



Extension Education in Maverick County
Making a Difference
2010

*Improving Lives.
Improving Texas.*

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service has been dedicated to serving Texans

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.

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

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.

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:

Maverick County – Summary of Educational Contact

2010 South Texas White Tail Deer Management Outcome Summary - Maverick County

Relevance

With the increasing number of absentee landowners in Dimmit County and Maverick, there has been a decrease in the cattle operations in the counties. More and more emphases are being placed on wildlife management. Dimmit and Maverick Counties have long been known for producing high quality white tail deer, due to the abundance of native forbs and brose, thus the Dimmit County Range and Wildlife committee considered this a great topic for this year's outcome program.

Response

In addressing the need for the educational programs, Agents Griffin and Gonzales implemented four (4) educational programs addressing the following topics:

- *Habitat 101 - recognizing and identifying native plants, brush removal techniques & control burns
- *Habitat 102 - determining stocking rates for property, browse surveys, effects of summer & winter burns
- *Aging & Scoring - Boon and Crocket Scoring, scoring white tail & mule deer, & prong horned antelope
- *Food Plots - soil surveys, forages suitable for South Texas, when to plant, & planting for the desired species

Results

The pre to post test analysis revealed:

- *98% of the individuals were completely satisfied with the program, including location, speakers, and speakers' knowledge.
- *99% of the individuals would recommend the programs attended to others
- *75% respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information received
- *73.6% of the individuals correlated the programs benefit with a direct economic impact to their practices *78% of individuals had an increase in knowledge of plant identification
- *86% of the individuals had an increase in knowledge on how to conduct a browse survey
- *71% had an increase in knowledge on the usefulness of brows surveys and their importance
- *95% of the individuals had an increase in knowledge on how to score white tail deer

Target audience consisted of the following:

- *49 individuals, 95% Male 5% Female
- *43% Anglo, 57% Hispanic, 2% Asian

Future Plans: This educational program has been put on hold until there is an agent in the county.

Output Program Summary for Maverick County

Maverick County General ANR Contacts

Maverick County Agriculture Plan Provided a number of programs for the producers of Maverick County. Programs consisted of the Following:

Private Applicator Training	(2)
Last Chance CEU Training	(2)
Site Visits	(88)
Individual Consultations	(34)
Texas Fever Tick Awareness meeting	(1)

2010 Maverick County General ANR Plan: This plan was conducted in order to assist landowners and home owners in the county with horticulture questions.

Relevance: Due to our geographical location, and distance from nurseries and landscaping maintenance companies, numerous questions are fielded by the County Extension Agent for the Clientele of Maverick County.

Response: The Agent assisted landowners and home owners by answering questions via telephone, office visits, and making numerous site visits in order to assist clientele with questions on trees, shrubs, lawns, and insects. Agent was able to assist individuals with numerous problems, many of which were caused by drought. Agent conducted Private applicator training, in order to assist both homeowners and producers with the need for gaining a private applicator license to assist them in purchasing the needed herbicides to maintain their desired botanicals. Agent offers opportunities for individual to attend CEU trainings Two Time a year to assist licensed individuals with their needed credits.

Future Plans: Agent will continue to offer private applicator trainings, along with CEU opportunities in the County. Site visits and phone calls will be answered in order to assist clientele with problems as they arise.

Outcome Programs Summary for Maverick County

South Texas Buckskin Brigade

Relevance

More than ever, today's youth are the future of tomorrow and need to develop an understanding, an appreciation, and a true desire to conserve our renewable natural resources. The world only has so many acres of land for which we, as humans, can live. We must also be Stewards of our natural resources and protect them for use for future generations.

