

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Oregon County

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT

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December 2023

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

Thank you for your important partnership with the University of Missouri Extension this past year.

I want to highlight three areas that address needs you helped us identify.

You may recall that the FY 23 state budget provided a one-time \$5 million infusion to MU Extension for growth. Of that, we allocated about \$3 million for field faculty in the areas of agriculture, 4-H, health/human development and business and community development.

Through a dedicated hiring effort, and thanks to that allocation, we have hired 168 new employees since November 2022. That includes 72 academic/faculty members, most of whom are field specialists in a priority area noted above, and 96 staff members (e.g., office administrators, youth and food and nutrition associates, etc.).

We also returned more faculty to local program delivery that best serves your county's needs, while preserving the partnership and relationship building work you value. Our extension and engagement specialists focus full-time on that work as they serve their assigned multi-county groups. Currently, 19 have been hired, with two more in the pipeline.

Finally, we are prioritizing our work with county extension councils. In the new role of partnership and council development director, Lorin Fahrmeier focuses on strengthening council representation and governance. This role will build stronger links with regional, educational and campus leadership to better identify and address local priorities.

At the UM System level, our engagement work across four universities and with leaders across the state makes a difference in areas of greatest need: broadband, workforce development, health access, food security and healthy futures for our youth.

Your county annual report shows what we are accomplishing together as we Serve Missouri and Deliver Mizzou. We look forward to strengthening that partnership with county commissioners and community stakeholders in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Chad Higgins, PhD

Chal Hijs

Interim Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement

Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

Who we are

Faculty and staff
Haley Schwantz
Agronomy Specialist

Cara Shaw 4H Youth Program Associate

Amanda Purgason Jan Beazley

Nutrition Program Associates

Barbara SimpsonAdministrative Assistant



Council members

Frank Alford, Chairman

Charles Trantham, Vice-chairman

Dana Cox, Secretary

Doug Bridges, Treasurer

Tamala Ary

Shelby Cooper

John Walters, Jr.-Appointed

Renee Janes

Randy Williams

David Stubblefield-Appointed

Kevin Grooms

Melody Simpson

Jan Melton

Doug Melton

The Oregon County MU Extension Council is a council of elected and appointed citizens who guide local educational programming. County council members are partners in the entire educational process, from needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes. Council members work with regional specialists to provide the county educational programs, manage finances of local extension operations, provide personnel to carry out Extension activities, and elect and organize the local Extension council.

County commissioners

David Stubblefield, Presiding Terry Cline, Northern Jason Kemper, Southern

Who we are

Using university research and science-based knowledge, University of Missouri Extension works with people to understand change, solve problems and make informed decisions. MU Extension addresses a wide range of needs that fall into three grand challenges for the state of Missouri; Economic Opportunity, Educational Access and Excellence, Health and Well-being. We offer in person and online programming, publications and information in these major interest areas: Agriculture and Environment, Business and Community, Health and Safety, Youth and Family.

MU Extension is a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils, and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

MU is a land-grant university, meaning it is a part of a federally mandated mission to carry the benefits of university research beyond campus. Federal legislation in the 1800s provided for the donation of public land to individual states. Missourians chose to apply their land grants to the existing Columbia campus. This created two universities in one — a land-grant institution leading in research for all citizens of the state, across the nation and around the world, and an intellectual center to advance liberal arts scholarship. Today, through statewide offices, publications and web-based services, extension faculty in every county of Missouri continue to carry the benefits of MU research throughout the entire state.

Every Missouri county, by Missouri State Statutes, has a University of Missouri Extension Council comprised of elected and appointed citizens. State law confers the right for councils to work with MU Extension faculty to act as educational brokers, putting the interests and concerns of local people together with the resources of our land -grant University so people can obtain their goals. The MU Extension Council strives to support our three impact areas of Economy, Education, and Health, and represent the diverse sectors of Stone County by its membership.

Through a network of county offices, the University of Missouri solves problems and engages with communities across all 114 counties and the City of St. Louis.

