|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| County Emphasis |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [Concentration](https://extension.ca.uky.edu/2025-situation-statements)  *(select up to 4 from list below or the linked website)* | Animal Production and Management |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [Situation](https://extension.ca.uky.edu/2025-situation-statements)  *(situation statements can be found at the linked website)* | Kentucky’s animal production and management strategies encompass sustainable practices, health-focused care, and economic viability across all species thus contributing significantly to the state’s agricultural landscape. Beef cattle play a crucial role in converting Kentucky’s vast 7 million acres of pasture and forage into valuable products. CES focuses on sustainable grazing practices and ensuring optimal use of natural resources like land and water.  Kentucky is renowned as the Horse Capital of the World and is home to a diverse equine population, including thoroughbreds, stock horses, standardbreds, and other breeds. Kentucky’s horse industry focuses on breeding excellence. Many commercial swine farms operate in the state, focusing on efficient growth and high-quality pork. Swine farmers implement strict biosecurity protocols to prevent disease transmission and minimize stress. Kentucky’s small ruminant producers raise various sheep and goat breeds for meat, fiber, and dairy purposes. Small ruminants thrive on pasture-based systems, utilizing natural forage with a priority on health management, including vaccinations, parasite control, and nutrition.  Poultry is the number one agricultural industry in the state, contributing significantly to the economy. The poultry sector contains thriving broiler industry for meat production and laying hens for egg production. Many small flock owners raise chickens for personal consumption or local markets. Implementing conservation practices that protect soil and water resources will ensure the long-term sustainability of Kentucky farmland and improve resilience to climate variability.  To meet the needs of Kentucky animal producers CES Extension will create or expand its efforts to offer need-based education and producer-focused programming for all species. Current/future activities include introducing programs to address and improve specific management systems and introduce new and emerging techniques, technology, and production systems for increased efficiency and profitability.  Youth Focus  Kentucky’s youth should have access to education and life-skills in animal production and management. According to the 2022 U.S. Census of Agriculture, Kentucky has seen a decline in the number of farms and agricultural land, alongside a slight increase in the average age of producers and farm size. Successful operation of farms and ranches requires business skills, ongoing training and education, and safety awareness (USDA, 2024). The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service Community Needs Assessment (2023) highlights key agricultural priorities, including youth life skill training, workforce readiness, access to affordable and nutritious food, support for the local agriculture industry, and promoting agricultural literacy among youth. 4-H projects in animal production and management can help young people develop life skills, learn about responsibility, and gain content knowledge about animals through breeding or market projects. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| County Situation |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Long-term  Outcomes | Adult   * Increase the quality and number of animals or pounds of milk produced annually contributing to the increased and more stable financial position for producers. * Increase the use of sustainable management practices across all production methods and species. * Producers are routinely implementing guidelines and recommendations for efficient and financially sound production demonstrating sustainable behavior change. * Continually implementing new technology and production practices. * Improve the quality of life of animals and humans. * Increase the quality of beef cattle produced annually contributing to increased and more stable financial position of cattle operations. * Increase the use of sustainable management practices across all production methods leading to enhanced production efficiency and reductions in the carbon footprint. * Producers are routinely following Beef Quality Care & Assurance standards to produce healthy and high-quality beef. * Continually adoption of new technology and production practices. * Increase the use of sustainable management practices by horse owners. * Horse owners will be encouraged to apply best management practices for the care and management of their horses to help control cost of ownership. * Increase the quality of small ruminants annually contributing to increased and more stable financial position of small ruminant operations.   Youth   * Youth will make informed decisions regarding agricultural products and services. * Youth will advocate for agriculture and sustainable fiber and food production in their communities. * Youth will be life and work ready, contributing to the agricultural community as consumers, leaders, and innovators. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Medium-term  Outcomes | Adult   * Annually implement strategies and production methods that result in increased efficiency, and number of animals produced /maintained, and animals harvested or pounds of milk produced. * Increased biosecurity strategies that promote both animal and human health related behaviors for a safe food system. * Increase or strengthen partnerships or relationships with commodity groups to address sustainable management strategies, health-focused care, and economic viability for all livestock. * Annually evaluate how they care for and manage their horses using cost effective strategies. * Consider how they can use good biosecurity practices to ensure the health of their horses.   Youth   * Youth will practice skills gained from 4-H agricultural projects and clubs. * Youth will communicate agricultural ideas and concepts more effectively. * Youth actively adopt and apply advanced agricultural practices, demonstrating a growing commitment to the agricultural community. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Short-term  Outcomes | Adult  Animal production and management strategies encompass but are not limited to sustainable practices, health-focused care, and economic viability across all species. Activities will include programs to address and improve specific management systems and introduce new and emerging techniques, technology, and production systems for increased efficiency and profitability.   * Increase knowledge about sustainable and economically viable management practices. * Increase skills related to efficient production methods across all species. * Increase confidence in implementing new and emerging techniques, technology, and production systems. * Increase confidence in making decisions related to promoting animal health-related behavior. * Increase intentions to employ financially sound behavior regarding production methods, use of financial tools, health-focused care, and the human-animal interaction.   Horses are kept primarily for sport and recreation. The majority of CES clientele can be placed in one of three general categories: 1) the new or first-time owner. These owners may have recently purchased a horse or have taken over full-time care of their horse, 2) Horse owners that have experience but are looking to validate what they do to make sure they are on the right track, and 3) the long time horse owner who is looking to improve management of their horses.   * Horse owners will evaluate current practices and see where changes might be of benefit. * New horse owners can implement the management practices that fit their needs as new horse owners. * Long time horse owners can see the new technologies and management practices that may benefit their horse operations. * Improve management skills to improve sustainability and reduce cost of ownership.   Youth   * Youth will explore their spark in agriculture. * Youth will gain knowledge and develop skills in agriculture. * Youth will develop a greater awareness and appreciation for the impact of agriculture in their daily life. * Youth will expand life and work readiness skills in agriculture, gaining awareness of the diverse opportunities within the field of agriculture. |

