

JACKSON COUNTY EXTENSION & EDUCATION COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

4-H & Positive Youth Development Team



March 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019

4-H HIGHLIGHTS

Cloverbud Project Series– Cloverbuds are 4-H youth in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade. There are two volunteers who have worked to build the 4-H Cloverbud Project in Jackson County and to do so they plan one event a month, from January through April. The March project was 'Using Your Super Senses', where guest instructor April Duval came in and had youth, and parents, try different types of vegetables and dips. Everyone LOVED the activity, including the adults!



Volunteer Role Descriptions– I have been working on creating 4-H Role Descriptions for volunteers. I have worked with another 4-H Program Coordinator from Taylor County, Stephanie Boehlein, to develop the descriptions as a way to provide guidance and clarity to the many different hats that our volunteers play. Often when a volunteer steps into one of these roles they are not always given transition materials, have ever held the role before, or know what to expect in the role. These descriptions that we created are in part to assist with all of those concerns.



Stephanie and I presented our work to our colleagues across the state in our cohort meeting and also to a state team that we are on that is looking to create a website that will be home to volunteer resources. Here are some of the role descriptions that we have created or are on the process of creating: Activity/Event Volunteer, Afterschool Volunteer, Board Representative, Cloverbud/Explorer Leader, Club Leader, Committee Member, Expanding Access Committee Member, Fair Board Representative, Project/Key/Resource Leader, Service Leader, SPIN Club Leader, Youth Leader, and Youth Leadership Adult Volunteer.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteer In Preparation Training (VIP)– This is a training required for new 4-H volunteers. We had four individuals attend the training that I held on Thursday, February 21, 2019. The training is about an hour and a half in length and covers topics such as: risk management, Jackson County statistics, being a mandated reporter, UW-Extension office information, and what 4-H looks like in our county. All four individuals are interested in being 4-H volunteers at different capacities including: 4-H Dog Project leader, Shooting Sports instructor, more involved parent, and a future club leader.

Annual Leader Training - This is an annual training that one adult member in each chartered club or project must attend. This year, I offered two different training dates; each about an hour and a half in length. The topics included: 'Meetings that Shake, Rattle, and Roll', and 'All Together, Not the Same'. The first training that was about how to run better, more fun and effective meetings, took place on March 4th and three adults and one youth were in attendance. Those in attendance seemed to enjoy the topic and had great discussions with each other to make it a successful training.

KEY MEETINGS

March 4 – Met with Trempealeau County Volunteer
March 4 – Jackson County Annual Leader Training (1 of 2)
March 6 – SEED Training
March 6 – 4-H Club Central Planning Meeting (State Project)
March 6 – Jackson County P&L Board Trip Scholarship Discussion
March 7 – Zoom Session: WI 54-H & Youth Conference
March 7 – Zoom Session: 4HOnline for Club Managers
March 8 – Met with Trempealeau County Volunteer
March 8 – Professional Development: Common Measures Course
March 8 – Zoom Session: Volunteer Role Descriptions
March 11 – Arcadia Afterschool Program: Code Your Dance
March 11 – Cloverbud/Little Miss & Mister Program Planning
March 12 – Cohort #2: Zoom Meeting
March 12 – Professional Development: Everyday Coaching Conversations
March 14 – Zoom Session: 4-H Youth Development
March 14 – Trempealeau County Harassment Training
March 14 – Zoom Session: Volunteer Role Descriptions

March 14 – Cloverbud Event: Using Your Super Senses
March 17 – Frenchville Cloverleaves Club Meeting Visit (Made Handwarmers)
March 18 – Jackson County Intern Planning Meeting with Jamie Pfaff
March 18 – Jackson County Parent & Leaders Board
March 19 – Trempealeau County P&L Board Financial Meeting
March 21 – Arcadia Afterschool Program: Code Your Dance (Round 2)
March 22 – Trempealeau County Staff Meeting
March 22 – Visits to banks to get on Trempealeau P&L Board Accounts
March 25 – Trempealeau County EEC Meeting
March 25 – YQCA Planning Meeting
March 25 – Trempealeau County Parent & Leaders Board
March 26 – Zoom Session: 4HOnline
March 26 – Arcadia Afterschool Program: Color Your World
March 26 – YQCA In-Person Training
March 27 – Jackson County VIP Training
March 28 – Ho-chunk Family Night

Key Programs and Projects

Marketing Tools Meeting 3/7

This program was an introductory course in grain marketing as a follow up to our annual marketing meeting in Melrose. With commodity prices remaining low this year more producers are becoming interested in utilizing price risk management tools than ever before. A survey of participants at the February meeting indicated that there was a need for more basic instruction on the topic. Dr. Brenda Boetel and Steve Okonek presented on futures, options, and seasonal pricing.

