

EPAF

2012 Professional Improvement Meeting
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Presentation of Extension Programs Twenty-sixth Annual Proceedings



EPSILON SIGMA PHI- Alpha Delta Chapter
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS
FLORIDA EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

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Extension Professional Associations of Florida

"Extension: Improving Lives for 150 Years"

Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa, Lake Buena Vista, Florida

26th PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Wednesday, August 29th, 2012

9:00 am– 3:00 pm

EPAF Abstract Committee & Editors:

Joy Hazell (Lee County)
 Lisa Krinsky (Miami-Dade County)
 Brooke Saari (Okaloosa & Walton Counties)

EPSILON SIGMA PHI – ESP

Katherine Allen (Suwannee County).....Cloister South

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Sarah Hensley (Sumter County).....Captain/Yeoman

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES – FEAFCS

Jacqueline Schrader (Clay County).....Knave/Scribe

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS – FANREP

Joy Hazell (Lee County).....Senate/Gallery

EPAF offers our thanks to:

- The Chairs and members of the ESP, FACAA, FAE4-HA, FEAFCS, and FANREP Abstract Committees who had the difficult task of reviewing and selecting the abstracts to be presented.
- All Extension faculty who submitted abstracts – continue the excellent work!
- UF/IFAS Extension Administration for your continued support of the EPAF Annual Conference!

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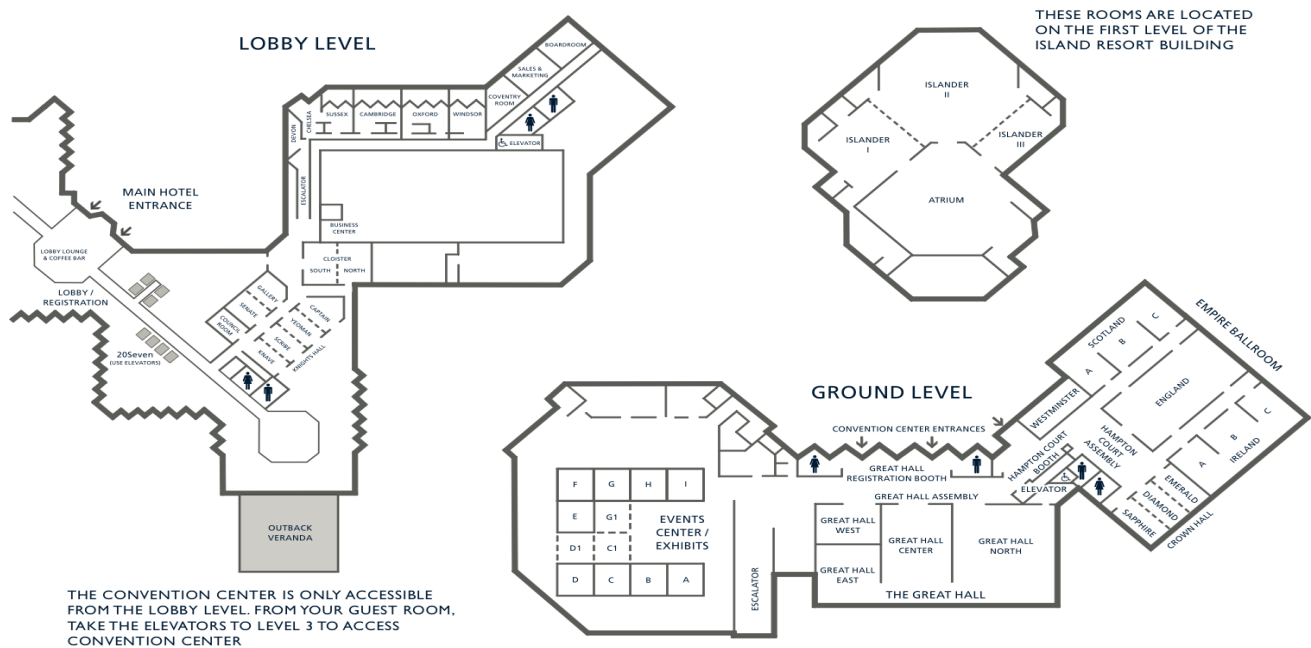
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Visit the EPAF website at <http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/> for an online version of this abstract book.

Conference archives include previous year's abstracts.