Learning Opportunities

Adult

Dairy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Dairy Producers and Dairy Industry Professionals |
| Project or Activity | Dairy Programming |
| Content or Curriculum | University of Kentucky Publications, Other land grant university publications |
| Inputs | * Volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky Dairy Conference (held annually in February) * Farm Visits and Questions related to dairy farming best practices (all year long) * Consult with Kentucky dairy boards, organizations, and others to carry out dairy programs in emerging topics (all year long) |

Swine

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Swine producers |
| Project or Activity | Swine Production |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

Sheep

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Agents |
| Project or Activity | In-service updates / trainings |
| Content or Curriculum | Online series, in-person trainings developed as needed |
| Inputs | Coordination by AFS Personnel and Specialists |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers, Industry Representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Ewe Profit Schools |
| Content or Curriculum | Ewe Profit Curriculum |
| Inputs | UK sheep facilities, AFS Personnel, and Specialists |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers, Industry Representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Lambing school, grazing school |
| Content or Curriculum | Course presentations & materials |
| Inputs | UK sheep facilities, AFS Personnel and Specialists |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers, Industry Representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Shearing & Hoof Trimming Schools |
| Content or Curriculum | Course materials |
| Inputs | UK Sheep facilities, AFS Personnel & Specialists |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers |
| Project or Activity | County-based sheep presentations |
| Content or Curriculum | Presentation materials |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Small Ruminant Profit School |
| Content or Curriculum | Presentation materials |
| Inputs | KY Sheep & Goat Development Office |
| Date(s) | On-line |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Sheep Producers, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Advanced Small Ruminant Profit School |
| Content or Curriculum | Presentation materials |
| Inputs | KY Sheep & Goat Development Office |
| Date(s) | On-line |

Beef

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Agents |
| Project or Activity | In-service updates / trainings |
| Content or Curriculum | Online series, in-person trainings developed as needed |
| Inputs | Coordination by IRM coordinators and Specialists |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | BQCA trainings |
| Content or Curriculum | State BQCA videos and chute-side trainings |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Backgrounding Short Course |
| Content or Curriculum | Backgrounding short course presentations & materials |
| Inputs | UK beef facilities, Beef IRM coordinators and specialists, Industry sponsorships and External grant funds |
| Date(s) | Every other year with date TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Master Cattleman |
| Content or Curriculum | Master Cattleman curriculum |
| Inputs | Coordination with Beef IRM coordinators & specialists |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Bull Value Assessment Program (BVAP) |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Post-weaning Value Assessment Program (PVAP) |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs | Coordination with Kevin Laurent & Maggie Ginn |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Freezer Beef Short Course |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Beef Bash |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | Artificial Insemination School |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs | UK beef facilities, local facilities and cattle, coordination with Beef IRM coordinator and Dr. Anderson |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Beef Cattle Owners, Industry representatives, Agents |
| Project or Activity | New Farmer Program |
| Content or Curriculum |  |
| Inputs |  |
| Date(s) |  |

