



Extension Education in Jim Hogg County

Making a Difference

2014

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has long been dedicated to educating Texans. Extension education evolved nationwide under the 1914 federal Smith-Lever Act, which sought to extend university knowledge and agricultural research findings directly to the people. Ever since, Extension programs have addressed the emerging issues of the day, reaching diverse rural and urban populations.

In Texas, all 254 counties are served by a well-organized network of professional Extension educators and some 100,000 trained volunteers. Extension expertise and educational outreach pertain to the food and fiber industry, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, nutrition and health, and community economic development.

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Providing Solutions*

Among those served are hundreds of thousands of young people who benefit annually from Extension's 4-H and youth development programs.

Texans turn to Extension education for solutions. Extension agents and specialists respond not only with answers, but also with resources and services that result in significant returns on the public's investment. Extension programs are custom-designed for each region of the state, with residents providing input and help with program delivery. Here are just a few highlights of Extension impacts on this county and its people.

Jim Hogg County – Summary of 2014 Educational Contacts

- **Total Educational Programs Conducted: 108**
- **Total Participants: 2,816**
- **Contact hours via Educational Programs: 14,376.50**
- **4-H Members: 100**
- **4-H Leaders: 1**
- **4-H Clubs: 1**
- **Curriculum Enrichment Participants: 0**
- **4-H Special Interest Participants: 0**
- **Office Visits: 55**
- **Site Visits: 194**
- **Phone Calls: 158**
- **Mail/Email Contacts: 183**
- **Newsletters Contacts: 445**
- **Web Contacts: 837**
- **News Releases: 10**

2014 General Agriculture Plan

Plan Summary Report

Date of Summary: November 25th, 2014

Relevance: Community members of Jim Hogg County range from home-owners with a small garden, to cattle producers, to ranch owners with hundreds of acres. It is important that this agent promote and encourage further education on agricultural topics effecting Jim Hogg County. In order to facilitate the agricultural needs of Jim Hogg County, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service: Jim Hogg County participated and offered the opportunity to be involved with a variety of professional and education agricultural seminars and conventions. Specifically in the areas of wildlife management and cattle operations, these seminars offered both residents of Jim Hogg County and this agent to further their education.

The primary issue affecting everyone is the water availability and quality. This agent performed a water screening program in order for residents around Jim Hogg County to test their water quality. Jim Hogg County has struggled with arsenic in the water supply for countless years. Not to mention the tendencies for high nitrates and salinity, as well. It was Imperative that this agent communicates the importance of all residents to test their water. This agent, along with other agents in surrounding counties performed a water screening for residents in their counties. Jim Hogg County had 8 participants for the water screening program. Of these 8 participants this agent received feedback from 4 of the participants. This feedback communicated to the agent that the participants feel that this program has had an estimated value of \$251-\$1,000. These results increase knowledge of drinking filtered water, importance of annual water screening, and awareness of the risks of drinking contaminated water. The water quality issue was identified by the previous Texas Community Futures Forum. All community members who live in Jim Hogg County are included as the target audience for the water testing program.

This plan allowed for this agent to become involved in the agricultural sector of Jim Hogg County, particularly the Wildlife side. This agent furthered her education by attending educational seminars, meeting with Texas A&M Extension Specialists, and writing agricultural news articles to better communicate the agricultural happenings in Jim Hogg County.

The goal of this plan was to offer educational, issue identifying, and relevant programs that benefited the members of Jim Hogg County.

Response: The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County participated, attended, and assisted with the following activities in order to address this relevant topic:

- Attendance of Texas Wildlife Association Summer Convention
- Range Specialist Site Visitations
- USDA: NRCS Local Soil and Water Conservation District Monthly Meeting
 - County Agent Report

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Quail Coalition
- Quail Masters
- Water Quality Screening (8 Participants)
- Attendance of Frio County Peanut Tour
- Weekly Crop Reports
- Monthly Agricultural News Articles
- Leadership Advisory Board Formation

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County would like to recognize the cooperation with the USDA: NRCS Soil and Water Conservation District, Texas A&M Extension Range Specialist: Dr. Megan Clayton, USDA: NRCS Agent, and Jim Hogg County Adult Leadership Advisory Board.

Results: The results of these programs and opportunities allowed for further education for not only community members of Jim Hogg County, but also this Agriculture and Natural Resource Agent. This agent increased her knowledge by attending professional and educational seminars and conventions, specifically in the area of Wildlife and Fisheries and cattle operations.

