the world in educational workshops. Topics included how to expand and develop new GPS youth programs in our local communities.

With GPS technology becoming common in vehicles, phones, two-way radios and many other devices, 4-H is taking the lead in exposing our youth on ways to benefit our community through this technological revolution.

Center of Kentucky Dairy Production

The dairy industry is a strong and integral part of Central Kentucky Agriculture. There are over 14,500 head of dairy cattle covering Green, Taylor, and Adair Counties, according to Kentucky Agriculture Statistics.

Dairy production also makes up over 22% of the local agriculture economies for the adjoining counties. A strong joint effort has been implemented by these three counties to help aid producers in producing milk as efficiently as possible.

Radio programs, news articles, and a Center of Kentucky Dairy short course have been utilized over the past three consecutive years to help provide producers with the highest quality education available.

With finances, nutrition, and reproduction being the basis of the joint programming effort, area farmers have been able to increase both their herd's performance and improve their record keeping skills. Fifty four total program participants were evaluated at the end of each year's short course with a formal written survey. 100% stated that the federal milk marketing portion of the program was very helpful to their operations and 84% of those being evaluated ranked record keeping as being the most beneficial part of the program to their operations.

Educational efforts by the local Cooperative Extension Services has also helped aid dairy producers in applying for over \$78,000 in cost share assistance from phase I tobacco diversification programs. These financial grants have been utilized by producers to improve structures, expand operating facilities, and purchase manure handling equipment.



*Green County
Farmer, Roger Davis
with experimental
tobacco variety*

LEAP Program

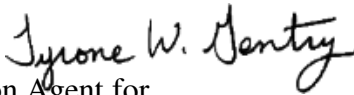
The Green County Cooperative Extension Service implemented the Literacy, Eating and Activity for Preschoolers program, or LEAP, to every preschooler in Green County. Over 120 Green County preschoolers learned the correlation between eating a variety of fruits and vegetables, being physically active and having a healthy lifestyle. As a result of the LEAP program, teachers reported, 100% of students were more likely to try a newly introduced fruit or vegetable, 80% of students were more likely to ask for a fruit or vegetable for a snack, 100% of students were more likely to consume fruits or vegetables at mealtime, 100% of students were more likely to participate in physical activity, 100% of students could name at least one or more health benefits of eating fruits and vegetables, 100% of students could name at least one or more health benefits of physical activity.

The Green County Cooperative Extension Service recognizes healthy eating and physical activity habits start in the home. In addition to the program, the parents received an educational newsletter which provided the family with nutritious recipes and healthy tips. This newsletter encouraged parents to set a good example for their children by being

physically active and by eating a variety of fruits and vegetables every day.

Thank You!

Thank you to our clients, leaders and volunteers for another great year! We appreciate all that you do for each of our programs. We look forward to the great things we can accomplish together this year!

Tyrone Gentry 
County Extension Agent for
4-H & Youth Development

Audrey Myers 
County Extension Agent for
Family & Consumer Sciences

Brian Newman 
County Extension Agent for
Agriculture & Natural Resources



The Green County Cooperative Extension Service

We deliver information, education, solutions.

For more information, contact us at:

*106 South Public Square
Greensburg, KY 42743-1533
(270)932-5311
Fax: (270) 932-4390
www.ca.uky.edu*