Equine

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Ag and Natural Resource Agents |
| Project or Activity | First Friday Equine Industry Update |
| Content or Curriculum | Educational materials and program delivery |
| Inputs | UK Specialists |
| Date(s) | First Friday January – June, September - December |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Adult Horse Owners |
| Project or Activity | Horses and Horsemen |
| Content or Curriculum | Seminars on Best management practices |
| Inputs | UK Specialist, ANR Agents Industry Professionals |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Adult Horse Owners and Farm Managers |
| Project or Activity | Horses and Horsemen / Pastures Please |
| Content or Curriculum | Pasture Management practices |
| Inputs | Extension Specialists ANR Agents and Industry professionals |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Adult Horse Owners |
| Project or Activity | Horses and Horsemen /Farm and Facility Expo |
| Content or Curriculum | Farm related management practices |
| Inputs | Extension Horse Specialist, ANR Agents and industry support |
| Date(s) | TBD |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Livestock stakeholders (producers, lenders, government agencies, etc.) |
| Project or Activity | Marketing related programming |
| Content or Curriculum | Market outlook, risk management, value-added marketing, etc. |
| Inputs | Extension faculty and staff, ANR Agents and industry support |
| Date(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Livestock stakeholders (producers, lenders, government agencies, etc.) |
| Project or Activity | Management / profitability related programming |
| Content or Curriculum | Managing cost of production and risk, long term decision making, production efficiency, etc. |
| Inputs | Extension faculty and staff, ANR Agents and industry support |
| Date(s) |  |