Response

The Texas Brigade's mission is to empower high school youth with the necessary skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries, and habitat conservation, land stewardship, team-building, communication, and leadership to become ambassadors for conservation in order to ensure a sustained wildlife and fisheries legacy for future generations. The Brigades were formed as a dream by Dr. Dale Rollins. Several county extension agents, and wildlife enthusiasts provide a week long summer education experience to promote wildlife conservation in Texas. The South Texas Buckskin Brigade is a camp that has survived the test of time and endures as one of the five most prestigious, state-recognized, natural resource youth camps in Texas. The South Texas Brigades Committee has planned, implemented and evaluated the South Texas Buckskin Brigade Camp for eleven years. Two meetings were held in Pearsall Texas to review the camp schedule, plan for fundraising, coordinate responsibilities from speakers, housing, recruit selection, food and meal preparation, site preparation, room inspections, travel, emergency management, herd leader selection, scholarship selection and the camp dedication.

Results

This year marks the 11th year of the South Texas Buckskin Brigade Camp. During this year's camp agent responsibilities included program presentations, site preparations, spot light deer census, presenting special presentations/mock educational programs, silver bullets, cadences, room inspections, meal selection and preparation, antler scoring, aging deer by teeth ware on the jaw bone, plant identification, and range conservation. Agents from Atascosa, Frio, Dimmit, Live Oak, Maverick, and Duval Counties provided Leadership to the camps, each of these counties also recruited and had youth participants from there counties attend a brigades camp. Two of the counties had youth that were selected as assistant herd leaders at the Buckskin Brigades Camp. Several youth also participated in one of the other brigades camps offered last year. A pre-test and post- test were given to each youth attending (30) ,camps each year.

A sample of the questions on the test include:

1. Which of the following does not represent a “stomach or chamber” of the ruminant digestive system?
a. Omasum b. abomasum c. ileum d. rumen e. reticulum
2. What is the most critical nutrient necessary for deer to survive?
a. Protein b. energy c. minerals d. water
3. The highest population of white-tailed deer in North America occurred during which of the following years:
a. 1500 b. 1800 c. 1900 d. 2000 e. 2010
4. A decreasing level in the blood of which hormone causes a deer to shed its antlers?
a. Melatonin b. growth hormone c. xanthophyll d. testosterone
5. How many teeth does an adult deer normally have?
a. 24 b. 32 c. 36 d. 42

Results of this years camp pretest was 50% Correct, post Test 77%, - a 27% increase in Knowledge.

The Texas AgriLife Extension Agents and specialists providing leadership to the South Texas Buckskin and South Texas Bobwhite Brigades included Dale Rankin, Larry Perez, Jim Gallagher, Omar Gonzales, Richie Griffen, Jeff Hanselka, Jaime Lopez, Larry Peirce, and Joe Taylor.

Output Program Summary for Maverick County

2010 Maverick County 4-H Program Administration

Relevance: The management of the 4-H Program in tells much consideration to details, organizing volunteers, and delegating job responsibilities to individuals that can follow through with the given tasks.

Response: This years management of the 4-H program consisted of numerous activities that included: Monthly newsletters, news articles, news releases, marketing events, checking youths eligibility, livestock show committee meetings, project group meetings, fundraising, and most importantly interpreting events to key stake holders.

Results: Results from the management plan include the following: Newsletters were sent monthly to all youth enrolled in the Maverick County 4-H program, 4-h events were marketed through club meetings, newsletters, and local newspaper, project groups and livestock associations meet as needed in order to plan and implement programs, and fundraisers which included: BBQ luncheon at the Maverick County Livestock Show, Border Blowout Prospect Show. Interpretation has been done monthly to commissioners' court in written form. Fundraising efforts this year included \$6,500 profit form the BBQ luncheon and the Border Blowout prospect show. Monies from these fundraiser will be used to assist youth in paying entries for district and State 4-H events, and hotel accommodations at these events.

Future Plans: Maverick County AgriLIFE extension will continue marketing and interpreting highlight of programs in the county. Scholarship accounts will continue to build in order to assist graduating youth with financial assistance for higher learning. Volunteer involvement will continue to grow, as our ever-changing responses to emerging issues emerge.

