



Extension Education in Live Oak County
Making a Difference
2011

*Improving Lives.
Improving Texas.*

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service has been dedicated to serving Texans

outreach pertain to the food and fiber industry, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, nutrition and health, and community economic development. Among those served are the hundreds of thousands of young people who benefit annually from Extension's 4-H and youth development programs.

for nearly a century. The agency was established in 1915 under the Smith-Lever Act to deliver university knowledge and agricultural research findings directly to the people. Extension programs have continued ever since to address the emerging issues of the day, serving diverse rural and urban populations across the state.

Texans turn to Extension for solutions. Its agents and specialists respond not only with answers, but also with resources and services that result in a significant return on investment to boost the Texas economy. The agency custom-designs its programs to each region of the state, relying on residents for input and for help with program delivery. Here are just a few highlights of Extension's impacts on this county and its people:

Through a well-organized network of professional educators and more than 100,000 trained volunteers, Extension delivers practical research-based knowledge to Texans in all 254 counties. Our expertise and educational

Live Oak County – Summary of Educational Contact

Total Educational Programs Conducted	76
Total Participants	2790
Total Contact Hours	6970
4-H Members	363
4-H Clubs	7
4-H Volunteers	69
Curriculum Enrichment	1187
Office Contacts/ Site Visits	411
Newsletter Contacts	4-H 2829 Ag 567
Web Contacts	2600
Radio	4
News Releases	181
Farm Bureau Ag Day Presenter	145
Farm Safety Day	154
Youth Board Career Fair	180
CEU's Offered for Applicators	24

Live Oak County Landowner Educational Series

Relevance

Over the past several years, there has been an increase in new/ small landowners into the county of Live Oak. This clientele group seeks educational resources because they do not have a background related to land stewardship and/or agricultural production. The Live Oak County Extension Ag/ Nr Committee has identified this as a need for the county.

Target Audience

This educational program series targeted clientele that are new/ small landowners. The County Extension agent worked with their local county appraisal district chief appraiser to determine the number of new/ small landowners in the county. The appraisal district was asked to query their database for new land ownership of ten acres or more occurring in the last three years. An invitation letter and program brochure was sent to all of the clientele in the county that met the search criteria. Clientele responded to this letter and registered to participate in the program over the course of the program.

Response

The County Extension Agent in Live Oak County & the Extension Ag/Nr Committee developed a series of educational programs for new/ small landowners to provide them with information on a variety of topics. The dates and topics of these programs are outlined below:

- April 1- Introductory Program, Local Ag & Wildlife Exemptions, Weed And Brush Control
- May 6- Forage Production, & Soil Fertility
- June 3 – Beef Cattle Production
- August 5- Farm Pond Management
- Sept 17- Wildlife Management
- October 15- Fruit and Nut Tree Production

Results

A Customer Satisfaction Form with retrospective post questions was used at almost all the educational sessions

Introductory Program, Local Ag & Wildlife Exemptions, Weed And Brush Control Education:

- 3 out of 4 (75%) Have a better understanding of Agriculture and Wildlife Appraisal in Live Oak County.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding what wildlife and agriculture organizations are in Live Oak County.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding how these organizations can help a landowner.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding the importance of proper plant identification to help with herbicide selection.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding the correct spray tip to use when doing individual

plant treatment.

- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding volume in gallons for broadcast spray treatments.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding the importance of using a surfactant in your spray

mix.

- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding what basal treatment is

Forage Production, & Soil Fertility Education:

- 2 out of 2 (100%) had a positive movement by two levels in understanding adapted forage species for this area.
- 2 out of 2 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding the establishment of hybrid bermudagrass.
- 2 out of 2 (100%) had a positive movement in understanding forage production cost.
- Participants went from a fair to a good or excellent in understanding overall production of high quality hay.
- Participants went from a fair to poor to a good level of understanding nutrient management in hay production.
- Participants went from fair and poor to Excellent and Good in understanding ph levels of soils and its importance.

Beef Cattle Production Education:

- 4 out of 5 (80%) increased their knowledge of understanding cross breeding
- 4 out of 5 (80%) increased their knowledge of breed types by at least one level or more.
- 4 out of 5 (80%) increased their knowledge of body condition scores by at least one level or more.
- 4 out of 5 (80%) had a positive movement of understanding the importance of injection site placement
- 4 out of 5 (80%) had a increased level of understanding of livestock handling
- 80% of respondents had a positive movement by one level to understand the benefits of forage and hay testing.

Stock Pond Management:

- 4 out of 4 (100%) increased their knowledge of understanding pond design when managing for fish.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) increased their knowledge of understanding how to know if a fish is healthy or un-healthy
- 4 out of 4 (100%) increased their understanding in the feeding habits of fish.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement by one level or more when understanding the effects that weeds have

on your fish pond.

- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement by one level or more when understanding how to identify weeds to manage them in your pond.
- 3 out of 4 (75%) increased their level of understanding into what causes a pond turnover.

Wildlife Management Education:

- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement by one level on understanding how a prescribed fire can be part of your wildlife management plan.

- 3 out of 4 (75%) increased their knowledge on understanding how harvest data can be part of your wildlife management plan.
- 4 out of 4 (100%) had a positive movement by one level on understanding supplemental water and how that can be part of your wildlife plan.
- 100% of respondents increased their understanding how what is on your property can affect your management plan.

Fruit and Nut Tree Production Education:

- Participant had a positive level by two movements in understanding the importance of variety selection in fruit and nut trees.
- Participants had a positive movement in understanding the importance of good soil drainage and its effect on fruit and nut trees.
- Participant increased knowledge of fruit and nut tree in all areas that was covered

Summary:

Results indicate that the Live Oak County Landowners Educational Series met its objectives for increasing knowledge to new/ small landowners in Live Oak County. The Extension Ag/Nr Committee plans to work with the agent to develop an online educational website to help reach more clientele .

Special Thanks:

The following speakers helped with the educational presentations: Willey James Live Oak County Chief Appraiser, Brad Porter Texas Parks and Wildlife, Dr. Meagan Dominguez Extension Range Specialist, Dr. Jaime Foster Associate Professor TAMU Research, Dr. Joe Paschal Extension Livestock Specialist, Peter Woods Extension Fisheries Specialist, and Michael Potter Nueces County Extension Horticulturist. Education Host Locations, Live Oak Auction Barn (Riley Rhodes) , Terry Lee, Ray Point Community Center, Mark Katzfey, Swinney Switch Volunteer Fire Department.

For More Information Contact Dale Rankin at the Live Oak County Extension Office (361) 449-1703

Live Oak County 4-H Officers Boot Camp/ Leaders for Life

Relevance

Live Oak County has 7 4-H Clubs in the County and a slate of 4-H County Council Officers that all have leadership roles that make the 4-H program a success in the county. 4-H Club Managers and Council members identified parliamentary procedure and officer leadership training as an important need for the county. Leadership was also identified in the Futures Forum as one of the top youth issues. With these groups identifying this as an important need for 4-H members the County Extension Agent utilized the new Leaders for Life curriculum to help teach parliamentary procedure and leadership.

Target Audience

The educational program targeted 7 4-H Club Officers and 4-H County Council Officers.

Response

As a response of the need for parliamentary procedure training and 4-H officer leadership training the County Extension Agent held educational trainings with curriculum used from the Leaders For Life Curriculum. He also held the second annual 4-H Officer Boot Camp for Club Members and County Council Officers. The County Extension Agent also developed a column in the 4-H newsletter which is strictly used for Leader For Life Educational information which focuses on leadership, parliamentary procedure and 4-H History and facts.

Results

A customer Satisfaction survey with retrospective post questionnaire was used to evaluate the program.

- Twenty 4-H members attended the 4-H officer Boot camp and 100% returned the survey
- 13 out of 20 (65%) had a increase in understanding different types of leadership styles.
- 11 out of 20 (55%) had increased understanding of the importance of there officer responsibilities
- 9 out of 17 (53%) had a increase in how their responsibilities affect the club
- 12 out of 18 (66%) increase their understanding of the taps of a gavel
- 50% of participants increased their understanding on how to address the chair

Summary:

Results indicate that 4-H members increased their knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure, Leadership, Team Work and Club Officer Responsibility. Plans or to continue with the 4-H Officer Boot Camp and continue to put educational articles in the 4-H Newsletter.

Special Thanks:

George West ISD for use of their facilities and hosting the 4-H Officer Boot Camp

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Live Oak County Junior Master Gardener

Relevance

Youth in Live Oak County seek opportunities to learn about other projects that are non-traditional and part of the 4-H and Youth Development Program.

Target Audience

The educational program targeted 3rd through 6th grade students.

Response

As a response of the interest in horticulture the County Extension Agent started an after school Junior Master Gardener Program.

Results:

Through direct observations made by the Extension Agent participants had an increase in knowledge of.

- Determining what a dicot and monocot is.
- What a plant needs to grow. (Air, Sunlight, Water, Soil, Space)
- What are the important nutrients to a plant. Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium
- How deep to plant a seed.
- What are beneficial and non-beneficial insects.

Special Thanks:

George West Elementary School, Tommy Williams Elementary Principal for providing meeting location and area to grow educational garden.

For More Information Contact Dale Rankin at the Live Oak County Extension Office (361) 449-1703

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