MU faculty, staff and elected council members, who live in your community, work with you to identify local interests and issues and then offer relevant programming and resources to meet the unique needs of you and your community. Our job is to partner with communities to find solutions with credible, science-based information that will help you:

- Grow safe and healthy food
- Build and grow profitable businesses
- Improve your health and relationships
- Increase agricultural production
- Update professional training in business, health and safety
- Engage youth as valued, contributing citizens

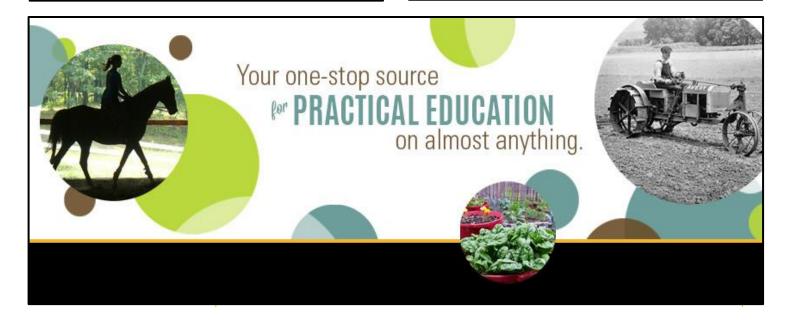
Budget and more

Appropriations budget Income **County Appropriations** 58,600 **County Contract** 5,000 **Total Income** 63,600 **Expenses** Salaries/Benefits 58,574 3102 Travel 3203 **Telephone** Supplies/Service 2053 1501 Insurance Postage 246 Advertising 70 **Total Expenses** 68,749

MU Extension is a unique funding partnership

Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional staff salaries, training cost, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The Oregon County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Oregon County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.









2023 OREGON COUNTY FARM FAMILY



David and Kristin Newman and family of Myrtle, MO were among the families honored during the 66th annual Missouri Farm Family Day, Aug. 14 at the Missouri State Fair.

The Newman family was selected as the Oregon County Missouri Farm Family by University of Missouri Extension in Oregon County and the local Farm Bureau. The family includes Cody and Ava. Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state that are active in their communities, involved in agriculture, and/or participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA.

The annual event is sponsored by five partner agencies: the Missouri Farm Bureau; the Missouri Department of Agriculture; the Missouri State Fair Commissioners; the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; and MU Extension.

The event showcases the impact that Missouri farm families have on the economy and heritage of the state, said Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe. "These families are involved in agriculture activities in their communities and are active participants in local outreach and extension. As the premier showcase for Missouri agriculture, the Missouri State Fair is most certainly the appropriate place to celebrate these families."



AGRONOMY

Soil Testing

Soil testing is a great way for farmers and gardeners to determine the nutrient status of their soil, and what soil amendments need to be made in order to increase crop production. The information provided from soil tests enables producers to make better management decisions and make their operations more profitable. Interpretations and recommendations were made for 372 + soil tests in 2023.

MU Extension plans to offer programs covering soil testing, fertility, and health in 2024.



Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings

Private Pesticide Applicator Training is offered primarily in the Spring and Fall for Restricted Use Pesticide (RUPs) Licensing in Oregon County. There were 15 in-person and online trainings combined taught by Haley Schwantz in 2023 either in or near Oregon County. The Missouri Department of Ag along with MU, will be implementing many new changes to PPAT Licensing procedures by January 1st, 2025. For now, the same rules still apply for 2024. The 5-year licensing renewal requirement for RUPs should not change. Producers can still watch the official PPAT video in the MU Extension Office as an option to obtain or renew their license in 2024.



AGRONOMY

Weed ID & Livestock Pest Control Workshop

In response to the drought in 2022, a Weed ID & Pest Control Workshop was offered in multiple counties including Oregon on April 9th at the Thomasville Eleven Point Valley Community Center. Haley Schwantz, Sarah Kenyon, and Elizabeth Picking taught on the importance of pasture and livestock pest control options and how to identify them.



AgConnect 2023

Formerly known as the AgExpo, AgConnect is held every year in Poplar Bluff where farmers and can attend a convention displaying local businesses, educational programs, and family events. Haley Schwantz attended this event and taught one of the two PPAT programs.