Youth

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Dairy Program |
| Content or Curriculum | 4-H Livestock Discovery, Kentucky Livestock Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Holstein Foundation Study Questions |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Dairy Jeopardy (offered March each year) * Kentucky 4-H Dairy Judging (offered each year) * Kentucky 4-H Cow Camp (offered each year) * Kentucky 4-H Dairy Shows (offered each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Dog Program |
| Content or Curriculum | Kentucky Dog Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Project and Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Learning Lab Kit, National 4-H Dog Curriculum Levels 1-3 and Helper’s Guide, American Kennel Club Website, Kentucky 4-H Dog Program Rule Book, Kentucky 4-H Dog Program Overview |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Dog Skillathon (offered each August) * Kentucky 4-H Dog Show (offered each August) * Kentucky 4-H Dog Bowl (offered each August) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Equine |
| Content or Curriculum | Ohio State University (OSU) Horse Learning Lab Kit, Kentucky Horse Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Horse Reference Manual (Alberta 4-H), 4-H Horse Academy, Kentucky 4-H Horse Website |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Horse Contest (offered June each year) * Kentucky 4-H Horse Show (offered August each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Livestock Program |
| Content or Curriculum | Kentucky Animal Science Livestock Discovery Website, Kentucky Livestock Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Project and Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Learning Lab Kits, National 4-H Project Books and Helper’s Guide, Kentucky 4-H Livestock Program Overview, Kentucky 4-H Livestock Rules and Guidelines |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Livestock Judging Contest (offered June each year) * Kentucky 4-H Livestock Skillathon and Quiz Bowl Contest (offered each year) * Kentucky 4-H Livestock Shows (offered each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Poultry Program |
| Content or Curriculum | Pullet Project Guide (university of Kentucky), National 4-H Poultry Judging Manual published by Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service, Evaluating Egg Laying Hens (University of Kentucky), Standards for Scoring Placing Classes (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Giving Oral Reasons (University of Kentucky), Notesheet for Poultry Reasons (University of Kentucky), Criteria for Evaluating Oral Reasons (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Grading RTC Poultry (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Grading Eggs (University of Kentucky), Examples of Different Grades of Broken Out Eggs (University of Kentucky) |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Poultry Showmanship (offered Kentucky State Fair - August each year) * Kentucky 4-H Avian Bowl (offered Kentucky State Fair - August each year) * Kentucky 4-H Poultry Judging (offered Kentucky State Fair - August each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Rabbit Program |
| Content or Curriculum | Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Project Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Learning Lab Kit, National 4-H Rabbit Curriculum Levels 1-3 and Helper’s Guide, American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) Standard of Perfection, Kentucky 4-H Rabbit Program Guide and Rule Book, 4-H Rabbit Program Overview |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * Kentucky 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Rabbit Show (offered Kentucky State Fair - August each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | 4-H Clubwork (Livestock, Dairy, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Dog, and Vet Science) |
| Content or Curriculum | * Livestock: Kentucky Animal Science Livestock Discovery Website, Kentucky Livestock Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Project and Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Learning Lab Kits, National 4-H Project Books and Helper’s Guide, Kentucky 4-H Livestock Program Overview, Kentucky 4-H Livestock Rules and Guidelines * Dairy: 4-H Livestock Discovery, Kentucky Livestock Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Holstein Foundation Study Questions * Horse: Ohio State University (OSU) Horse Learning Lab Kit, Kentucky Horse Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Horse Reference Manual (Alberta 4-H), 4-H Horse Academy, Kentucky 4-H Horse Website * Poultry: Kentucky 4-H Avian Bowl Manual, National 4-H Poultry Judging Manual published by Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service, Evaluating Egg Laying Hens (University of Kentucky), Standards for Scoring Placing Classes (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Giving Oral Reasons (University of Kentucky), Notesheet for Poultry Reasons (University of Kentucky), Criteria for Evaluating Oral Reasons (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Grading RTC Poultry (University of Kentucky), Kentucky 4-H Poultry: Grading Eggs (University of Kentucky), Examples of Different Grades of Broken Out Eggs (University of Kentucky), The Egg and I, Chick Incubation * Rabbit: Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Project Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Rabbit Learning Lab Kit, National 4-H Rabbit Curriculum Levels 1-3 and Helper’s Guide, American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) Standard of Perfection, Kentucky 4-H Rabbit Program Guide and Rule Book, 4-H Rabbit Program Overview * Dog: Kentucky Dog Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Project and Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Dog Learning Lab Kit, National 4-H Dog Curriculum Levels 1-3 and Helper’s Guide, American Kennel Club Website, Kentucky 4-H Dog Program Rule Book, Kentucky 4-H Dog Program Overview |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | Kentucky 4-H Country Ham Program |
| Content or Curriculum | Kentucky Animal Science Livestock Discovery Website, Kentucky Livestock Volunteer Certification Curriculum, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Resource Handbook, Ohio State University (OSU) Livestock Project and Record Book, Ohio State University (OSU) Learning Lab Kits, National 4-H Project Books and Helper’s Guide, Country Ham Meat Lesson Kit (University of Kentucky) |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | * 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) * Kentucky 4-H Country Ham Contest (offered Kentucky State Fair - August each year) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audience | Youth |
| Project or Activity | * General Agricultural Short Term Programs (School Enrichment, 4-H Camp, etc.) |
| Content or Curriculum | * Any 4-H Curriculum * Kentucky Ag and Environment in the Classroom, Inc. (KyAEC) https://www.teachkyag.org/ * Kentucky Food and Farm Facts https://www.kyfoodandfarm.info/ * Kids Sonder: Agriculture Unboxed https://www.mommassonder.com/ * National Ag Day https://www.agday.org/ * National Ag and Environment in the Classroom https://agclassroom.org/ |
| Inputs | * 4-H programs in agriculture in which youth experience a sense of belonging, developmental relationships, explore their spark, and are actively engaged in opportunities that are meaningful. * Certified volunteers in animal sciences (livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit, and dog). * Accredited volunteers in agriculture. * Research base of the Cooperative Extension Land-grant system. * Funding opportunities from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Inc. * Funding from local, state, and federal sources, and grants. * Engagement of volunteers and youth in delivering the programs and leading clubs. * Engagement of communities in identifying and implementing programming based on meeting local needs. * External stakeholder engagement and support such as commodity groups and agriculturalist organizations. |
| Date(s) | 4-H Program Year (September 1-August 31) |

Evaluation

Dairy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Short-term |
| Indicator | * Number of participants who reported an increased knowledge of the dairy industry. * Number of participants who reported an increased knowledge of dairy management practices |
| Method | Program evaluation survey |
| Timeline | Immediate Post Program |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Medium-term |
| Indicator | Number of participants who demonstrated/reported applying dairy management skills learned from UK Extension to their farm operations |
| Method | Program evaluation survey or records from post farm visits and individual consultations |
| Timeline | Throughout the Program Year |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Long-term |
| Indicator | * Number of participants who reported a financial gain through using the skills learned in their dairy business. * Profit increase (dollars) reported by dairy businesses. * Number of participants who reported an improvement in their quality of life because of implementing the dairy management skills/practices learned from UK Extension |
| Method | Program evaluation survey or records from post farm visits and individual consultations |
| Timeline | End of program year or several years |

Swine

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased knowledge and awareness of raising pigs |
| Indicator | * Number of participants who reported increased knowledge of management practices related to raising pigs. * Number of participants who reported that they intend to use the knowledge/skills gained from UK Extension to improve their swine management practices. |
| Method | Program evaluation survey |
| Timeline |  |