DRP Program 3/11

This educational meeting was focused on Dairy Revenue Protection (DRP) insurance along with the recently overhauled Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program offered through the federal government. Mark Stephenson addressed the functionality of the two risk management programs and advised on how best to utilize coverage. He strongly suggested producers consider enrollment in DMC as retroactive payments will be granted for the first half of 2019 given the current income over feed cost.

Coulee Graziers Kick-Off Meeting 3/14

The Coulee Graziers are a group of producers who currently utilize grazing in their production process or are interested in doing so. Jackson and Trempealeau county Extension facilitate this program, providing educational information on grazing and pasture health topics. Forage specialist Yoanna Newman presented to the group on pasture fertility and soil health. Scheduling for this summer's pasture walk series was also completed.

BQA Certification Program 3/28

The Beef Quality Assurance program was developed by the Cattleman's Association to promote good animal husbandry and a safe food supply. BQA has recently become required by a few of the industry's largest packing plants, with more expected to follow. UWEX partnered with the Association to provide certification programs throughout the state to ensure local beef producers have the ability to continue marketing their animals. Bill Halfman and I presented the educational program to 11 producers and administered the certification exam.

Other Programs, Projects and Meetings

PAT Training 3/5

Structural Failure Zoom 3/8

LaCrosse Program Collaboration 3/12

FSA Committee 3/12

Livestock Education Committee 3/13

Spring Thaw Committee 3/17

Dairy Promotion Committee 3/18

National Cover Crops Summit Webinars 3/20

UWEX Tri-Team Programming Meeting 3/21

FARM Team Zoom 3/22

Master Gardener Coordinator Update 3/26

Farmer's Market Board Meeting 3/26

Farm Bureau 3/26

Value Added Dairy Workshop 3/27

Farm Visits/Consults

Coryell-Nurseries 3/1

Klinge-DMC 3/12

K. Pfaff-Spanish Resources 3/13

Klinge-Lease Terms 3/15

Gunther-Produce Safety 3/19

Borntrager-BMR 3/20

Chris-CRP 3/20

Blaken-Cheese Plants 3/22

McKnight-Manure Disposal 3/22

Bittrick-Apple Trees 3/28

Needs Assessment Results Jackson County-2019

A total of 214 paper surveys were mailed to county producers. Access to the online survey was also promoted to the general public through social media and the Extension website. On the deadline of March 15th, 82 responses had been returned. Four of these responses were not included in the following results as the producers indicated they were no longer actively farming.

Part 1-Producer Profile: Respondents were asked to signify which livestock and crop types they produced, along with how much of each. (Data on future plans along with educational information delivery strategies were also included in this section.)

Livestock Type:

Beef	37%
Dairy	35%
Poultry	18%
Horses	14%
Goats	13%
Swine	9%
Sheep	6%
Other	3%

Dairy Farm Size:

50 or less cows	23%
51-100	19%
101-500	42%
500+	15%

Beef Herd Size:

50 or less head	46%
51-200	35%
200+	19%

Crop Type:

Corn	72%
Alfalfa/Grass Hay	71%
Pasture	54%
Soybean	49%
Small Grains	35%
Vegetables (for market)	12%
Fruit	4%
Other	3%

Crop Acres Grown:

Less than 50 acres	18%
51-200	27%
201-500	23%
501-1000	18%
1001+	15%

Future Plans:

No Change	46%	Modernize	12%
Succession	29%	Leave Farming	9%
Expansion	19%	Other	6%
		Certify Organic	4%

Preferred Method of Receiving Information:

**Respondents were asked to choose top 3.*

Group Meeting	42%
Newspaper	38%
Newsletters	37%
Magazine	31%
Email	27%
Radio	21%
Social Media	17%
Farm Consultations	17%
Word of Mouth	17%
Other	5%

Preferred Type of Meeting:

**Respondents were asked to choose top 2.*

Local Meeting	71%
Barn Meetings/Field Days	51%
Demonstration Workshops	26%
Producer Panel/Roundtable	15%
Webinar/Online Meeting	13%
Area/State Meeting	12%

Part 2-Relevant Categories: Respondents were asked to rank the following categories in order from most to least important in terms of their educational needs. Their top 5 choices were then used to tabulate results.