AGRONOMY

GRAZING SCHOOL - OREGON COUNTY

Grazing schools continue to provide the most in-depth training on how to be successful with Management-intensive Grazing (MiG) practices. These three-day schools are unique to Missouri and have set a standard for teaching and demonstrating the newest grazing concepts. Schools were offered in 2023 in Howell, Ozark, Wright, Houston, Texas, and Oregon counties. The schools teach the basics of soil science, forage growth, animal nutrition and economics. They also teach the practical things, such as pasture layout, fencing and watering, and how to put it all together in a grazing system. There were nearly 120 producers who attended the sessions. Numerous presentations were offered along with on-farm field trips to evaluate pasture grazing systems. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the Missouri Department of Conservation, county Soil & Water Conservation districts and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service partners with MU Extension to bring the grazing schools to Missouri counties. This year the Oregon county school was held in Alton at the Community Worship Center with 27 producers and 5 speakers in attendance.



High Tunnel Workshop & Tour

Donna Aufdenberg, Patrick Byers,
Haley Schwantz, and representatives
from the Oregon County USDA office
came together to help teach how to
build and maintain high tunnel systems
followed by a tour of Wesley Conrad's
personal high tunnels. This workshop
was held in Alton at the Victory
Freewill Baptist Church.





FCC National Broadband Map

During 2023, MU Extension remained committed to helping rural communities pursue reliable and affordable broadband expansion. During the first months of 2023, the Oregon County Extension Office worked with local residents to make sure the FCC's broadband maps reflected accurate information regarding the availability of broadband coverage to residents of Oregon County. If the FCC map was not correct, the Oregon County Extension office assisted residents in filing challenges to the FCC map. Extension Engagement Specialist Jennifer Williams did an interview with local radio stations to help make residents aware of the FCC map challenge process, and Jennifer also met with Oregon County Commissioners, representatives from Missouri's Office of Broadband Development, and spoke with internet service providers who serve or have committed to serve Oregon County residents with expanded broadband connectivity. In nearby Shannon and Carter Counties, the University of Missouri Extension has applied for a \$200,000+ grant from the USDA to provide technical assistance to those counties so that they will be well-equipped to attract internet service providers to use BEAD Act funding for expansion in these difficult-to-serve areas of rural Missouri. MU Extension understands how vital access to broadband connectivity is to rural communities, and we will continue to look for opportunities and collaborations that result in reliable and affordable broadband expansion in Oregon County and other rural communities.

Century Farm



The Easley Family Farm, situated on 220 acres in the Couch, MO area, was awarded Missouri Century Farm status in 2023. The original owner was Millington Easley and ownership is now shared by decedent's Robyn Easley Tuttle, Stacey Easley Sonthiemer, Cathy Easley Morgan, and Robert Easley LLC. The year of acquisition was 1918. This farm now joins the other 39 century farms located in Oregon County.

Leaders Honor Roll

The Leader's Honor Roll program is intended to honor outstanding University of Missouri Extension community leaders who have excelled in supporting, educating, and advancing MU Extension and/or 4-H in their communities and county. In 2023, we recognize David Stubblefield and Mike McElmurray for their long-term commitment and support of Oregon County Extension.



Food Preservation Workshop



A food preservation workshop, featuring both water bath of salsa and pressure canning of peach salsa and jalapeno jelly, was held in June.

The class focused on some canning basics and demonstrated how to make and safely preserve tomato products using the boiling water bath technique, steam canning technique, and pressure canning technique. There were attendees.

Farm Trade Show



Oregon County Extension took part in the Farm Trade Show held in Thayer, MO. hosted by Oregon County Soil & Water Conservation District. Members of the extension council and staff members were there to provide information to those who attended.



Horticulture Programming in the Southeast Region

Donna Aufdenberg, Field Specialist in Horticulture

In 2023, there were 1580 direct contacts (participants) through gardening programs where participants were actively engaged in the learning process. Programs were in-person and online. Participants learned about planning the vegetable gardening, planting flower and shrubs, growing and using culinary herbs, native plants, growing specialty crops hydroponically, container gardening, high tunnel and greenhouse basics, seed saving, gardening pests and many more topics.

There was a continued interest in home vegetable gardening in 2023 due to concerns about food security and food costs. Many new gardeners learned about growing their own food, increasing consumption of healthy food, exercising caution in the garden during extreme heat and drought and the diligence required to plant and maintain a garden.





Online programming remains an important educational tool. This includes MU Extension Garden Hour at noon on Wednesdays during the gardening season, horticulture education meetings, home gardening webinar, farmers market webinar series and commercial vegetable program. Participants who engaged in horticulture programming learned about insects, weeds, diseases, soil health and fertility, general plant care, and variety selection.

