

2011

ANNUAL REPORT



**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
EXTENSION**

**STODDARD COUNTY
EXTENSION COUNCIL**

Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the United States of America.

ANNUAL REPORT

2011

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History of the Stoddard County Extension Service

Extension work began in Stoddard County on January 1, 1918. It was originated nationally by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 to extend Agricultural and Home Economics information to the people of the United States and to promote the use of this information. The Missouri Extension Service personnel were responsible for making information, developed through research programs conducted by the University of Missouri and the US Department of Agriculture, available to people throughout the state.

After a rather meager beginning, Extension made substantial progress in-so-far as becoming established, and acceptance by the people during the 1930's. A staffing pattern which was to last for a number of years was established in the meantime. A county agent was administratively responsible for the overall county Extension program. A Home Demonstration Agent was primarily responsible for Home economic phases of the program. An assistant county agent assumed primary responsibility for the 4-H Club program.

The emergency situation created by World War II did much to develop an awareness among people in general of the benefits of Extension when major emphasis was devoted to the maximum use of farm resources to produce the necessary food and fiber to support the people of the nation. In addition to educational programs to maximum crop and livestock production, special programs were conducted, preservation and utilization.

After the war, Extension responded to the growing awareness and the urgent need among people for the increased use of improved technology in their farming and homemaking methods by the introduction of two new programs. One was the organization of a Balanced Farming Association, a farm management organization, in which an agent worked with member families to help them increase their efficiency of farm production and family living through the use of technology and improved management. The other was the establishment of a county soil testing laboratory to increase soil improvement and crop production efficiency.

During the late 1950's, a new specialized area approach to Extension Work was introduced. Agents were assigned to a multi-county area, beginning with the addition of a Horticulture agent to serve the six Bootheel counties. Later, all the Bootheel county soil laboratories were combined to form an area soil laboratory, and a soils agent was added to the staff. As soon as facilities were available, the soils agent and laboratory were headquartered at the University of Missouri Delta Center, the research and Extension Center for the Bootheel counties.

The transformation of Extension programs and personnel to the specialized area approach was completed during the 1960's when the Bootheel Area consisting of Stoddard, Scott, Mississippi, New Madrid, Dunklin, and Pemiscot Counties was established and all personnel were given area assignments. This followed a provision of the University of Missouri for Extension to make the resources of the University available to all people in the state.

As a result of this major change, the following Extension personnel have served Stoddard County over the years: Glenn Patton, Regional Director; Tom Stroup, Assistant Regional Director; Richard McCallum, Program Director and Continuing Education Specialist; *Jewel Grady, Clothing & Textiles Specialist; Mary Westcoat Engram, Child & Family Development Specialist; Rebecca Jennings, Family Economics & Management Specialist; Janet Kline, Food & Nutrition Specialist; Mary Lynn Jones Wright, Housing & Interior Design Specialist; **Robert E. Taylor, 4-H Youth Specialist; *John Yount, Farm Management Specialist; Edward Kowalski and Ray Nabors, Entomology Specialist; Richard McIntosh, Farm Management Specialist; Henry DiCarlo, Horticulture Specialist; Daniel Rosen, Ag Engineer Specialist; David Kelley, Livestock Specialist; Mike Cooper, 4-H Youth Specialist; **Tom Brown, Agronomy Specialist; **Phil Kelley, Community Development Specialist; A. B. Hale, 4-H Youth Specialist; *Peggy Eshleman, 4-H Youth Specialist; *Dee Goedke, 4-H Youth Specialist.

*Headquartered in Stoddard County

**County Program Director in Stoddard County

Extension personnel plan and conduct programs in their assigned subject matter categories based on needs existing in the area and desires of the local people. Methods used to get the needed information to people include meetings, short courses, newspapers, radio, television, and individual contacts with people including office and telephone calls, newsletters, emails and farm, home and business visits. Organizations such as the Stoddard county 4-H clubs serve as a medium for getting information to the people on a regular and continuing basis.

The original sponsoring organization for the county Extension program was a county Extension committee which was appointed by the county court. In 1938, the Stoddard County Farm Bureau was organized and assumed responsibility as Extension's sponsor. In 1955, the County Extension Council, the present day Extension supporter, was organized for this purpose in accordance with state law.