MAP OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES

CONVENTION CENTER



Wednesday, Aug 29, 2012	ESP	FACAA	FAE4-HA
TIME	Cloister South	Cloister North	Captain/Yeoman
9:00 am	Agritourism Trails Increase Agriculture Awareness, Profitability and Community Goodwill D. Dinkins, S. Lands*, M. Warren*, S. Treen*	Using School Greenhouses for Farmer and Youth Hydroponic Vegetable Production Education J. DeValerio, R. Hochmuth*	The 4-H Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Day Camp J. Lilly, M. Boston, W. Sheftall, S. Rosenthal, J. Dillard & C. Washington
9:15	A Web-based Educational Program in Land-use Planning and Sustainability L. Racevskis, R. Madhosingh-Hector, E. Linkous, J. Gellermann	2012 Florida Citrus Growers Institute: Asian Citrus Psyllid Session Provides Citrus Producers with the Latest Information G. England*, et al.	You Be Jammin' 4-H Day Camp J. Corbus
9:30	Costa Rica Study Tour: A Professional Development Opportunity E. Foerste*, et al.	Beekeeping in the Panhandle: A Diversified Team Effort to Educate New and Existing Beekeepers across County and State Lines J. Ludlow*, M. Orwat*, et al.	District Forums: One Stop Shopping for Volunteers H. Kent*, Y. Goode*, et al.
9:45	Costa Rica Study Tour: Sustainability in an International Context S. Haddock*, et al.	Utilizing Technology to More Rapidly Provide Extension Education to Farmers and Ranchers in the Northwest Extension District D. Mayo*, et al.	Global Cuisine 4-H Day Camp B. Knowles, A. Griffin
10:00	Break	Break	Break
10:15	Medium-term Outcomes from the County Program Reviews A. Harder	Hands-on Training of Micro-Irrigation C. Saft	Distance Learning Can Be Effective for Volunteer Training J. Bearden*, N. Bomann
10:30	The Farm To School Program – An Emerging Market Segment For Local Farmers L. Harrison*, L. Rodan, R. Terrin	Utilizing Commercial Alternative Vegetable Production Systems to Enhance Productivity of Residential Edible Landscapes J. Sowards	4-H Growing Green School Garden Program B. McKenna
10:45	Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) R.L. Jordi*, et al.	Employing Unique Teaching Techniques to Enhance Green Industries Best Management Practices Certification Trainings B. Moffis*, et al.	4-H Vet Tech Crew V. Spero-Swingle
11:00	Restart of Union County Soil and Water Conservation Board B. Bactawar	Managing Cattle Enterprises For Success Program Series B. Carlisle	4-H Camp Counselor Training: Teaching Workforce Skills K. Miliffe
11:15	Saving County Dollars with Extension Volunteers C. Hill	Farm Management Series Reduces Risk and Increases Confidence for New Farmers S. Kelly, L. Seals	Urban Gardening Programs as a Means of Extending 4-H Youth Programming T. Pehlke, J. Gross, E. Pardo
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10:30	Food and Nutrition Practices and Education Needs in Florida's Adult Family Care Homes W. Dahl, N.J. Gal	Brevard County Ecotourism Boating Program H. Abeels
10:45	Communities Putting Prevention to Work N.C. Jensen*, R. Bailey, K. Eckhoff	Sustainable Floridians in Pinellas County – Attracting New Audiences to Extension through Volunteerism R. Madhosingh-Hector
11:00	Food Safety Training for the Osceola County Fair 4-H Food Booth Fundraiser G. Murza	Watershed Education for Elected Officials, Resource Managers, and Concerned Citizens S. McGee, M. D'Abreau
11:15	Live and Virtual Food Preparation Education Teaches Sound Nutrition Practices R. Law, J. England	What Do Teachers Want? M.P. McGuire*, R. Francis-Floyd
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Wednesday, Aug 29, 2012	ESP	FACAA	FAE4-HA
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1:45	Google Survey Tool – Free, Easy and Impact/Outcome Oriented L. Barber	Osceola County Agricultural Awareness: “Farm-to-Table” Locally Grown Dinner J. Sullivan*, E. Foerste, K. Miliffe, J. Pelham	“Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp B. McKenna, S. Michael
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2:45	Using Video to Expand the Extension Message M. Davis*, J. Jump, T. Delvalle, S. Conner, W. Wilber, B. Estevez	South Florida Beef-Forage Program Reproductive Management School B. Carlisle, L.E. Baucum, S.C. Crawford, C.B. Davis, R. Gornto*, M.J. Hersom, P.J. Hogue, C.S. Holcomb, K. Johnson*, C. Kirby, T.R. Prevatt, L.F. Wiggins	Cloverbud Salsa Fiesta W. Cherry

Wednesday, Aug 29, 2012	FEAFCS	FANREP
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1:30	Extension Can Help Achieve Weight Management Success M. Payne	Negotiating Organizational and Social Interests in Extension Education A. Post
1:45	Teaching Home Owners Associations How to Host Productive Meetings through Parliamentary Procedures M. Rometo, J. Gellermann	Tree Identification Labs Teach Skills that are Prerequisite to Applying Management Recommendations W. Sheftall*, S. Rosenthal
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2:30	Volusia and Lake Counties Provide Successful Brain Health Programs J. England, J. Taufer	Collaborative Strategies for Water Quality E. Linkous
2:45	Supper and Snippets A. Hinkle, D.C. Lee	Backyard Composting L. Barber

Professional Development, Marketing, Technology, International

Cloister South

Katherine Allen, ESP Abstract Chair

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
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9:15	L. Racevskis, R. Madhosingh-Hector, E. Linkous, J. Gellermann	A Web-based Educational Program in Land-use Planning and Sustainability
9:30	E. Foerste	Costa Rica Study Tour: A Professional Development Opportunity
9:45	S. Haddock	Costa Rica Study Tour: Sustainability in an International Context
10:00		Break
10:15	A. Harder	Medium-Term Outcomes from the County Program Reviews
10:30	L. Harrison	The Farm to School Program – An Emerging Market Segment for Local Farmers
10:45	R.L. Jordi	Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD)
11:00	B. Bactawar	Restart of Union County Soil and Water Conservation Board
11:15	C. Hill	Saving County Dollars with Extension Volunteers
11:30		Break for Box Lunch

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:00	E. Linkous	Extension Gazette: Extending Program Reach through an Electronic Newsletter
1:15	M. Moore, P.M. Davis, L.S. Jackson	Cooking with Herbs: A Delicious Recipe for Interdisciplinary Extension Programming
1:30		Break
1:45	L. Barber	Google Survey Tool – Free, Easy and Impact/Outcome Oriented
2:00		Break
2:15	M. Benge, C. Higgings	Utilizing the IFAS Extension Internship Program in Your County Office
2:30	M. Campbell	Creating Opportunities for Extension Satellite Offices
2:45	M. Davis	Using Video to Expand the Extension Message

*For a complete list of authors see the full abstract.

Agritourism Trails Increase Agriculture Awareness, Profitability and Community Goodwill

D. Dinkins, Putnam County Extension; **S. Lands***, St. Johns County Extension; **M. Warren***, Flagler County Extension; **S. Treen***, Flagler/Putnam County Extension

Objectives: To partner with local organizations, businesses and farm families to develop and implement a regional Agricultural Trails Tourism Event to increase awareness of agricultural operations and to increase communications between producers, consumers and other entities involved with local food systems. **Methods:** County extension faculty partnered with the First Coast Slow Food Convivium, over 20 farm families and numerous businesses including food artisans and chefs to plan, market and conduct a regional (seven county) Tour de Farm Event in 2011 and 2012. Thousands of posters, post cards and tour booklets were distributed throughout the region to promote this event. **Results:** In 2011 over 2,100 individuals from 15 counties participated resulting in over 8,400 farm visits at the half day Tour De Farm Event. In 2012 approximately 3,550 individuals participated resulting in over 14,000 farm visits. This was a 68% increase in number of visits from the previous year. Over 500 participants were from outside the seven county region. **Conclusions:** The Tour de Farm Event received overwhelmingly positive comments from farm families, businesses, chefs, consumers and other participants. There was a positive economic impact and a very significant community development impact. Indications are this event will be sustainable and could possibly grow to a statewide event. Experiential on-farm agritourism events can be excellent methods to increase agriculture awareness, profitability and community goodwill.