Horticulture

/ˈhôrdəˌkəlCHər/

Noun 1. the art or practice of garden cultivation and management

1580+
Participants
in 60+
Programs

1,000+

One-on-One Education

- Calls and Emails
- ➤ Walk-ins

Top Gardening Requests

Vegetable Gardening • Growing Berries • Planting Fruit Trees • Composting • Soil Testing • Raised Bed Garden • Hydroponics • Planting Shrubs

A monthly Garden Spade Newsletter reaches over 2,300 subscribers every month with a 20% increase in readership during 2023. Subscribe to the garden spade at https://extension. missouri.edu/cou nties/capegirardeau or click the QR code at

the right.







County highlights



Heart of the Ozarks Fair- Market



































At the Heart of the Ozarks Fair, 27 youth members participated in the market show. There were 8 showing hogs, 10 showing goats, 6 showing sheep and 3 showing steers.



County highlights



Heart of the Ozarks Fair-Poultry and Rabbits









We had 14 members participate in the Poultry and Rabbit Show at the fair. We had 8 with poultry, 11 with rabbits and 3 with cavy (guinea pigs).



















County highlights



Texas County Fair

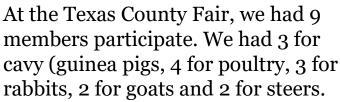














Texas County Fair
Houston, MO

























Sewing Project



A Sewing Project group was started with Heidi Moore as the volunteer project leader. They made push pin containers, pillowcases and quillows (quilts that turn into a pillow). They have continued working on various projects and are looking to form a big quilt together in the future.























Shooting Sports





























4-H SNAC Programs

SNAC (Student Nutrition Advisory Council) Clubs focus on projects including nutrition, gardening, and/or physical activity. With grant funding and partnering with Nutrition Program Associates, we were able to provide SNAC programming to the Boys and Girls Club in Thayer and some of the Alton Summer School classes.





















Thayer Boys and Girls Club

I spent Spring Break with the Thayer Boys and Girls Club. We planted flowers and beans, made bird feeders, had arts and crafts with honeybees and learned about incubating chicken eggs.























Cloverkids















The Cloverkids had several learning opportunities including reptiles, halter making, flowers and plants and nature.





Other 4-H Events



First Saturday Class at The Farmer's Daughter



Barn Quilt Painting with Juanita Jett



SMQA Training for the fair



Stock Show Stars Livestock Camp and Show



Chicken Poop Bingo Fundraiser



Alton Christmas Parade



List of Participants per Project Area

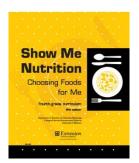
Beef	5
Dairy	1
Dairy Goats	7
Dog	4
Horse Riding	7
Horseless Horse & Horse Knowledge	4
Meat Goats	11
Poultry	10
Rabbits	7
Sheep	4
Swine	15
Embryology, Grades 6-8	16
Arts & Crafts	40
Photography	4
Visual Arts	3
Sewing	10
Air Pistol	2
Air Rifle (BB/Pellet)	7
Archery	4
Shooting Sports Safety	9
Shotgun	4
SNAC - Kids in the Kitchen	54
4-H Clover Kids	9
Gardening	4

^{*}Not all projects are listed here. There are more with at least 1 participant. These were the projects that were most active throughout the year.

Family Nutrition Education Program

SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2023

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$10,874,798 in federal funds to Missouri. During FY2023, Missouri's SNAP-Ed program reached over 78,000 Missourians through direct classroom education. Each person participated in an average of 6 hours of education totaling over 15,000 hours. In addition, an additional 760,135 persons participated in indirect education. Direct and indirect education resulted in over 1.8 million total contacts with Missourians.





Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

The Missouri Crunch Off is a statewide event to celebrate local produce and farm to school by crunching into any Missouri grown food. Oregon County participated in this event in October.









Human Development and Family Science

WITS Workout

WITS is a program that helps exercise ones brain through puzzles and other brain health strategy games. Each session has a theme. There were 13 sessions held in Oregon County with a total of 319 people attending.

Mental Health First Aid

13 people from Oregon County attended this program held at Thayer school. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) gives one the skills needed to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use challenge and help connect them to the appropriate care. This evidence-based training teaches one how to apply the ALGEE action plan:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen nonjudgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies



John Fuller



Extension Tax Schools

University of Missouri Extension ag economics department and ag business specialists worked together to coordinate one summer and three fall tax schools. The summer school was in person and live online. Fall schools were in Columbia and Springfield and in addition one was online. The schools were designed for those who prepare taxes including enrolled agents, tax preparers, CPAs, individuals, and attorneys.