In the 1990's further changes were made. Ten counties from 2 previously known areas were merged with the old Bootheel area to form the newly named Southeast Region. These counties were from the old Southeast Area: Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, Iron, and Madison; and, the Ozark Foothills Area consisting of: Butler, Carter, Reynolds, Ripley and Wayne counties. Thomas A. Brown, Jr. served Stoddard County from July 1, 1949 to December 31, 1984 as Agronomy Specialist and County Agent/County Program Director.

John G. Yount, Farm Management Specialist, served Stoddard County from May 1952 until his retirement of December 31, 1985. John received the Agriculturalist Award in 1984.

In 1988, Jewel Grady retired after 20 years of service to Stoddard County. At the time of her retirement she held the title of Clothing & Textiles Specialist for the 6 Bootheel counties of the Southeast Region. She was best noted for her work with the Homemaker Clubs and the Regional Sew With Cotton program.

Robert E. (Bob) Taylor served Stoddard County 4-H Youth Specialist from 1975 to 1988 and returned

in 1994 as a Community Development Specialist at the Councils request and as the County Program Director until his retirement in 1999.

David Guethle transferred to Stoddard County as the Agronomy (Rice) Specialist in 1991 and served as such until his retirement August 31, 2011. During that time he served as the County Program Director from 1999 until 2005.

In 1991 area Extension specialists that had been headquartered at the Delta Center in Portageville were relocated to county offices. Phillip Kelley, Area Community Development was relocated to Stoddard County where he also served as County Program Director before his retirement. Van Ayers, Ag Engineer Specialist was placed part-time in the Stoddard County offices with an 8 county assignment. Van has since been placed full time in the county.



University of Missouri

The 2011 Extension Council Officers are: Delores Bailiff, Chair; Chris Rowland, Vice-Chair; Jennifer McMeans, Secretary, and: Jane Kingree, Treasurer



The current Staff located in the Stoddard County Extension Center is: Lesa Morrison, Secretary; Clara Green, 4-H Youth Specialist/County Program Director; and, Van Ayers, Rural Development Specialist. David Guethle retired Aug., 2011.

Van Ayers, came to the County as an Ag Engineering Specialist in 1998. The Extension Council changed the position to Rural Development Specialist in 2001. He received his doctorate degree in 2002.

Lesa Morrison, Office secretary, began her service with the Stoddard County office in January, 1997.

Clara B. Green, 4-H Youth Specialist/County Program Director, is a historic figure at the Stoddard County office and an unusual figure for Extension. She has completed 35 years in the Stoddard County office as of November 15. Clara started her Extension career as a call-in secretary in 1974, but her actual Extension career started in 1976 when the Small Farm Family program started and she became the programs secretary. She began a career in 4-H Youth work in 1981 as a 4-H Youth Program Assistant, serving in the position until the position of 4-H Youth Specialist came open in Stoddard County and she applied and was (2005) hired in the position. She covers Stoddard, Mississippi, New Madrid, and Pemiscot Counties. Since 2006 Clara has served as the County Program Director for the Stoddard County office, serving on state committees and local boards as well.



State Level II Winners – Camp Scholarships



State Level III Winners – State Congress Recipients



Heartland 4-H Campers from Stoddard County

LEADERS OF TOMORROW --- TODAY



State 4-H Teen Conference



January, 2012

To: Members of the Stoddard County Commission and Community

On behalf of the Stoddard County Extension Council and staff, we thank you for your investment in our attempts of bringing the research based programs of the University of Missouri to the doorsteps of the Stoddard County clientele and the surrounding areas that our staff serves.

Each of our council members shows representation from throughout the county, making it possible to insure that each town, rural area, adult and youth citizen are represented to the highest standard by programs that are of high-quality educational benefit to those individuals.

Enclosed in this booklet you will find information from the Vice-Provost and Director of Extension, Dr. Michael Quart, our local staff, as well as staff in the Southeast Region that have program responsibility in Stoddard County.

If you have questions or concerns about programming, please do not hesitate to contact one of the council members below. Clara Green is our County Program Director and will be happy to direct your questions as well.