Members of Jim Hogg County had the educational opportunities to get their water screened for Nitrates, Salinity, Arsenic, and Bacteria Presence. This program was put in place to respond to the identified issue of water quality. There were a total of 8 participants who turned in water samples to the Jim Hogg County Extension Office. Out of the 8 participants, 4 of the 8 (50%) returned the survey to the Extension office.

The first section focused on the knowledge of annual water screening:

- Yes: 0%
- No: 100%

The second section focused on if the results are NOT within drinking water standards, do they plan on correcting it?

- Yes: 75%
- No: 25%

The third section focused on the primary use of the water sample that was tested:

- Human Consumption: 25%
- Livestock: 50%
- Irrigation: 25%

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The fourth section focused on the estimated value of the program

- Same Value (\$100-\$250): 25%
- Considerable (\$251-\$1,000): 75%
- Tremendous (\$1,001 or More): 0%

Summary of Results: These results show that this agent met the goal to address the water quality issue identified by Jim Hogg County. 75% of participants expressed, through the survey, that they would apply changes in order to address issues with their drinking water. This program has a majority value of \$251-\$1,000 to its participants. It is important to this agent to promote this program in 2015 in order to encourage annual water screening from participants in Jim Hogg County.

Acknowledgments: A special thanks to district 12 agents (Kleburg/Kenedy, Live Oak, and Jim Wells) that provided guidance to myself as a new agent and assistance with performing the water screening. An additional thank you to Rogelio Mercado's (Jim Wells County) Beef Committee for providing the water screening materials.

Future Program Activities: This agent plans on expanding this program by making this plan a multi-county plan for 2015, including a follow-up educational program about water quality and conservation, and receiving at least five more participants in the program.

2014 Youth Agriculture and Natural Resources and Livestock Plan **Developed by Sophie Judson, Jim Hogg Extension Agent- Ag**

Date of Summary: December 2nd, 2014

Relevance: The identified issue, Youth Livestock Projects, is addressed through the county by encouraging youth to participate in the Jim Hogg County Fair. With the help of the Jim Hogg County Fair Board the Agriculture Agent can attend monthly meetings in order to learn more about the identified issue. By promoting state validation, major livestock show opportunities, and county livestock show, the Agriculture Agent can increase the knowledge of what benefits come from showing livestock.

Response: The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County participated, attended, and assisted with the following activities in order to address this relevant topic:

- Jim Hogg County Fair Board Monthly Meetings
- Jim Hogg County Fair Validation (Lamb, Goat, Swine)
- State Validation (Heifer, Lamb, Goat, Swine)
- Jim Wells County Livestock Project Clinic
- Project Visitations

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Species Committee Meetings
- Flyer Promotion
- Hebbronville 4-H Social Media Promotion
- News article Promotion

Results: The Agriculture agent promoted and encouraged further education about livestock projects throughout Jim Hogg County. Youth livestock exhibitors participated in Livestock Project Clinics and validations to learn more about their projects. The promotion and advertisement has opened the eyes of other families who are interested showing livestock with their youth.

Acknowledgment: The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County would like to recognize the cooperation with the Jim Hogg County Fair Board members for helping with community service events, assistance with validations, and assistance to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent.

Future Program Activities: The Agricultural agent plans on continuing the professional relationship with the Jim Hogg County Fair Board members and looks forward to the Agriculture Agents first Jim Hogg County Fair. It is important that this Agriculture Agent help improve numbers of youth showing livestock at the county level and state level.

2014 Jim Hogg County General FCS Contacts Plan

Plan Summary Report

Date of Summary: December 2nd, 2014

Relevance: Jim Hogg County does not have a Family and Consumer Science agent. As a result, the Agriculture agent has made contacts with the Jim Hogg County Nutrition Center and Food Pantry and School District to address issues as they surface in Jim Hogg County.

Response: Jim Hogg County AgriLife Extension Service and the Hebbronville 4-H paired together for the One Day 4-H program for a can food drive to be donated to the Jim Hogg County Food Pantry. This agriculture agent has also contacted the Hebbronville High School Counselor in order to help organize an alcohol awareness program for the high school youth of Jim Hogg County.

Results: The Agriculture agent made her contacts to the appropriate contacts in order to accomplish the goal of making contact with Jim Hogg County Family and Consumer Science resources. These phone calls, site visits, and time spent getting to know individuals involved in either of these contacts will help further development and involvement between these resources and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

Acknowledgment: An appreciation to the administrative staff at Jim Hogg County ISD and Jim Hogg County Nutrition Center Staff for their time and commitment to work with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County.