The training included updates on legislation, rulings and cases, individual taxpayer issues, agricultural and natural resources topics, ethics, trusts and estates, agriculture and natural resource tax issues, business tax issues, business entity tax issues, IRS issues, penalties and defenses, form 4797 sales of property, retirement tax issues, like-kind exchange issues. The schools were approved for 8 and 16 hours of continuing education credit by the IRS, Missouri Bar and for CFP continuing education. Total continuing education hours reported to IRS for the schools was 3.336 hours.

The teaching teams included a CPA and former IRS stakeholder liaison, an IRS certified retired ag economics professor, an attorney, Missouri Department of Revenue and extension ag business specialists.

The trainings received positive evaluations and planning is underway to offer trainings in 2024. Local county residents benefit when local tax preparers have the opportunity to gain knowledge, which benefits their clients and communities. The tax schools are a program of the ag business and policy program of MU Extension, coordinated by Mary Sobba with help from a team of ag business specialists throughout the state.

The resources for the schools included the IRS, the National Income Tax Workbook from the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation, and materials written by the instructors.

The 2023 school attendance totaled three hundred twenty-seven people. The participants were from throughout Missouri, including **two from Oregon County**.



2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

Oregon County

UM System Footprint in the county in 2023



FY23 county students

16 students

- 10 Undergraduates
- · 6 Graduate and professional students
- 13 Full-time students
- 3 Part-time students



County employees and retirees

6 people employed by UM

6 Campuses

3 UM retirees and beneficiaries UM salary and retirement income: \$119,527 UM state tax revenue: \$2,390 UM federal tax revenue: \$13,312



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 3 Nursing
- 2 Health Professions
- 5 Pharmacy
- 4 Veterinary Medicine
- 19 Agriculture
- 7 Engineering
- 3 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- · 3 teachers
- 1.8% of all district teachers



County breakdown

MU

- 7 students
- 58 alumni
- · 6 employees

UMKC

- 3 students
- 8 alumni
- · 0 employees

Missouri S&T

- 5 students
- 10 alumni
- 0 employees

UMSL

- 1 student
- 3 alumni
- · 0 employees

County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Oregon County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST.LOUIS

County population: 8,891



County services provided

Health care (FY23)

- 67 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$26,550 of uncompensated care
- 1 in-state patient seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of \$34.82 per patient in uncompensated care
- 1 in-state patient seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$43.61 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 130 visits to 47 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (2022)

- 938 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
- 173 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 765 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development



2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

Oregon County

UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

 In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 jobs.



\$3.1 billion

For every dollar invested from 2019 to 2021, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$133 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.6 billion. For a total impact of \$3.1 billion, the program has generated more than 37,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$451 million in capital investments and \$1.5 billion in government contracts.

 Between FY17 and FY22, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.46 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY23, UM System was issued 33 patents and filed 61 new U.S. patent applications.

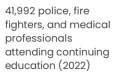
 In FY23, the UM System awarded 805 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$279.2 million in the state.



In FY23, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 18,381 hrs of case-based instruction to 2,938 learners located in 112 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

Education and Training Provided







Agriculture and natural resource programs served 174,692 farmers and related businesses (2022)



311,749 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2022)



Education Highlights

FY23 Financial Aid Awards

In FY23, 67.3% of the UM System's 80,702 students received financial aid totaling \$973.7 million

UMKC

UMSL

Missouri S&T

MU

6,748 \$
students receiving financial aid fin

\$117.7M financial aid awarded 8,489 students receiving financial aid

\$102.8M financial aid awarded



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 485 K-12 school districts (832,000 students) and 132 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2022.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 32,098 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2022-23.
- UM System awarded 36.6% of the 1,935 research doctorates and 26.9% of the 3,593 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2022-23.
- In FY23, UM System's \$37.9 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 88.3% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2023, over 10,900 Missourians accessed mobroadband.org, part
 of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide
 build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure. MU Extension also
 supported residents in making individual challenges to the FCC
 that resulted in \$810,000 in additional funding for the state of
 Missouri.