Sincerely,

Delores Bailiff
Chair

Chris Rowland
Vice-Chair

Jennifer McMeans
Secretary

Jane Kingree
Treasurer

Connie Blackwell, Appointed, City of Dexter
Anthony Bockhold, Appointed, MFA
Chris Rowland, Appointed, Farm Bureau
Carol Jarrell, Appointed, County Commission
Sharon Crisel, Appointed, City of Puxico
Danielle Jordan, Elected Position
Gary Wyman, Elected Position

Delores Bailiff, Elected Position
Mary Lou Miller, Elected Position
Jane Kingree, Elected Position
Jennifer McMeans, Elected Position
Eddie Sifford, Elected Position
Larry Strobel, Elected Position
Jackie Ratliff, Elected Position

January 2012

Dear County Commissioners and Associated Friends of MU Extension:

“Efficiency” and “Innovation” are two watchwords of citizens and government in our currently challenging economy. I am pleased to report that University of Missouri Extension has kept these words in the forefront and acted accordingly for the benefit of Missouri residents statewide.

Funded through the support of federal, state and county government; grants and contracts; fees for services; and private gifts, MU Extension leverages every dollar received to create expanded educational opportunities. Every dollar provided from counties is leveraged with an additional \$6.00 to create a significant return on investment.

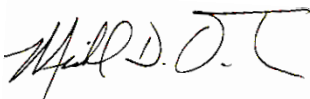
MU Extension creates value for citizens – including those who do not participate directly in its programs. For example:

- *The federal **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program** provided \$1.6 million to the state of Missouri. These funds provide nutrition education to limited-resource families. Participants who graduate from the program improve the way they manage their food dollars; demonstrate acceptable food safety practices and make healthier food choices. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important program reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.*
- *2011 has been a difficult year due to natural disasters in Missouri. The MU Extension statewide **Community Emergency Management Program** and local emergency management groups provided immediate on-site assistance by coordinating with the State Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross and other groups and by providing online resources through web pages and other media. As a result, citizens learned how to avoid scammers, ensure safe drinking water and food, and recover from a disaster. MU Extension's emergency management program helps communities, businesses, schools and residents reduce a community's disaster recovery period. This action saves lives and countless dollars in emergency recovery operations and avoids job loss. Additionally, the whole community builds a greater sense of cohesion.*

These are just two examples of MU Extension's public value impact. I'm sure you will find many other examples in your local community.

I want to thank you for your support of MU Extension as a critical team player in your locale. Your ideas for improving our partnership are always welcome.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Quart
Vice Provost and Director



The University of Missouri Extension State Council Resolution

Presented To

County Commissioners Association of Missouri

Whereas: The county commissioners of the state of Missouri and the County Commissioners Association of Missouri are highly valuable local partners with University of Missouri Extension to provide research-based educational programming for residents in every county; and

Whereas: The University of Missouri Extension State Council understands the hardships and challenges county commissioners face in providing true governance and fairness at the level where government has the greatest impact in people's lives; and

Whereas: The County Commissioners Association of Missouri collectively, and county commissioners separately, support MU Extension in every county through local funding to provide programs that improve people's lives; and

Whereas: The County Commissioners Association of Missouri collectively, and county commissioners separately, supported MU Extension in 2009 to fully restore the proposed state budget cuts; and;

Whereas: Without the support and efforts of the county commissioners and the County Commissioners Association of Missouri, MU Extension might have suffered an overwhelming loss to staffing levels in county offices and to state specialists on the campuses that would have made it impossible to fulfill its land-grant mission; and

Whereas: The University of Missouri Extension State Council stands proud to be in partnership with the county commissioners of Missouri and wants to expand the relationship to improve the lives of all citizens of this state, socially, economically and environmentally;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That: We, the members of the University of Missouri Extension State Council extend our appreciation on behalf of all county extension councils and the citizens they represent to the County Commissioners Association of Missouri and county commissioners statewide for their dedicated public service and their support of Relevant, Reliable, Responsive, Research-based MU Extension programs in their communities.

HC Russell

Chair, State Extension Council

February 3, 2010

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Costs for local operations of the University of Missouri Extension are provided by the County appropriations of tax revenues. These appropriations cover costs for secretarial staff, supplies, postage, communications, staff travel, office space utilities, office equipment and repairs, and equipment used in making program presentations.

The University of Missouri Extension programs, through state and federal funding, provide the annual cost of both professional and para-professional.

We, the University of Missouri Extension Staff in Stoddard County, personally thank each council member, commissioner, other agencies, as well as, each devoted volunteer leader, for your continued dedication and support.