Sheep

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased knowledge and/or awareness of management practices to improve sheep production efficiency |
| Indicator | Number of participants who reported an increase in knowledge and/or awareness of best practices for managing/raising small ruminants. |
| Method | Survey |
| Timeline | Immediately after program participation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Implementation or utilization of knowledge gained to make changes in management of small ruminant operation. |
| Indicator | Number of participants that have made changes to improve management of their small ruminant operation. |
| Method | Survey (post program) |
| Timeline | Follow-up survey or records from individual consultations |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Individuals gain financial management skills for small ruminant operations |
| Indicator | Number of individuals that implemented in small ruminant financial management programs. |
| Method | Survey or records from individual consultations |
| Timeline |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased understanding of fiber production from sheep |
| Indicator | Number of individuals that increased their knowledge of effective fiber production practices through participation in sheep shearing programs. |
| Method | Survey |
| Timeline |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Gained knowledge and/or participated in direct marketing of lamb. |
| Indicator | * Number of individuals that increased their knowldege of direct marketing of small ruminants. * Number of individuals who reported selling lamb directly to consumer/retailer. |
| Method | Survey or records from individual consultations |
| Timeline |  |

Beef

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased awareness of beef cattle quality assurance and care practices |
| Indicator | Number of participants who obtained BQCA certifications |
| Method | Post-program test |
| Timeline | After program participation or online |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased knowledge and/or awareness of management practices to improve cattle production efficiency |
| Indicator | Number of participants who reported an increase in their knowledge and/or awareness of management practices for improving cattle production efficiency. |
| Method | Survey |
| Timeline | At the program |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Implementation or utilization of knowledge gained to make changes in management of beef operation. |
| Indicator | Number of participants who reported making a change to improve their beef cattle management practices. |
| Method | Survey (post program) or records from individual consultations |
| Timeline | 6-12 months after program |

Equine

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased Horse Management Knowledge |
| Indicator | * Number of horse owners using Body Condition scoring to manage their horses. * Number of horse owners changing practices to reduce feed waste. * Number of horse owners using hay selection and use based on forage testing evaluation |
| Method | Evaluation results and/or records from individual consultations |
| Timeline | ongoing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased understanding of the horse industry |
| Indicator | * Number of agent-led horse programing to their county programs. * Number of agents supporting Pastures Please and Farm and Facility Expo in their area. |
| Method | Evaluation results and/or records from individual consultations |
| Timeline | ongoing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Understanding of equine farm and facility sustainable management |
| Indicator | Number of participants implementing mud management practices. Number of participants using temporary fences for grazing systems for horses. |
| Method | Evaluation results and records from individual consultations |
| Timeline | Ongoing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased livestock marketing knowledge |
| Indicator | Number of participants who report increasing their knowledge of livestock marketing. |
| Method | Program evaluation tools/ surveys |
| Timeline | Ongoing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Increased livestock management knowledge |
| Indicator | Number of livestock producers indicating increased understanding of farm management. |
| Method | Program evaluation tools / surveys |
| Timeline | Ongoing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Short-term |
| Indicator | * Number of youth who reported that they have realized the impact animal production has in daily life. * Number of youth who reported that they have an interest in animal production. * Number of youth who reported that they have identified at least one job/career in animal production and management that fits their interest. * Number of youth who reported that they understand animal production concepts and ideas. |
| Method | Survey |
| Timeline | Immediate Post Program |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Medium-term |
| Indicator | * Number of youth who reported that they have used the knowledge and/or skills gained in agriculture to make informed decisions. * Number of youth who reported that they have taken steps to pursue gaining more knowledge for a job in animal production based on their interests. * Number of youth who reported that they used knowledge and/or skills gained in animal production to complete a project. * Number of youth who reported that they adopted/applied one or more animal production practices. |
| Method |  |
| Timeline |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Outcome | Long-term |
| Indicator | Long-term evaluation will be conducted using the National 4-H Index Study. |
| Method | Survey |
| Timeline | 1+ years |

Data Sources (select any/all that apply)

Extension Community Needs Assessment – Data Dashboard

Extension Community Needs Assessment – Respondent Comment Summaries

Kentucky by the Numbers – Secondary Data for the Community Needs Assessment

Kentucky by the Numbers Data Profiles

CEDIK County Data Profiles

**Concentrations (select up to 4 – copy and paste your selection in the concentration section above)**

Animal Production and Management

Plant Production and Management

Sustainability, Natural Resources and Wildlife Management, and Environment

Financial Security and Economic Well-Being

Food Safety, Quality, and Access

Connected & Resilient Communities

Building Leadership Capacity

Work and Life Skill Development

Health and Wellbeing

Family and Youth Development

Small Farm Development

Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

Mental Health and Well-Being