A Web-based Educational Program in Land-use Planning and Sustainability

L. Racevskis*, Assistant Professor; **R. Madhosingh-Hector***, Pinellas County Extension; **E. Linkous***, Sarasota County Extension; **J. Gellermann***, Sarasota County Extension

The 'Land-use Planning: Basics to Big Picture' Web site was created to provide an introduction to the basics of land-use planning in Florida and to introduce the different methods through which planning can help balance economic, environmental, and societal needs. The site is designed for Extension agents, land use planners, local elected officials, local government administrators, and other professionals who work with natural resource and land use management issues. **Objective:** Forty online participants will utilize the website and at least 70% will increase their knowledge of basic planning, how to incorporate sustainability techniques into planning processes, the value of ecosystems, and issues at the wildland-urban interface. The website is designed to distill the abundance of information on land-use planning, policy and sustainability concepts in a way that is useful to Florida stakeholders and can be easily understood and applied to real-world problems. **Methods:** The site is organized in 4 educational modules: Basics of Planning, Reducing our Ecological Footprint, Wild land Urban Interface, and Ecosystem Services. Each module provides an interactive learning experience through a combination of videos, webinars, instructional presentations and publications, and other resources, which allow the student to learn remotely and at their own speed. **Results:** Twenty five post review surveys show a 90% increase of basic planning knowledge, 85% having a greater understanding of the value of ecosystems and 80% indicating knowledge gain concerning issues surrounding the wild land urban interface. **Conclusions:** Planning related education will be pivotal in solving many statewide issues.

Costa Rica Study Tour: A Professional Development Opportunity

E. Foerste*, Osceola County Extension; **D. Culbert**, Okeechobee County Extension; **T. DelValle**, Duval County Extension; **S. Dunning**, Okaloosa County Extension; **S. Haddock**, Hillsborough County Extension; **R. Jordi**, Nassau County Extension; **T. Olczyk**, Miami-Dade County Extension; **K. Ruppert**, Program for Resource Efficient Communities

Florida's population is increasingly more culturally diverse. UF/IFAS Extension faculty are faced with developing educational programs that meet the needs of diverse audiences. International experience is an important component of professional development, yet organized experiences are limited.

Objectives: Extension faculty will participate in an international study tour to increase cultural awareness. This will help them with future planning and implementation of educational experiences to meet the needs of diverse audiences. **Methods:** The presenter organized an eight day study tour experience with EARTH University in Costa Rica for eight UF IFAS/Extension faculty members. An agenda was developed based on participants' interests. Training was organized before the travel experience to cover: funding options, preparing for international travel, cultural sensitivity and Costa Rican culture.

Results: Participants were surveyed about the experience and indicated they have grown professionally and personally. In addition, they shared ways they intend to integrate lessons learned into local programming. Participants are sharing knowledge gained with co-workers as well as clients. Continued connections with faculty, students and businesses in Costa Rica are being organized. Participants have also developed a supportive network of colleagues here and in Costa Rica. **Conclusions:** This study tour helped participants understand international agricultural and environmental issues in the context of a Central American country, Costa Rica. Faculty are better prepared to address educational needs and wants of diverse audiences.

Costa Rica Study Tour: Sustainability in an International Context

S. Haddock*, Hillsborough County Extension; **D. Culbert**, Okeechobee County Extension; **T. DelValle**, Duval County Extension; **S. Dunning**, Okaloosa County Extension; **E. Foerste**, Osceola County Extension; **R. Jordi**, Nassau County Extension; **T. Olczyk**, Miami-Dade County Extension; **K. Ruppert**, Program for Resource Efficient Communities

Objectives: Increase Extension faculties' understanding of international agricultural and environmental issues in Costa Rica. Costa Rica has pledged to become "carbon-neutral" by 2021. UF/IFAS faculty wanted to find out how it could be accomplished. **Methods:** Support from FACAA, NACAA, ESP, the Extension Dean, and a District Director assisted eight UF faculty to travel eight days through different areas of Costa Rica. One agent spent three additional days evaluating the 2008 UF/IFAS Master of Gardens program conducted with EARTH University. Costa Rican professors, agricultural producers, community leaders and eco-tourism business owners facilitated tours, discussions and hands-on experiences with the faculty, demonstrating how Costa Rica produces sustainable products and services. Sample topics discussed were: reducing water consumption, eliminating broad spectrum pesticide usage, soil amendments, and improving water quality. **Results:** University faculty gained knowledge of the challenges of achieving sustainability. Faculty learned how to build a biodigester, and practiced skills by installing one on a local farm. A biodigester converts animal wastes into usable, methane gas used as biofuel to operate cooking stoves. This reduces the amount of animal wastes deposited in local streams and waterways and provides energy and cost savings to the farm. Results from the 2008 UF/IFAS Master of Gardens program showed that several Costa Ricans are still using landscape BMP concepts taught by UF agents. **Conclusions:** Self-directed international programs designed by and for Extension faculty can broaden international understanding of sustainability with both parties mutually benefiting. The philosophy of "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" is actively practiced in Costa Rica.

Medium-Term Outcomes from the County Program Reviews

A. Harder, Department of Agricultural Education & Communication

Objectives: Five counties participate in the County Program Review process annually. The purpose of the Reviews is to assist counties with planning and delivering exemplary Extension programs for their clientele. After one year, at least 60% of Extension faculty will report adoption of at least one new practice in program planning, implementation, or evaluation as a result of participating in a Review.