Sincerely,

Clara B, Green
4-H Youth Specialist
County Program Director

Van Ayers
Ag & Rural Development
Specialist

Lesa Morrison
Office Secretary

**Stoddard County Extension
Annual Income and Expense Financial Report
January through December, 2011**

	<u>Jan - Dec 2011</u>
Income	
0100 · Student Fees	7,7036.80
0210 · County Appropriations	42,000.00
0900 · Resales/Educ Services Fees	2,369.50
1300 · Miscellaneous Income	6,064.83
1500 · Postage Income	1,700.00
1600 · Balance Transfers	0.00
Total Income	<u>59,171.13</u>
Expense	
2700 · Persnnl Serv – Salaries/Wage	19,257.60
2800 · Payroll Expenses	1,473.00
3100 · Travel	8,558.66
3600 · Postage	917.13
3700 · Telephone Serv - Local	1,559.59
3800 · Telephone Serv - Tolls	1,470.28
4444 · 4-H expenses	8,572.31
4700 · Publishing/Printing	348.42
5100 · Supplies/Services	2475.07
5600 · Professional Services	1,793.00
6800 – Insurance	2224.42
7000 · Miscellaneous	6,893.93
7100 · Soil Test Expenses	1,776.50
7200 · Publications for Resale	309.20
7700 · Furniture Equipment	1543.02
Total Expense	<u>59,171.13</u>

Faculty and Staff Members



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Stoddard County and
Southeast Region
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Clara Green
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County Program Director
Stoddard County and
Southeast Region
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David Guethle
Agronomy Specialist—
Rice – thru Aug, 31, 2011
Stoddard County and
Southeast Region



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ReinbottD@missouri.edu

Go to

www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/gr/

to receive news of the impact on what University of
Extension has on Stoddard County

MU Continuing Education

For Stoddard County

MU Conference Office

Stoddard County had 112 to register through the MU Conference Office provides high-quality, professional, full-service meeting management for a variety of noncredit educational programs, such as conferences, workshops, seminars and symposia. Whether a meeting is hosted on campus, in out-state Missouri or anywhere in the world, the office's professional staff provides assistance to create the best learning environment for participants. For FY2011, the MU Conference Office registered 14,583 Missourians in MU Extension conferences. Participants attended conferences on teacher training, natural areas, advancing renewables and greening homes.

FRTI

Stoddard County had 111 to register for the MU Extension's Fire and Rescue Training Institute (MU FRTI) is charged with providing comprehensive continuing professional education and training to Missouri's fire service and emergency response personnel. The institute has a direct impact on the well-being and protection of Missouri's 25,000 firefighters and the 5.8 million citizens they serve. Courses prepare firefighters for medical emergencies, hazardous materials response, and disaster preparedness and mitigation, as well as fires. In FY 2011, MU FRTI trained firefighters representing all 114 Missouri counties for a total enrollment of 13,048 fire and emergency responders equating to over 243,000 student instructional hours of training. For more information, see mufrti.org.

MTI

Stoddard County had 3 persons to register for the The Missouri Training Institute in the Trulaske College of Business provides continuing education, custom-designed training programs and business consulting services for business and industry, public and nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions. Training programs include subjects such as human resource management, supervision, management, leadership, team building, effective decision making generational differences and business writing. The institute's consulting services include human resources, strategic planning, board development and facilitating board retreats. (Example: In FY2011 more than 2,398 people from all 114 counties enrolled in the institute's 420 programs.) For more information, see mti.missouri.edu.

2011 Happenings within the confines of Stoddard County, MO—USA.....



Commissioners Sign Proclamation



New council members



MU Honors Roll Recipients



State 4-H Award Recipients



Appreciating Citizenship



Leaders being State Certified

Community Service

Citizenship Activities

4-H....
Building our
Leaders of
Tomorrow

.....
Today!



Swamp Friends Photo Contest



Summer Fling Daze



2011 4-H in Stoddard County

4-H...A community of youth building life skills, engaging in science and connecting to community.

One of every four Missourians between the ages of 5 and 18 participated in a Missouri 4-H program in 2011

4-H Connects Kids to College and a Higher Quality of Life

Missouri 4-H Members are twice more likely to have been on a college campus than their non-4-H peers. MU is by far the campus most frequently visited and 4-H is the second most reported reason to be on the MU campus (Lerner, 2008). Being on a campus is a predictor of youth going on to higher education (Hoover, 2006).

- Stoddard young people ages 5-18 participating in 4-H events on the MU campus
- These students are more likely to go to college and enjoy:
 - Increased financial success
 - Be better consumers
 - Improve quality of life
 - Improve quality of health
 - 60% more likely to Vote
 - More likely to contribute to their community
- Youth earning their Bachelor degree increase annual earnings by \$2.01 million over their lifetime (Porter, 2003). If 70% of the 2011 Stoddard County members participating in 4-H events on the MU campus go on to earning their bachelors, 4-H would help young people earn \$12,663,000 more of lifetime earnings.