Future Program Activities: The Agricultural agent plans on continuing the professional relationship with the Jim Hogg County Nutrition Center. As well as, working with the Hebbronville High School Administrative staff to help organize an Alcohol Awareness Program.

2014 New Agent Plan

Plan Summary Report

Date of Summary: December 2nd, 2014

Relevance: This Agricultural Agent was hired officially in June. During the first month of employment, this agent experienced many different county programs, District 4-H Events, and almost all district 12 agents. The trainings that this Agricultural Agent attended is important for professional development, knowledge of job responsibilities, and confidence to perform the duties expected of a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension County Agent.

Response: The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension County Agent in Jim Hogg County participated in the following trainings and professional development programs to prepare this agent.

- Orientation at District 12 Office
- District 12 County Office Visitations
- Range Specialist Training and Visitation
- 4-H Specialist Orientation
- District 12 Horse Show
- Frio County Steer Validation
- Leadership LAB
- Election Convention
- 1st Step/Onboarding Training
- 3 Month Evaluation
- Program Excellence Academy 1

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jim Hogg County would like to recognize the cooperation of all District 12 Agents who welcomed and help train this agent. Without their dedicated time and effort, this agent would not feel as confident about being a successful Texas A&M AgriLife County Agent.

Results: The results of the programs and trainings that this agent attended are the direct reflection of how this agent has adapted to being an Agriculture and Natural Resources County Agent. The trainings and programs have been full of information, examples, and resources to contact. This agent has applied many of the suggestions and used many resources to help herself become an efficient, knowledgeable, and confident County Agent.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Jim Hogg County

Personnel

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4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Making a Difference in

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

Annual 4-H Program Summary

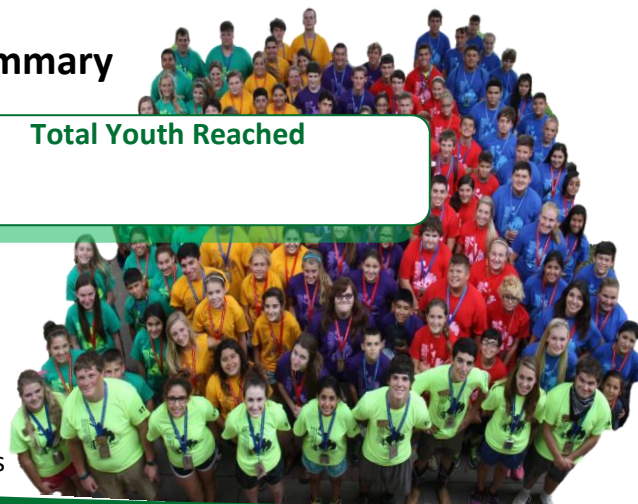
County 4-H Youth Involvement

Chartered Community Clubs
Members Enrolled in 4-H Clubs
Youth Reached through Community-based Programs
Youth Reached through School-Based Enrichment Curriculum

County 4-H Leadership, Advisory, and Support Organizations

Youth Board Members attended Meetings
County 4-H Council Members attended Meetings
Adult Leaders & Parents Organization Members attended Mtgs

Total Youth Reached



of Youth Attending

Participation in County 4-H Events

County Participation in District Events

County Participation in State/National Events

Most Popular Club Projects in the County

Most Popular Curriculum in the County

County 4-H Volunteer Support

Registered & Screened Volunteers Supporting Clubs
Club Managers, Co-Managers, and Project Leaders
Hours Contributed by Volunteers in Support of Clubs

Livestock Show Premium Sale Proceeds*

Includes all projects (4-H and FFA)

Value of Volunteer Time Supporting 4-H



County 4-H Leadership & Personal Development Programs

Attended State-level Leadership & Personal Development educational or competitive events
Attended District-level Leadership & Personal Development educational or competitive events
Attended District Leadership Lab
Received 4-H Scholarships valued at a total of

Local Training Opportunities for Youth and Adults

Significant Leadership & Personal Development accomplishments from county Events & Activities

County 4-H Agriculture & Natural Resource Programs

Livestock Projects (all species)
Participated in County Livestock Shows
Attended State-level Livestock Shows
Attended District-level Agriculture & Natural Resources educational or competitive events
Youth Trained through "Quality Counts" Program

Local Training Opportunities for Youth and Adults

Significant Agriculture & Natural Resource accomplishments from county Events & Activities

County 4-H Family & Consumer Science Programs

Attended State-level educational or competitive events
Attended District-level educational or competitive events

Local Training Opportunities for Youth and Adults

Significant Family & Consumer Science accomplishments from county Events & Activities