Methods: Data was collected through Web surveys conducted annually since 2009 with county faculty who had participated in a Review in the preceding year. Retrospective reports submitted by County Extension Directors since 2010 provided additional data. The constant-comparative method of data analysis was used to search all the data for commonalities. **Results:** Over 60% percent of the respondents from 2008 and 55% of the respondents from 2009 and 2010 indicated they had adopted one or more new practices as a direct result of the Reviews. County faculty most commonly reported doing the following: expanding programming, strengthening advisory committees, expanding use of technology, and increasing focus on underserved audiences. Some innovative practices identified were developing and disseminating a PowerPoint presentation featuring each Extension program area that plays continuously prior to meetings, new use of a Subscription Management System, forming a marketing committee, and installing Turning Point software on every agent's laptop. **Conclusions:** The Reviews encourage some county faculty to adopt new practices, but increasing the percentage of faculty who do so will have a broader impact on improving the quality of Extension programming.

The Farm to School Program – An Emerging Market Segment for Local Farmers

L. Harrison*, Leon County Extension; **L. Rodan**, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, **R. Terrin**, formally with the Florida Department of Education, Food and Nutrition Management

Objectives: To identify and prioritize information pertinent to farmers capable of delivering food products to public school food-service venues. Information includes type of products needed, form of products needed, delivery schedules, packaging requirements, and food safety protocols. **Methods:** Public school food service and lunch room managers were surveyed via an internet query. The 20 question survey with pre-coded answers inquired about the schools food service needs, buying habits, requirements and preferences. **Results:** Time constraints, especially interacting with farmers, are the universal limitation for food service managers. Budgetary concerns curtail the purchasing options from two perspectives, food stuff price per serving (82%) and labor cost per serving (78%). Local producers must be able to deliver the desired product in the correct form to the school they are supplying. The tighter the labor budget, the more appeal of processed, value-added and pre-cut fresh options, if priced within budget. **Conclusions:** The Farm to School Program offers Florida producers an opportunity to profitably serve local public schools by providing fresh, healthy dining options for the student population. This market venue requires consistent and specific parameters to successfully fulfill orders. Growers interested in pursuing this market segment are first advised to meet with individual school food service managers to determine the precise needs of the individual situation. Particular attention will be given to the concepts and techniques of satisfying repeat customers with a service-based food product line. Extension agents have an opportunity to offer training to prospective vendors who may serve school clients.

Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD)

R.L. Jordi*, Nassau; **C.B. Sanders**, Alachua; **E.W. Jennings**, Pasco; **B.A. Fluech**, Collier; **R.R. Law**, Seminole; **E.C. Shephard**, Brevard; **A.E. Toelle**, Duval; **R.D. Halman**, Collier; **C.S. Vavrina**, DED So. Central; **M.A. Gosa**, State Lobbyist

Extension budget reductions occur from all levels of government – municipal, county, state and federal. These reductions clearly demonstrate the importance of conveying Extension impacts to those in political and financial power. **Objective:** Emphasize the outcomes of Extension programs and the impacts on people's lives. Extension clientele are also constituents of those in Congress. Through Administrative funding, agents share local and statewide economic, environmental and social impacts with Florida legislators. **Method:** Groups of two or three agents from each EPAF association, including UF/IFAS state lobbyist, developed a concise message regarding the importance of the Farm Bill. This bill provides funding for Smith/Lever and ultimately Extension which means it requires continued legislative support. Appointments were arranged with the legislator or aide handling agriculture. Agents gave an one-page document of important state or local impacts to the legislator or staff person, along with a business card. Presentations were usually less than 15 minutes enabling agents to focus on a few key issues. Follow-up letters were written to the legislative office expressing gratitude for the opportunity to meet and discuss UF/IFAS Extension. **Results:** Twenty-one Florida representatives or staff was visited, with eighteen resulting in direct contact with staff or legislator. All those visited expressed appreciation for the information provided with most stating they had a better understanding of the services Extension provides for Floridians after the personal visits. **Conclusions:** PILD provides an opportunity to meet legislator's staff, express thanks for previous UF/IFAS Extension support and apprise them of Extension's "Solutions for Your Life."

Restart of Union County Soil and Water Conservation Board

B. Bactawar, Union County Extension

Union County had a Soil and Water Conservation Board that has been defunct for about nineteen years. The issue of restriction on the use of water for agriculture is a concern for Union County. The agent began to work with this county in 2010, and decided to provide the leadership to restart Union Soil and Water Conservation Board (USWCB). **Objective:** Organize and formalize Union Soil and Water Conservation Board by December 2012. **Methods:** The agent attended Bradford Soil and Water Conservation Board meetings to learn how its Board functions. In 2011, he wrote a proposal in collaboration with two representatives from Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Florida Farm Bureau to restart USWCB. The proposal was submitted to each County Commissioner. This was followed up with a separate meeting with each County Commissioner to explain the proposal and answer any questions. The proposal was later presented at one of the monthly meetings of the County Commissioners. **Results:** The County Commissioners voted to restart the Union County Soil and Water Conservation Board. Five people volunteered to serve on the Board. An Interim Board was formed. **Conclusions:** The Board will be the advisory body on water policy to the County Commissioners, and the medium through which extension programs dealing with water and the environment will be developed and implemented.

Saving County Dollars with Extension Volunteers

C. Hill, Lee County Extension

Objectives: The objective was to partner with a county department to provide educational services and reduce their operating costs. **Methods:** The agent submitted a proposal to Lee County Human Services Department outlining services available and the roles and responsibilities of UF/IFAS Lee County Extension. Upon acceptance the FCS agent would train volunteers to teach money management skills to county residents seeking emergency financial assistance from Lee County Human Services. Daytime classes would be taught weekly on Wednesdays for two hours and evening classes would be taught the third Wednesday each month for two hours. **Results:** Lee County Human Services partnered with UF/IFAS Lee County Extension to provide money management classes in 2012. To date 143 clients have attended class, 6 volunteers and 2 extension agents have provided 40 hours of education. The partnership was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding and the department will save close to \$10,000 in their operating budget. **Conclusions:** As county tax revenues continue to shrink Extension can provide services that will increase their value to the county budget bottom line.