Community service is integral to positive youth development programs. Missouri young people who are 4-H

participants report significantly more leadership experiences and higher scores on internalizing the value of service than their non-4-H peers

Volunteers create, support and are part of the 4-H community. Missouri 4-H volunteers responding to a survey report they contribute on average 100 hours per year. Valuing their time at \$18.70 per hour, based on average Missouri incomes, the contribution of **110 Stoddard County 4-H volunteers** was worth more than **\$205,700 in 2011!** More importantly, these adults serve as mentors for our youth, which is priceless.

Stoddard County 4-H Programming

Traditional 4-H Clubs

4-H participants = 120 youth in 4-H clubs

Stoddard

Stoddard County 4-H Clubs offer long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking and working with others. Members learn by doing under the guidance of adult volunteers, who teach projects ranging from aerospace and arts to veterinary science and equine and rodeo events. Clubs also involve children and teens in community service, camping educational trips.

4-H Special Interest programs

4-H participants = 50

Stoddard County 4-H special-interest programs include conferences, distance learning programs, day camps and other educational activities, such as Rodeo, Equine programs, and overnight camping.



4-H school programs

4-H participants = 978

Stoddard County 4-H school enrichment programs are short-term educational experiences that supplement learning in the classroom. Most are led by teachers or 4-H volunteers. The most popular 4-H school program in Stoddard County is Hatching Chicks in the Classroom, Stoddard County 4-H Ecology Day for 5th graders; and, Stoddard County 4-H Ag Day at the County Fair for 4th grade.

Sources Corporation for National and Community Service. "Volunteering in America: 2007 State Trends and Rankings in Civic Life."

http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/VIA/VIA_fullreport.pdf

The Independent Sector. "The Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours: 2000 –

2006." http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html

Stoddard County 4-H Presents:

Leadership: In 2010 Stoddard County sent several youth to programs such as State Teen Conference; State 4-H Congress; and, Citizenship Youth Forum. The later program lends itself to promoting government knowledge and how the government interacts with the lives of young people in Missouri. It was exciting to them and they learned a lot about what is outside their small world.

Community Service: 4-H clubs work each year to complete community service activities. The Crowley Ridge Club and the Star Banner clubs worked

at the Fair ground to redo the livestock panels for safety habits. The Advance 4-H club spent hours picking up walnuts and donated towards the 4-H scholarship fund. All clubs work together to benefit the local 4-H scholarship fund.

Other Program Efforts: County families and members planned a Summer Fling day. Heartland 4-H Camp was funded by special funding, the highest participation was up by 5% this year. We had a full camp and are ready again for next year.

The Stoddard County Fair Board presented youth with \$2571 in premium (ribbon) money for the youths project work. Approximately \$4500 was written to youth for livestock sales.

The 10 members of the Stoddard County 4-H Rodeo club received a majority of the awards for the 2011 regional season. The Junior County Ambassador Award by one outstanding Stoddard County member.

An official "livestock showmanship" class was completed in early September for youth enrolled in beef, swine, sheep and goats.



Buyers Breakfast at the Fair

Agriculture Related Programs



AGRICULTURAL PROFITABILITY AND VIABILITY/ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND STEWARDSHIP

Approximately 99 soil tests were handled and shipped for individuals and agricultural service centers in the county by the Stoddard County Extension office in 2011 to determine the optimum amount of nutrients to apply to crops, turf ornamentals and vegetables. The Stoddard County office handled 54 Pesticide License Applicator renewals during the 2011 season.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE AND USED IN STODDARD COUNTY IN 2011

- Cyst Nematode and other nematode essay
- Disease diagnosis of crops, vegetables, trees and ornamentals, threshold determination, and control recommendation.
- Insect identification, threshold determinations and recommendations.
- Soil testing (lawn, garden and crops) and recommendations.
- Mail seeds for germination tests.
- Plant tissue test and analysis to determine nutrient deficiencies.