2010 Maverick County 4-H Curriculum and Projects: The amount of project and curriculum implemented in Maverick County is constantly growing. Youth have a wide array of different projects and activities to choose from.

Relevance: As time changes, so do youth interests. Keeping a blend of core programs and incorporating new programs can be a challenge with leaders that are set in the paradigms. Finding ways to evoke change and make it appealing to our volunteers is the key to success.

Response: Projects this year consisted of the following: photography, food and nutrition, clothing, horse, livestock (sheep, meat goat, dairy goat, beef, swine, rabbit, poultry), livestock judging and water. Youth were given the opportunity throughout the year to take part in these projects, in order to further their knowledge and gain valuable like skills.

4-H and Youth Development



Results: As a result of the previously listed projects, youth had the opportunity to compete at the local level, district level, and some advance to state competition. With the exception of Clothing, Maverick County has been represented at all major contest offered by the district with youth competing and accomplishing great recognition. Youth have also participated in the following Major Livestock Show: San Antonio Livestock Show, Houston Livestock Show, Star of Texas Fair, and the State Fair of Texas. Along with competition, youth have had the opportunity to attend clinics and workshops at the local level in order to help them achieve their goals.

Future Plans: Maverick County will continue to look for new programs to bring to the youth in order to find new niche markets for clientele, along with retaining core programs that have been a staple in the 4-H Program.

2010 Maverick County 4-H Leadership and Volunteer Development: Leaders and youth gained leadership skills through trainings and events that were offered at county and district level.

Relevance: In order to develop leaders of tomorrow, leadership training is key for our youth. The opportunity to empower youth to make decision, delegate responsibilities, and follow through with commitments is essential in developing these leadership skills.

Response: Maverick County AgriLIFE Extension meet with parent leaders group monthly in order to gather input on upcoming events such as awards night, club meeting, county events, fundraising opportunities, and our Border Blowout Prospect Show. Leaders were able to voice opinions and concerns on these events and agent stepped back and took more of an advisor roll this year. Ownership of the program was felt from the Parent Leaders whom assisted in planning and implementing programs. Maverick county Council meets in order to plan events such as the awards night and the Maverick County 4-h Recreation Day.

Results: The Maverick County 4-H Council members have taken on more leadership roles in their individual clubs, and are conducting more effective club meetings due to the trainings and encouragement they have received from volunteers and extension staff.

Leadership opportunities were marketed through the Maverick County 4-H Newsletter, giving youth the opportunity to take part in such programs. As a result 2 youth 4-H members attended District 12 4-H Leadership Lab, and 2 more youth served as voting delegates at District 12 4-H Election Convention.

Future Plans: Maverick County AgriLIFE Extension would like to continue to strengthen the Maverick County 4-h Council and give them the tools to make them a productive group that thrives to make the best better.

Resource Development

Maverick County Junior Livestock Show:

The 2010 Maverick County Junior Livestock Show generated over \$200,000 for the youth of Maverick County. Youth had the opportunity to sell show projects at the conclusion of the show. Funds were generated from donors in and around Maverick County.

Maverick County 4-H Concession Stand:

Traditionally the Maverick County 4-H has had the concession stand during the week of the MCJLS. This year was no different. Organized by Parent leaders and run by volunteers during the show the Concession Stand showed a profit of over \$2,500.

Maverick County 4-H Brisket plate Sale:

Maverick County 4-H has traditionally held a brisket plate sale on the final day of the Maverick County Junior Livestock Show. This year there were over 1100 tickets sold which grossed over \$5,500 and netted nearly \$4,000 in profits thanks to donors and volunteers working together.

Border Blowout Prospect Show:

The Border Blowout Prospect Show generated \$1,200 for the Maverick County 4-H program. More than \$1,500 in donations were received to help offset the cost of the awards and prizes.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service Maverick County

Staff:

No agent at time of report

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