Extension Gazette: Extending Program Reach through an Electronic Newsletter

E. Linkous, Sarasota County Extension

Many community members lack awareness of Extension programs, and Extension resources are often poorly marketed. While programs such as Master Gardener and 4-H resonate with some audiences, there is little cohesive understanding of the overall county Extension program. Many Extension staff members are not skilled in using electronic newsletters to simultaneously achieve multiple goals of 1) identifying community interests, 2) driving traffic to online Extension resources such as the county Extension website, social media sites, or EDIS publications, and 3) enhancing education and outreach about Extension programs and objectives. **Objectives:** To create an overall UF/IFAS Sarasota County Extension newsletter that engages and educates the community about Extension programs while providing data on community interests. **Methods:** A monthly electronic newsletter was developed with a design that emphasizes multiple opportunities for readers to “click through” to various online resources, such as Facebook, EDIS publications, the county extension website, partner programs, and surveys. **Results:** Click through rates and survey feedback generated from the newsletter provide data on the topics our community is most interested in. In addition, the newsletter creates a cohesive identify bridging our multiple programs and educates residents about desired behavior changes and Extension programming initiatives. Through linkages to county and partner websites as well as social media, the Gazette broadens the audience of Sarasota County Extension beyond the usual clientele. **Conclusions:** Sarasota County Extension provides a replicable model for a dynamic electronic newsletter that educates, engages, and provides data to support program development.

Cooking with Herbs: A Delicious Recipe for Interdisciplinary Extension Programing**M. Moore***, **P.M. Davis***, **J.A. Psikogios**, **L.S. Jackson***, Bay County Extension

Objective: To market to new Extension clientele and increase our capacity to serve through team-teaching by faculty representing all disciplines....4-H, Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), Horticulture, and Sea Grant. **Methods:** Agents coordinated teaching around the central theme of “Cooking with Herbs”. This theme was used to present issue-based information. Growing and identifying culinary herbs were presented by the Horticulture agent and Master Gardener volunteers. FCS provided health and nutrition information on sodium, relationship of sodium to high blood pressure and replacing salt with herbs. 4-H focused on engaging kids in meal preparation. Sea Grant agent taught selecting and safely preparing quality seafood. Teaching segments ranged from 45 - 60 minutes for 3- 4 hours. Agents prepared handouts that included a growing guide and recipes using herbs. Participants tasted several food samples and completed a program survey. **Results:** Cooking with Herbs has been conducted three times in the past 24 months. One hundred twenty-two individuals participated with 108 returning surveys. Surveys revealed that 100% of participants considered the information beneficial. Sixty-four percent said they intended to make changes to their eating habits as a result of what they learned and 38% stated they plan to grow herbs. Sixty-one percent plan to cook with herbs and use herbs in place of salt. **Conclusions:** “Cooking with Herbs” is an Extension interdisciplinary program model useful for our agents and very popular with our clientele. By conducting programs together, it increases community awareness of the total Extension program.

Google Survey Tool – Free, Easy and Impact/Outcome Oriented**L. Barber**, Hillsborough County Extension

Objectives: Utilize a survey tool that is easy for the creator and user, furnishes a comprehensive summary of the survey results, including graphs and charts, and provides impacts and outcomes needed for ongoing reporting. **Methods:** Several survey tools were evaluated including those used in the past. Many were challenging in the creation process; some allowed others to change the survey or delete it, resulting in rework and frustration. **Results:** All Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ staff have utilized the Google Survey tool and found it to be the most user-friendly. Surveys can be created in a short amount of time with emails generated from Google Survey or Extension staff. More completed surveys were received utilizing Google Surveys than when other survey tools were used as it is easier for the user also. **Conclusions:** Google survey cannot be deleted or changed by others inside or outside of the organization. It provides an excellent summary of survey results, simplifying the processes used by many agents and staff and saving a significant amount of their time in the creation and evaluation processes. The Google survey tool is a very effective, no cost, and easy to use technology for county agents that need to capture programmatic results.

Utilizing the IFAS Extension Internship Program in Your County Office**M. Benge***, Alachua County Extension; **C. Higgins***, Columbia County Extension

The IFAS Extension Internship Program is a collaboration between IFAS/Extension and the Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida. Student recipients of the paid internship work with County Extension Offices throughout Florida, gaining an understanding of Cooperative Extension as they deliver educational programs in the County. **Objectives:** (1) To acquire an intern through the IFAS Internship Program; (2) Provide summer staff to the County Extension office for educational programming efforts; (3) Prepare college students to be extension agents. **Methods:** Internship applications were made available in January and due in February to Keith Gouin. The agent planned an initial meeting with the intern to go over responsibilities, programming, and schedules. The intern worked with each extension agent in the office, planning educational programs and 4-H day camps. **Results:** (1) Interns have been acquired for the past three summers; (2) Interns collaborated with extension agents on educational programming, farm visits, workshops, community meetings, and advisory committees; (3) Interns received valuable inside knowledge of Extension which prepared them for future extension agent positions. **Conclusions:** The IFAS Internship Program is a great opportunity for both County Extension Offices and college students receiving the internship. Retaining qualified extension agents with a background in Extension is hard to find, and this internship program provides college students a paid summer internship and prepares them for a future career in Cooperative Extension. With decreasing County budgets, the Internship Program allows County Extension Offices summer relief with paid staff.

Creating Opportunities for Extension Satellite Offices

M. Campbell, Pinellas County Extension

Objectives: Develop opportunities for satellite Extension offices in Pinellas County as recommended in a 2007 UF/IFAS Program Review. **Methods:** During the 2008-2010 reorganization of Pinellas County government, efforts were made to make Extension a more integral part of local government operations and add satellite offices to provide greater awareness of Extension throughout an urban county of 916,000 people. To expand Extension's role as the education provider within Pinellas County government, Extension offered to support the operations and educational outreach at two Environmental Education Centers operated by Pinellas County. Operational plans were developed, which included relocating existing Extension positions to the Environmental Education Centers and planning for Agents to develop programs consistent with the mission of those centers. **Results:** Extension assumed operations of the Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center and the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center in October, 2010. A smooth transition was made to Extension operation with innovative programs, new partnerships, volunteer coordination and facility management provided through Extension. **Conclusions:** To develop greater awareness of Extension in large urban counties, satellite offices can reach additional residents and develop greater awareness of Extension programs. Over 500 programs including hikes, school field trips, workshops, classes and events were held at the centers in 2011, with over 14,000 visitors to the centers. Extension information is available and prominently displayed.

Using Video to Expand the Extension Message

M. Davis*, Baker County Extension; **J. Jump**, Columbia County Extension; **T. Delvalle**, Duval County Extension; **S. Conner**, Clay County Extension; **W. Wilber**, Alachua County Extension; **B. Estevez**, Suwannee County Extension

Objectives: The increased availability of video capture devices (either stand-alone or integrated into other devices such as smart-phones) along with decreased prices can enable the Extension Professional to expand their audience and clientele for programmatic efforts. However, the technological expertise and software resources for producing quality videos are limited in most Extension offices. **Methods:** Using inexpensive video capture equipment and common tools found within the Windows® operating system, a group of Agents in the Northeast District were able to compile a video that showcases the many applied sciences and disciplines within UF/IFAS Extension. **Results:** The finished presentation combines photographs, voice-overs and background music, along with captured video to educate current and potential clientele to the resources available through their local County Extension Office. **Conclusions:** There are many factors that need to be taken into consideration before trying to produce a video for clientele, including: 1) the actual need for a video, 2) what are your objectives for the video?, 3) who is the audience?, 4) what content will be included?, and 5) how will you evaluate your objectives? Once you know the answers to these questions, you can begin to draft the video itself. After you have completed the production of the video, it is essential to get feedback from other sources before going 'live' to sites such as YouTube, Facebook and others.

Agriculture and Horticulture

Cloister North

Leslie Baucum, FACAA Abstract Chair

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
8:50	Moderator	Introductions & Procedures
9:00	R. Hochmuth	Using School Greenhouses for Farmer and Youth Hydroponic Vegetable Production Education
9:15	G. England	2012 Florida Citrus Growers Institute: Asian Citrus Psyllid Session Provides Citrus Producers with the Latest Information
9:30	J. Ludlow, M. Orwat	Beekeeping in the Panhandle: A Diversified Team Effort to Educate New and Existing Beekeepers across County and State Lines
9:45	D. Mayo	Utilizing Technology to More Rapidly Provide Extension Education to Farmers and Ranchers in the Northwest Extension District
10:00		Break
10:15	C. Saft	Hands-on Training of Micro-Irrigation
10:30	J. Sowards	Utilizing Commercial Alternative Vegetable Production Systems to Enhance Productivity of Residential Edible Landscapes
10:45	B. Moffis	Employing Unique Teaching Techniques to Enhance Green Industries Best Management Practices Certification Trainings
11:00	B. Carlisle	Managing Cattle Enterprises For Success Program Series
11:15	S. Kelly, L. Seals	Farm Management Series Reduces Risk and Increases Confidence for New Farmers
11:30		Break for Box Lunch

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:00	C. Davis	The SFBFP Livestock Education for Law Enforcement
1:15	M.A. Meharg	UF and FDACS Specialty Crop Block Grant: Expanding Production Through New Ideas and Protected Structures
1:30	N. Demorest	Educating Homeowners on Stormwater Management in Deep Sand Soils
1:45	J. Sullivan	Osceola County Agricultural Awareness: "Farm-to-Table" Locally Grown Dinner
2:00		Break
2:15	M. Sowerby	Control of House Flies on Florida Dairy Farms
2:30	J. Davis	Advanced Bug Camp
2:45	R. Gornto, K. Johnson	South Florida Beef-Forage Program Reproductive Management School

*For a complete list of authors see the full abstract.

Using School Greenhouses for Farmer and Youth Hydroponic Vegetable Production Education

J. DeValerio, Bradford County Extension; **R. Hochmuth***, Multi-County Extension Agent

Bradford schools FFA instructor partnered with Extension agents with the goal of educating students and farmers on hydroponic cropping systems. **Objectives:** Extension and school educators planned to teach greenhouse design, Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), grow four crops using three cropping systems, market the produce, and use the facility to increase agricultural awareness; all within the framework of hands-on learning experiences. **Methods:** Students, Extension agents and Master Gardeners would grow several crops throughout the school year, using the facility as a demonstration teaching tool for students, farmers and community audiences. **Results:** Eleven group teaching events and twenty-six “train the trainer” sessions reaching 924 attendees included presentations to Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, students and the Farm City Celebration resulted in a heightened sense of community agricultural awareness and appreciation. Students achieved skill development in greenhouse structural components, using IPM practices for pest exclusion, growing cucumber, tomato, lettuce, herbs and strawberries using three hydroponic production systems (Bato buckets for climbing cucumber and tomato, vertical growing systems for leafy greens and herbs and lay-flat bags for strawberries), minimized water and fertilizer use by leachate monitoring and marketing their produce. A hands-on demonstration workshop hosting 75 farmers, parents and students was a great success. Several attendees, including another FFA agriculture instructor, traversed multiple counties to attend the workshop. **Conclusion:** A high impact success, the project exceeded all defined objectives. The transformation of an under-used, cost accruing greenhouse facility into a vibrant learning center was recognized throughout the community.

2012 Florida Citrus Growers Institute: Asian Citrus Psyllid Session Provides Citrus Producers with the Latest Information

G. England*, Lake County Extension; **M. Zekri**, Hendry County Extension; **W. Oswalt**, Polk County Extension; **G. Hurner**, Highlands County Extension; **S. Futch**, Hardee County Extension; **T. Gaver**, St. Lucie County Extension; **C. Esmel**, Sumter County Extension

Objectives: Increase the knowledge level of at least 70% of over 300 citrus professionals that attended the 2012 Florida Citrus Growers Institute on proper Asian citrus psyllid management tactics and enhance the probability of their implementation. **Methods:** For the eighth consecutive year, with grant and industry funding the Florida Citrus Extension Agents planned and conducted a one day program in April 2012 focusing on the key pest challenges facing citrus producers. A significant portion of industry managers and growers participated in the program. Key topics, including integrated pest management tactics and the success in utilizing citrus health management areas for region wide reduction of Asian citrus psyllid populations, were included in the program. As with previous programs, presentations are posted on the Florida Citrus Agents website. **Results:** According to the post-program survey (n=33 of 300 attendees), 94% and 97% gained knowledge of proper Asian citrus psyllid management and citrus health management areas respectively. Survey results indicate that 19% and 14% of those surveyed plan on making practice change in their operations related to knowledge gained in these two topic areas. **Conclusions:** The Asian citrus psyllid session at the 2012 Florida Citrus Growers Institute was successful in providing vital information about the management of this pest which is the vector of HLB (citrus greening). There have been in excess of 400,000 hits on the webpage containing presentations from the previous four years, providing opportunity for those not attending the program to obtain vital information.

Beekeeping in the Panhandle: A Diversified Team Effort to Educate New and Existing Beekeepers across County and State Lines

J. Ludlow*, Calhoun County Extension; **M. Orwat***, Washington County Extension; **R. L. Carter**, Gulf County Extension; **L. Johnson**, Escambia County Extension; **M.A. Meharg**, Escambia County Extension; **M.C. Donahoe**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **J.D. Atkins**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **L. Williams**, Okaloosa County Extension; **S. Dunning**, Okaloosa County Extension; **M. Goodchild**, Walton County Extension; **M. Hittle**, Walton County Extension; **A. Andreasen**, Washington County Extension; **D.E Mayo**, Jackson County Extension; **R. Trawick**, Jackson County Extension; **H.G. Grant**, Gadsden County Extension; **L.M. Muralles**, Gadsden County Extension; **W. Sheftall**, Leon County Extension; **J.D. Dillard**, Jefferson County Extension; **C. Simon**, Covington County AL; **J. Ellis**, UF/IFAS Department of Entomology and Nematology; **M. Dykes**, UF/IFAS Department of Entomology and Nematology; **G. L. Harrison**, Wakulla County Extension; **S. Kraeft**, Wakulla County Extension; **S. Eubanks**, Holmes County Extension; **L.S. Jackson**, Bay County Extension; **M. Moore**, Bay County Extension; **W. Mahan**, Franklin County Extension

This Beekeeping course consisted of eight, two hour classes via internet enabled videoconferencing and a one day tradeshow. **Objectives:** One hundred clients will attend an educational program emphasizing beekeeping best management practices, bee biology, pollination ecology, and Africanized bees. Seventy-five percent will increase their knowledge of pollination ecology and beekeeping best management practices. **Methods:** A committee of specialists from UF/IFAS Extension, the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, and the beekeeping industry, designed and taught the eight classes. A 178 page notebook containing beekeeping Extension publications was provided to each participant. The Tradeshow provided hands-on activities. **Results:** A total of 255 clients participated in 15 Florida and Alabama counties. Initially, only 17% (23 of 142) rated their knowledge of beekeeping as “a good deal to very knowledgeable.” By the end of the course, 91 % (126 of 138) rated their knowledge of beekeeping as “a good deal to very knowledgeable,” reflecting a 74% knowledge gain. Of 195 respondents, 94% have greater confidence in establishing or expanding their own hives and 96% have a greater understanding of pollination ecology. Ninety-eight percent (191/194) of participants felt they have a better understanding of Africanized bees and how to minimize their threat. **Conclusions:** Positive collaborations between attendees, UF/IFAS Extension, and local beekeepers have been established, these panhandle beekeepers are now better prepared as sentinels against the spread of Africanized bees, and they can gain income from providing pollination services to local farmers, as well as selling products of their hives.

Utilizing Technology to More Rapidly Provide Extension Education to Farmers and Ranchers in the Northwest Extension District

D. Mayo*, Jackson County Extension; **L. Harrison**, Wakulla County Extension; **J. Ludlow**, Calhoun County Extension; **P. Vergot**, Northwest District Director; **J. Dillard**, Jefferson County Extension; **H. Grant & L. Muralles**, Gadsden County Extension; **R. Carter**, Gulf County Extension; **R. Trawick**, Jackson County Extension; **A. Andreasen & M. Orwatt**, Washington County Extension; **S. Eubanks**, Holmes County Extension; **M. Goodchild & M. Hittle-McNair**, Walton County Extension; **J. Bearden**, Okaloosa County Extension; **M. Donahoe & J. Atkins**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **L. Johnson & A. Meharg**, Escambia County Extension

The Agriculture Extension Team in the Northwest Extension District has worked cooperatively to provide a team newsletter to agricultural clientele for several years. In March 2012, the team began using several new communication technologies to more frequently and efficiently send information to clientele. **Objectives:** Farmers and ranchers receive timely updates and information weekly or within an hour of posting to the Team Website. **Methods:** A Subscription management system (SMS) was developed to provide an email address/text messaging database making distribution of information to over 1600 subscribers very simple. A WordPress website was developed allowing multiple authors to post articles, images, or YouTube videos from internet enabled devices. This website is linked to Facebook and Twitter for automated updates. **Results:** The team of agents and specialists post at least one new article per week. Email and/or text messages push the information to the client notifying them of the topics available each week. **Conclusions:** The Extension team now has the tools to deliver information to clientele at very low expense, within hours of publication. Additionally, these tools enable Extension Faculty to stay competitive in the information age getting timely information to clientele efficiently and faster than ever before. The technology allows for the use of text, photos, graphs, and videos. The team approach allows for a wide range of expertise, and connects clientele to Extension Faculty outside of their county. Email subscriptions, Facebook, and Twitter followers have steadily increased since the project began.