- Weed (plant) identification and control recommendations if needed.
 - Sign-ups for conservation tree and wildlife bundles.
 - Garden and lawn information dispersed through MU Guides and web sites.
 - Disperse broad spectrum of agriculture information through MU Guide sheets, other MU publications, other land grant college publications, USDA publications, and various other sources of information including web sites Stoddard county residents needed to solve problems or produce various results.
 - Provide training for crop producers and others to obtain commercial and private pesticide applicator licenses to be able to buy and use restricted use pesticides and also satisfy Worker's Protection Standard Law.
 - Irrigation scheduling for area crops
 - DD50 Rice Program to schedule crop production inputs.
 - Private consultation to a number of Boards:
 - Stoddard County Soil and Water Conservation District Board
 - Bootheel Resource and Conservation Development Board
 - Missouri Rice Research and Merchandising Council
 - Provide names of cooperators for various research projects in County:
 - Crop variety and hybrid performance test
 - Food and Agricultural Policy Research Initiative (FAPRI)
 - Others
- Personal Consultations
Specific Meetings, Field Days
and Conferences Available to
Stoddard County Citizens**
- District 7 Soybean Meeting and Crop Production Meeting, Sikeston
 - Missouri Rice Producers Conference, Dexter
 - Rice Farm Field Day, Glennonville
 - Missouri Cotton Producers Conference, Kennett and Sikeston
 - Delta Center Field Day, Portageville

- Delta Center Update for Professional Crop Advisors, Portageville
- Various programs offered over the Portageville and Poplar Bluff Tele-Communications Resource Center (TCRC) until its closing
- Others

Demonstrations, Surveys and Other

- Weekly reports to Missouri Agricultural Statistical Service on crop and weather conditions.
- Cooperated in a number of tests at the Rice Research farm.
- Monitored moth traps for corn earworm, European and Southwestern corn borer, True armyworm, Fall armyworm, and Japanese beetles and reported to MU IPM web site to alert farmers and consultants about possible insect outbreaks. moth traps.
- Surveyed area crops for pest and alerted producers through word of mouth and/or newsletters.
- Collected soybean leaf sample to be examined for the soybean Asian rust.

- The regional peach meeting includes producers from Stoddard County with five participants in attendance in 2010.
- The regional watermelon meeting is held each year and includes four producers from Stoddard County in attendance.

Many individual questions related to horticulture were answered:

- Grow Your Farm program
- Fruit tree care and maintenance
- Landscape questions
- Tomato production issues
- Irrigation questions
- Blueberry production
- Vegetable growth and care
- Getting started with organic farming
- Types of vegetables, their growth and care

Three questions were commercial in nature and 13 were related to home horticulture.

HORTICULTURE

STODDARD COUNTY EFFORTS – 2011

Programming in Stoddard County continues to be offered through regional programs.

Inquiries from those interested in home horticulture and commercial horticulture led to answers for 30 horticulture questions in 2011. This led to three visits into the county with the major issues being the death of oak trees, lack of production in vegetables, tree death from cracking and commercial fruit production.

The master gardeners held a wetland training near Dudley, MO this fall. Attendees were provided with information on why the wetlands were formed, the benefit they create in the environment and a morning of bird watching that held the excitement of the group.

The tree issues, although varied in species are largely due to the very wet

spring, our continued dry summers, and with rapid temperature changes and damage from ice in recent years. Although devastating to the trees, it is not a sign of a major disease issue.

The fruit questions came from blueberry growers in the area. Stoddard county may soon be known as a blueberry center just as Campbell, MO is known for its peaches.

Livestock - 2011

Farming operation in the Bloomfield area is setting up a rotational grazing system on 3 different farms. Specialist has assisted rancher in mapping out where fence and water lines need to be as well as, what kind of grass to seed with Burmuda on different fields. The

group is also working on nutrition of stocker cattle.

One farmer in the Advance area is working with the State Heifer Select program.

AGRI-BUSINESS

STODDARD COUNTY EFFORTS – 2011

Two Agricultural Lenders Seminars were held on December 6, 2011 in Dexter with 23 in attendance. The topics covered included: Commodity Outlook, Agriculture Policy and Farm Bill Update. The Ag lenders also received a seminar book developed by the Agriculture Economics Extension Department at the University of Missouri. The book covers many financial, management, and marketing topics that would be of interest to Ag lenders.

Managing the financial side of the farm business continues to be a major challenge for farmers. The Ag Lenders seminars will provide lenders with valuable information on price outlook, possible Ag policy changes, and financial and management strategies that will help them in their lending decisions.

The agricultural lending business is fragmented into several groups. These include the traditional lending sources such as banks, Farm Service Agency (FSA), and Farm Credit (PCA and FLB). In the past few years, equipment dealers and farm input suppliers have also become very active in lending money to farmers. The Ag Lenders seminars have become an avenue where all these lending institutions can come together to share and learn.

From the seminar evaluation, the participants rated the seminar useful and valuable. When asked how they rated the seminar overall, the average response was 9.0. This is based on a scale of 1 to

10 with 10 representing very valuable and 1 of little value.

Speaker was Pat Westhoff, Agricultural Economist and Program Director of International Affairs for the Food and Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

STODDARD COUNTY EFFORTS – 2011

The 2011 year brought several new programs to the people of Stoddard County, Missouri. Additionally, projects and efforts that were started in previous years were continued.

The Entrepreneur and Inventors clubs are continuing in 2011. New projects are discussed at monthly meetings.

One such program to continue into 2011 is the Oilseed Crushing Plant project. A MO Department of Ag grant valued at \$159,000 was awarded to the project group in 2010. Efforts have been made to find markets for niche market soybean meal and oil, with minimal success. The grant will continue through 2012, efforts will be made to make the project viable.

An Energy Conferences held in December, 2010 produced ideas for pellet plant grant proposal to be developed and submitted to the Missouri Department of Agriculture in January 2011. The grant, of \$68,000, was received by the Pellet Plant Project group from the MO Department of Natural Resources in 2011. The funding will study the feasibility of a locally owned biomass pellet plant to be located in Stoddard County. The project has

begun, with new information being discovered.

A huge impact on Stoddard County Agriculture producers has been a grant received from Don Day, Missouri Department of Agriculture. This grant has been used to implement several energy related programs, not only in Stoddard County, but in the SE Region as well. An Irrigation Field Day was held at the Delta Center in Portageville with over 150 people from throughout the area in attendance. An FFA Energy Day program was set up during the Delta Center Field at Portageville. Among the 400 students attending, 6 of the 7 Stoddard County FFA Chapters attended. There were 7 separate stations presenting energy related information to these students. Other conferences held through the grant included a SE MO Energy Conference that 50 people attended. A Photovoltaic Tour was held for people to understand how the system utilizes net metering to sell back power to the utility. A Photovoltaic will be held in 2012 in Stoddard County. An irrigation meeting and a minimum tillage meeting were held in cooperation with SWCD and USDA-NRCS. Energy efficiency of irrigation and minimum tillage systems was discussed.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS 2011

As entrepreneurs and innovators, Missouri's small businesses are becoming a more diverse group that continues to make the state's economy productive. There are approximately 500,000 small businesses in Missouri. Nearly 98% of all businesses with employees are categorized as small businesses. In assisting the owners and

managers of those businesses, MU Extension contributes to a county's economic development through growth in jobs, sales, innovation, technology development and commercialization.

In Stoddard County, during 2011, business development program specialists and business counselors with MU Extension, MO Small Business & Technology Development Centers, Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, Missouri Environmental Program, Missouri Career Options Project, and the Missouri Market Development program served 6 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training and other assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Stoddard County reported the following economic impact and activity as a result of the services provided by the MU Extension Business Development Program:

- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 6
- Business training attendees and conference participants: 8

Overall, the University of Missouri's Business Development Programs (BDP) served 17,207 people and their businesses state-wide. The total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:

- New jobs: 5,765
- Sales increases: \$235,430,804
- Government contracts: \$191.5 Million
- New businesses: 249
- Jobs retained: 1,708
- Loans and investments in business: \$199,474,000
- Acquired assets: \$77,573,861
- Investment in commercialization: \$151,567,881 in SBIR/STTR or research proposals submitted with \$4,337,056 awards received

- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 3,095
- Business training attendees and conference participants 14,111

The business development faculty contributing to these business successes is from the programs identified above. These staff has regional and statewide assignments and work with businesses in all counties across the state.

The staff personnel have regional and state assignments and work with businesses in all counties across the state. The Business Development Program Delivery Network includes MO SBTDC; MO PTAC; MO Market Development; Career Options; and, the MO Environmental Program.

Human Environmental Studies **2011 Review**

The **Seventh Annual Multi-County Women's Health Conference** was held in October. The purpose of this conference is to facilitate public awareness of the organizations and services involved and concerned with women's health residing in Scott, Stoddard, Mississippi, New Madrid, and surrounding counties.