Soil/Nutrient Management	64%
Farm Financial/Business Mgmt.	60%
Land Use/Environmental Issues	52%
Forages/Grazing	49%
Grains	45%
Dairy	34%
Non-Dairy Livestock	32%
Hort./Small Farms/Local Food	31%
Specialty Crops	19%
Other	8%

Part 3-Specific Topics: Respondents were asked to select which topics within each category area were most important to their business at this time.

Farm Financial/Business Management:

Creating/Maintaining Markets	38%	Value added	25%
Price risk management	38%	Financial Management	23%
Low Cost Prod. Systems	34%	Business Arrangements	21%
Succession plan/farm transfer	29%	Business plan development	18%
Farm Recordkeeping	27%	Employee Management	10%

Dairy:

Calf and heifer raising	29%
Grazing systems	22%
Milk quality	21%
Herd health	18%
Facility design and renovation	14%
Manure management/storage	13%
Repro/genetics	10%
Organic certification	9%
Transition cow management	8%
Dairy modernization	6%

Grains:

Cover crops	49%
No-till/conservation tillage	35%
Weed or insect management	35%
Organic production/cert.	19%
Variety/hybrid selection	18%
Crop scout training	17%

Forages/Grazing Management:

Alternative Forage Crops	32%
Weed & Insect Management	30%
Harvesting and storage	26%
Management Intensive Grazing	23%
Crop/Varietal Selection	19%
Forage testing	12%

Specialty Crop Production:

Industrial Hemp production	26%
Weed, disease, insect mgmt.	25%
Honeybee production	23%
Berry production	22%
Organic production/cert.	17%
Fruit tree production	13%
Grapes	1%

Hort./Small Farms/Local Food:

Disease/Pest management	23%
Organic production/cert.	17%
Commercial veg. production	16%
Crop sequencing	14%
Flowers/ornamentals	13%
Master gardener education	12%

Non-Dairy Livestock:

Pasture management	32%
Grazing systems	23%
Nutrition	21%
Marketing	18%
Feedlot management	18%
Sheep and Goat	13%
Housing & Facilities	10%
Poultry	9%
Horses	8%
Swine	6%

Soil/Nutrient Management:

Soil testing	49%
Commercial Fertilizers	34%
Manure mgmt. & application	26%
Nutrient crediting	25%
Land use planning	23%
Nutrient management plan dev.	23%

Land Use/Environmental Issues:

Water quality	39%
Farmland preservation	35%
Land use and environmental conflict	35%
Non-farm neighbor relations	23%
Livestock facility siting	19%

Other:

Youth in agriculture	31%
Farm safety	29%
Public perception of agriculture	26%

Jackson County Extension Education & Communication Committee
FoodWise Report for 3/1/19 – 3/31/18



FoodWise Projects, Events & Professional Development - April Duval, Coordinator:

- FoodWise Tribal Nutrition Education call, Health and Well Being Institute call, Deans Exchange
- Performance Review Training Materials and worked on mine and Nutrition Educator Sandy's
- FoodWise Monthly call: FY20 program planning, Healthy Cents Curriculum and Lesson ideas
- Nutrition newsletter articles for Forrest Street and Red Creek Elementary
- PSE (Policy, System and Environment) Module #5, section 4 activities
- SEED training (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity)

Education in Jackson County Schools: MyPlate Protein, Fruit and Vegetable lessons:

School	Grade	Number of Classrooms	Number of Events
Forrest Street Elementary	Kindergarten	7	2
Lincoln Elementary	Kindergarten	3	3
Lincoln Elementary	2 nd Grade	3	3
Red Creek Elementary	2 nd Grade	7	2

Education in the Jackson County Community:

- Cloverbud Exploring Your Senses – A Rainbow of Vegetables:

