

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

RESEARCH AND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Langston University

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Certification:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------|
| A. | Planned Programs | 3-9 |
| | Goal 1: An Agricultural System that is Highly Competitive in the Global Economy | 3-5 |
| | Key Theme - Animal Production Efficiency | 3-4 |
| | Key Theme -Aquaculture..... | 4 |
| | Key Theme - Animal Production Efficiency | 5 |
| | Goal 3: A Healthy, Well-nourished Population | 5-6 |
| | Key Theme – Human Nutrition..... | 6 |
| | Goal 4: Greater Harmony between Agriculture and the Environment | 6-7 |
| | Key Theme - Sustainable Agriculture | 7 |
| | Goal 5: Enhanced Economic Opportunity and Quality of Life for Americans | 7-9 |
| | Key Theme - Literacy..... | 8 |
| | Key Theme – Character/Ethics Education..... | 9 |
| B. | Stakeholder Input Process..... | 9 |
| C. | Program Review Process | 9 |
| D. | Evaluation of the Success of Multi and Joint Activities | 10 |

A. Planned Programs

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| National Goal 1 |
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An agricultural system that is highly competitive in the global economy. Through research and education, empower the agricultural system with knowledge that will improve the competitiveness in domestic production, processing, and marketing.

Overview

Langston University Research and Extension continue to carry out programs/projects designed to make our clientele highly competitive in a global economy. Research personnel are addressing nutritional needs of goats. Knowledge regarding nutritional requirements of goats lags far behind the knowledge of cattle and sheep nutrition. Nutritional needs of goats impact the goat industry in other areas such as reproduction, breed or biological type, internal parasitism, growth rate and overall management. Results from this research will help goat producers to increase the level and efficiency of their goat herds' productivity.

A very important factor in meat goat production is the growth rate efficiency of kids. Langston University Cooperative Extension personnel have developed a meat buck performance test to determine growth rate efficiency in goat kids. The test allows identification of genetically superior meat goat lines. Use of genetically superior meat goat lines has helped some Oklahoma producers to become more competitive in meat goat production. An internet-based system for calculating goat nutritional needs has been developed and launched. This website will provide needed nutritional information to goat producers at the click of a keyboard button.

An aquaculture project is examining alternative production methods, species and markets for fish farmers. In Oklahoma, over 80% of reported aquaculture income is from channel catfish. Additional alternative markets are being examined to help boost channel catfish sales. Polyculture is being studied as an alternative method for helping aquaculture producers to increase their earnings. Work is also being conducted to reduce pond fish mortality rates by providing more oxygen in ponds via diffuser aeration systems.

Total FY 2004 Expenditures and Full-time Equivalent (FTE) for Reported Projects

Smith-Lever: \$25,000 FTE: 3.06

Evans-Allen: \$69,150 FTE: 8.8

Key Theme – Animal Production Efficiency (Research)

- a. Knowledge regarding goat production lags behind that for other ruminant species such as cattle and sheep. It is with this premise in mind that the general objectives

of these projects were to study goat nutrient requirements, management practices and production systems in order to increase the level of production efficiency in goats. In one project, a simulation model was developed to enhance goat production efficiency.

- b. **Impact** – Goat enterprises are important components of many farms and farming systems in the United States, particularly small and resource-poor units. In addition, there are growing numbers of farms where sales of goats or goat products provide a sizeable amount of on-farm income and some large operations have added goats to their more conventional production systems to benefit from the unique feeding habits of goats. This project has assisted some goat producers in improving their management practices and the overall production efficiencies of their goat enterprises.

Enhanced management of goats through the computer simulation model has resulted in increases in profits for goat producers. The profits have come from decreased feed costs in some instances; and in other instances from greater productivity that simply off-sets production costs.

- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Evans-Allen
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Oklahoma/the United States

Key Theme – Aquaculture (Extension)

- a. Channel catfish is the primary aquaculture crop in the United States. Approximately 600 million pounds of channel catfish were processed nationwide in 2001. However, most small catfish farmers can not afford to sell their catfish to a processor as the proverbial middleman. Producer income via processors is at its lowest level in a decade. Farmers must reduce production costs in order to sell their fish at a profit. Alternative markets or marketing methods need to be identified and used to increase sales of channel catfish.
- b. **Impact** – In response to this project, two Oklahoma catfish farms are now selling more catfish on regular retail deliveries to urban centers. These producers are also developing their production schedules to produce larger quantities of large (> 3 pounds) catfish to meet these new markets. In response to this project, two minority clients are now operating catfish delivery/broker businesses. This project has inspired entrepreneurship in the minority community. Also, in response to the marketing component of this project, Oklahoma now has a full-time fish broker. He specializes in buying, selling and delivering large channel catfish directly to fish consumers and to markets in Oklahoma.
- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Oklahoma and Southern United States.

Key Theme – Animal Production Efficiency (Extension)

- a. A very important factor in meat goat production is the growth rate efficiency of goat kids. Objective performance records are needed when making sound genetic selections to improve average daily gain and/or feed efficiency in goat herds. In order to compare animals from different ranches or environments, a central performance meat buck testing site was developed at Langston University.
- b. **Impact** – Over an eight-year period in which meat buck performance tests have been conducted, meat goat producers have been able to purchase performance – tested bucks via a public auction. Some producers improved the genetics of their meat goat herds resulting in higher profits during 2004. One producer who purchased a performance-tested buck reported an increase in profits of \$9.45/goat at the market.
- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Oklahoma/the United States

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| National Goal 3 |
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A healthy, well-nourished population. Through research and education on nutrition and development of more nutritious foods, enable people to make health promoting choices.

Overview

Obesity is the number one malnutrition problem in the United States today. Studies show that individuals who are 20 percent or more overweight run an elevated risk of developing diabetes mellitus, hypertension, coronary heart disease, stroke, arthritis, and some forms of cancer. The two main factors contributing to overweightness and obesity are hereditary and environmental. Two additional contribution factors include lifestyle and eating patterns.

Nutrition wellness programs were conducted by Langston University personnel for clientele in Oklahoma counties. 4-H Youth Development staff collaborated with other organizations to provide educational programs to youth and adults in underserved areas. These programs were beneficial to all participants. Food selection, preparation, and exercise practices were key components of the presentations. The programs were instrumental in reaching youth and adults attending health fairs, workshops and educational events.

Total FY 2004 Expenditures and Full-time Equivalent (FTE) for Reported Projects

Smith-Lever: \$2,000

FTE: 0.05

Key Theme – Human Nutrition (Extension)

- a. Good nutrition and exercise are key ingredients needed for good health among youth and adults. The objective of this project is to provide nutrition education and exercise programs to clientele, and encourage them to adopt these health-conscience regiments.
- b. **Impact** – Participants reported that these programs increased their knowledge of the importance of consuming healthy foods and developing a healthy diet. They expressed appreciation that these sessions have helped them to select, prepare, and maintain foods that are more nutritious. During this program, several participants stated that they had previously been diagnosed with obesity, diabetes, arthritis, hypertension, or other ailments. Participants decreased their weight and improved their overall health by participating in the exercise and Healthy You Programs. In 2004, participants indicated that as a result of this program they have experienced weight loss, stress reduction, feel healthier and make better decisions concerning their health and well-being.
- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** - Oklahoma

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| <p>National Goal 4</p> |
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Greater harmony between agriculture and the environment. Enhance the quality of the environment through better understanding of and building on agriculture's and forestry's complex links with soil, water, air, and biotic resources.

Overview

Ponds and their watersheds are natural resources that are often under-utilized and mismanaged. Owners are pursuing opportunities to improve recreational angling in their ponds and home food fish production. Pond owners are also interested in environmental issues such as pond aesthetic value through aquatic vegetation control, erosion control, ornamental plantings and clearing of muddy water.

Total FY 2004 Expenditures and Full-time Equivalents (FTE) for Reported Projects

Smith-Lever: \$ 20,000

FTE: 1.05

Key Theme – Sustainable Agriculture (Extension)

- a. We have provided extension education to pond owners associations, agricultural organizations and individual pond owners. Workshops are conducted literally in the pond. The pond is seined and fish populations are discussed as well as pond maintenance, aquatic vegetation control and watershed management to improve water quality. Workshops are held in collaboration with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Oklahoma Land Owners and Tenants Association (TOLTA), an organization of limited resource land owners. Many pond owners attending these workshops request individual pond consultations. A Pond Owner's Magazine on the internet has been developed to respond to clientele requests. Rural pond owners are encouraged to consider aquaculture opportunities as a means of increasing their farm income.
- b. **Impact** – A pond and watershed management workshop was presented to a group of commercial Poultry producers in Stillwell, OK. Producers were shown directly how poultry litter applications in pastures affected water quality and fish production in their ponds. Poultry producers were shown methods to prevent or reduce problems caused by excessive nutrient loading in the watershed. Many poultry producers also were avid anglers and planned to implement litter-free buffer zones around ponds to protect and enhance sport fishing opportunities. Producers expressed interest in commercial aquaculture as an additional part of their farm enterprise. Research into synergistic poultry/fish polycultures could yield possible solutions to the continuing problems associated with poultry litter disposal.
- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Oklahoma/the United States

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| <p>National Goal 5</p> |
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Enhanced economic opportunity and quality of life for Americans. Empower people and communities, through research-based information and education, to address economic and social challenges facing our youth, families, and communities.

Overview

Langston University Cooperative Extension personnel are implementing programs to enhance economic opportunities and quality of life for Americans. A quality education is perhaps the

greatest avenue for enhancing future economic opportunities for youth. One of the most glaring obstacles to many youth becoming high achievers in school is poor reading skills. The Cooperative Extension 4-H reading program is achieving success in enhancing youth participants' reading skills. Other programs are also enhancing youths' mathematic skills and appreciation of the arts.

Where have all the good manners gone? Perhaps they disappeared along with many other positive family values. Langston University Cooperative Extension is addressing what has been labeled as being "a bad manners epidemic". According to a U.S. News and World Report Survey: 78% of the nation's population feel that rudeness has worsened in the past 10 years; 90% of the population feel that rudeness has contributed to increased violence; and 85% of the population feel that rudeness divides the national community.

Total FY 2004 Expenditures and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE for Reported Projects)

Smith Lever: \$ 16,000 FTE: 1.00

Key Theme – Literacy (Extension)

- a. Economically disadvantaged youth are less likely than affluent youth to have access to quality after-school or out of school programs. According to a longitudinal study sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, 40% of low-income eight graders compared with only 17% of high-income respondents do not participate in organized after-school activities. Access, not interest, is the issue. Surveys of American youth suggest that children want to participate in well-designed, organized after-school programs.

Several organizations worked collaboratively with the Langston University Cooperative Extension-Outreach Staff to design and administer quality 4-H after-school and out of school educational programs for school age children in selected rural and urban Oklahoma communities throughout the state. This past year, exciting, educational programs were made accessible to children through youth literacy programs.

- b. **Impact** – The after-school and summer literacy program provided nearly year-round supplemental education for participating students. Program evaluations completed by parents indicated some of the impacts of this program on our students. Parents reported that the program provided their children with a safe learning environment where reading, mathematics and other subjects taught in the regular school system were reinforced. Parents also reported that the camp helped their children to develop a greater interest in recreational reading. Public school teachers reported that the camp helped to reduce the "summer slide effect" and that participants returned to school in the fall better prepared to perform academically.

- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Central Oklahoma

Key Theme – Character/Ethics Education (Extension)

- a. The Langston University Cooperative Extension Program provided workshops for youth groups on educational materials and resources in the area of manners/etiquette. Workshops included posters, videotapes, books, newspaper and magazine articles and cartoons. Each participant received a resource packet to take home. The objective of this program is to enhance the character and civility of participating students through manners/etiquette training.
- b. **Impact** - It is our goal that through the educational information presented in this program, youth and adults will be better prepared for social situations. They will be better prepared to develop life-long habits of courtesy, respect, consideration for others and the people skills necessary for survival and success in the workplace and for strengthening individual and family relationships. Proper etiquette often plays an important role in the job interview process and even in career advancement. Some parents of youth who participated in the etiquette sessions stated that they have seen improvements in their children's table etiquette and behavior. This has especially been appreciated by the parents of youth participating in school athletics and other activities that have formal banquets.
- c. **Source of Federal Funds:** Smith-Lever
- d. **Scope of Impact** – Central Oklahoma

B. Stakeholder Input Process

Projects, programs and priorities of Cooperative Extension and Research at Langston University are strongly impacted by stakeholder input. Input from our stakeholders is an ongoing process. That process includes the following methods:

- Input from advisory boards
- Input during and following Research & Extension Field Days
- Stakeholder surveys

C. Program Review Process

There have not been any significant changes in the program review process since submission of the 5-year Plan of Work (1999-2004).

D. Evaluation of the Success of Multi and Joint Activities.

Multi and Joint activities include the following:

Dairy Herd Improvement Association Laboratory

A national Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) Laboratory has been in existence for a number of years. Research has shown that when the laboratory instruments are calibrated with a cow milk standard and then goat milk is tested, there is a 29% increase in somatic cells, a .27% decrease in protein and a .04% decrease in butterfat from the actual values. The records produced by the DHI labs across the country are used to identify high producing does. These records are also useful in the exportation of these does to foreign countries. In the past, incorrect records were causing goat producers to lose money on the resale value of their does and offspring. Langston University established a certified DHIA laboratory that calibrates instruments using a goat milk standard. We have also worked in cooperation with Texas A&M University to write a program that utilizes goat language. Goat producers are now able to get records for their animals that reflect accurate information with the correct language. These records not only reflect higher fat and protein values for a doe, but also are easier to understand when dealing with importers from foreign countries. Currently, we are serving a 35 state area that includes a majority of the eastern states.