There were a total of 20 participants from Stoddard County attending this event. The goals of the conference were to provide health and educational information to the participants, promote and educate participants on health and disease prevention, and emphasize prevention and intervention strategies.

Obesity Workshop

The workshop for the Mingo Job Corps consisted of defining the difference

between overweight and obesity, defining obesity as a chronic disease, pointing out the societal and healthcare consequences of obesity, outlining the diagnosis and treatment strategies for obesity, and explaining the possible impact of genetics and heredity on the diagnosis and treatment of obesity.

The information was presented to 150 Mingo students and approximately 12 adults. Visual aids were used to present information on supersizing, as well as how to reduce caloric and fat intake. Learning about portions and serving sizes resulted in a significant change in knowledge. Participants also stated they found the information useful.

At the end of this presentation, the participants were able to:

1. Identify health benefits from modest weight loss
2. Acknowledge that health benefits from modest weight loss are significant.
3. Identify that Obesity is a metabolic disorder resulting from chronic imbalance between food and exercise.
4. Identify that obesity will soon become the number one preventable cause of disease in affluent societies, overtaking smoking.

Building Strong Families

This program helps families find their strengths, build on those strengths, and learn skills to create stronger families, improve relationships, and increase communication. The program covers 13 topics and uses hands-on activities to involve participants. The curriculum was taught to parents referred to the Stoddard County DAEOC office by the Stoddard County Family Service Office.

The program was taught to the parents as part of their requirements to get their children out of foster care. The classes were taught during January and February of 2011 until DAEOC experienced budget cuts. A total of 25 participants were reached before classes were terminated.

Stoddard County FNEP/EFNEP

Family Nutrition Education Program

2011 Stoddard County Report

University of Missouri Extension (UME) Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 1260 low-income participants with nutrition education in Stoddard County during 2011. FNEP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness.

Nutrition education for youths provides information in kid-friendly terms and lessons with hands-on activities. Activities include opportunities for taste-testing healthy foods and practicing skills that lead to good health. Education for adults includes nutrition, food safety, physical activity, and food resource management.

During 2011, The Family Nutrition Program (FNP) served 955 youth 56 adults through schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served: Daycare facilities, the Summer Library Program, Stoddard County ARC and Bell City R-II, Bernie R-XIII, Dexter R-XI, and Richland R-1. There were 230 summer school

participants in the Advance R-IV, Bell City and Richland School Districts who received nutrition information.

Through Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) provided \$1,562,706.00 in Federal Funds to the state of Missouri. These funds were used to provide nutrition education to limited resource families in Missouri. There were 96 limited resource families in Stoddard County who received nutrition education during 2011. Along with these families, nutrition education was provided at other county agencies such as WIC clinics in Bloomfield, Advance, Bell City, Puxico, and Bernie, Daycare Facilities, Lighthouse Christian Center Food Bank, SE Missouri Behavioral Health Center, Rescue Mission Food Bank, Bloomfield Housing Authority, Bloomfield High School and Benie High School. It also funded one full-time job with quality benefits plus expenses for making programming available to reach the underserved in the county.

Evaluation data collected across the entire state reflects the positive impacts that occur in every county with FNEP. Within FNEP are two key programs, each with its own system for evaluating impact: the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

For youths who participated in FNP, results summarized for the state revealed the following positive impacts:

- Three thousand three hundred sixty (3,360) teachers gave us feedback.
- 53% have participated in FNP for 3 or more years

- 98% (3,305 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNP.

For adults who participated in EFNEP, results summarized for the state revealed the following:

82% of graduates improved how they managed their food dollars

- 48% of participants more often planned meals in advance
- 40% of participants more often compared prices when shopping
- 51% of participants more often used a list for grocery shopping
- 35% of participants less often ran out of food before the end of the month

87% of graduates made healthier food choices

- 47% of participants more often thought about healthy food choices when deciding what to feed their families
- 34% of participants more often prepared foods without adding salt
- 59% of participants more often used the “Nutrition

Facts” on food labels to make food choices

- 35% of participants reported that their children ate breakfast more often

79% of graduates demonstrated acceptable food safety practices

- 49% of participants more often followed the recommended practice of not thawing foods at room temperature
- 20% more often followed the recommended practices of not allowing meat and dairy foods to sit out for more than two hours.

98% of FNEP/EFNEP graduates made at least one improvement to their diets to more closely align with the USDA Dietary Guidelines



Information compiled and completed for the

2011 Annual Report by

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