Hands-on Training of Micro-Irrigation

C. Saft, Suwannee County Extension

In January 2010, the Suwannee River Water Management District instituted new landscape water rules to reduce water use in residential landscapes. Micro-irrigation systems are exempt from the water new rules because studies show that the use of micro-irrigation in vegetable gardens and plant beds is more efficient than traditional irrigation systems (Haley, et al, 2011). **Objectives:** To (1) teach Master Gardeners how to install micro-irrigation and use this information to teach others and (2) have Master Gardeners install micro-irrigation in their landscape. **Methods:** Micro-irrigation installation was taught at Extension workshops, garden clubs and in the Master Gardener course using PowerPoint presentations, videos, demonstrations, and hand-on learning. Trainees used irrigation kits and a mock landscape tarp with trees, shrubs, groundcovers and turf drawn on it to "install" irrigation according to plant needs. Trainees were also taught how to set irrigation time clocks. **Results:** Twenty-six Master Gardeners have installed micro-irrigation in their own landscapes. Master Gardeners have also installed and maintain four micro-irrigation systems at a church, an Extension vegetable demonstration, at the Suwannee Coliseum and at a library. Volunteers taught 96 others how to install micro-irrigation at Extension and garden club classes and at plant clinics in a local home improvement store. **Conclusions:** In 2011, approximately 168,000 gallons of water were saved by trainees and 27 garden club members. Demonstrations at the home improvement store resulted in over 35 micro-irrigation kits sold for a potential water savings of 38,500 gallons annually. Hands-on education is effective for teaching micro-irrigation techniques.

Utilizing Commercial Alternative Vegetable Production Systems to Enhance Productivity of Residential Edible Landscapes

J. Sowards, Putnam County Extension

Objectives: Stakeholder interest in creating edible landscapes is growing. Increasing productivity and reducing time spent in the garden is essential toward maintaining homeowner interest in creating and maintaining sustainable, edible landscapes. Some face challenges such as lack of space, poor soils or HOA prohibitions on vegetable gardens. Demonstrating alternative growing systems can help people achieve those goals and overcome challenges. **Methods:** The Edible Landscape Project at the UF, IFAS Partnership for Water Agriculture and Community Sustainability (FPWACS), in Hastings, is demonstrating various growing systems in addition to traditional growing methods to compare and contrast results such as; crop productivity, ease of maintenance, pest resistance or water use. Alternative growing systems, primarily used in commercial crop production, are being adapted for use in residential edible landscapes and evaluated for practicality and efficacy. **Results:** There is great interest in the various systems on display at FPWACS. At the 2012 Tour de Farm event, over 1000 people toured the facility including the two edible landscapes. Hundreds of UF, IFAS Fact Sheets on topics such as vertical and floating hydroponics, vegetables in containers and others were handed out to visitors. **Conclusions:** People are looking for highly productive growing methods that reduce the time spent pulling weeds, watering, or applying pesticides. By utilizing different alternative growing systems those interested in creating and maintaining edible landscapes have an opportunity to create more productive, interesting and sustainable landscapes while overcoming common challenges as well.

Employing Unique Teaching Techniques to Enhance Green Industries Best Management Practices Certification Trainings

L. Singleton, Sumter County Extension; **B. Jarvis**, Pasco County Extension; **M. Lenhardt**, Citrus County Extension; **B. Moffis***, Sumter County Extension; **J. Moll**, Hernando County Extension.

Objectives: The main objective was to certify over 100 landscape professionals annually in Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMPs) while employing unique teaching methods to enhance prescribed PowerPoint modules. A four-county team sought to increase the marketing and number of trainings offered in the west-central Florida region. **Methods:** Horticulture agents from Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, and Sumter counties collaborated to co-train the five different modules of the day-long GI-BMPs. Innovative teaching methods were employed such as water models, squirt guns, candy (representing soil particles) and beneficial insect collections. Trainings were scheduled in each of the four counties utilizing the green industry audience of each agent. Agents marketed all the classes in each of the four counties and often agents from each county teaching each day. **Results:** In 2011, these four counties taught more than 36% of all Florida GI-BMP participants. An increased awareness of GI-BMP practices was realized by 362 landscape professionals who attended GI-BMP training from 2009-2012. Eighty-six percent (n=362) became GI-BMP certified by passing the exit exam. According to a 2010-2012 end of class survey, 81% (n=238) of participants stated that they would use the recommended fertilizer rates and methods of applications taught in GI-BMP training. **Conclusions:** With entertaining teaching techniques and five different trainers, participants benefitted from a variety of delivery styles. Agents also learned engaging methods to connect with the audience from their colleagues. The host county benefitted from many qualified trainers and an expanded audience based on marketing from neighboring counties.

Managing Cattle Enterprises for Success Program Series

B. Carlisle, Polk County Extension

Economic viability of ranching is key to keeping ranch land in cattle production while maintaining “green space” for wildlife and native plant habitat, aquifer recharge and carbon recovery. Studies have indicated that cowherd efficiency can be increased 5-20% by implementing recommended management practices. **Objectives:** The Managing Cattle Enterprises for Success program series was offered to Polk County beef cattle owners, operators, managers and laborers to increase knowledge and adoption of management practices that will improve cow herd efficiency. **Methods:** The series included six programs on a variety of topics that are important to the success of cow-calf operations. A total of 165 Polk County ranchers attended the program series. On average, participants of each program segment managed approximately 9,122 head of cattle that grazed approximately 21,548 acres. **Results:** Evaluations indicated a 70% overall increase in knowledge. A follow-up survey indicated that 95% of participants adopted two or more management practices. These practices included: calf marketing, vaccination, bull evaluation and management, breeding seasons, mineral supplementation, evaluating BCS, supplement strategies, soil analysis, pasture fertilization, and record keeping. **Conclusion:** As a result of their knowledge gain and subsequent adoption of management practices, it can be estimated that an additional 228,050 pounds of weaned calves will be produced annually. Depending on the cattle market, this could translate to an annual economic increase of between \$330,672 and \$364,880. This will result in greater economic viability of the producer, better positioning him to preserve the ranching land and its environmental benefits.

Farm Management Series Reduces Risk and Increases Confidence for New Farmers

S. Kelly*, UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension; **L. Seals***, UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension

A six week extension farm management program has been taught in Florida since 2009. Topics covered in the course are all focused on reducing farm risk. The participants are women who either are farmers, ranchers or interested in getting into an agricultural business. **Objectives:** Survey program participants from the past three years to determine 1) which risk management strategies they found most useful 2) how much value the participants place on the program and 3) how many participants started or expanded an agricultural enterprise. **Methods:** A survey was developed with the primary purpose of determining which risk management strategies were being used by participant’s state wide, and which strategies were least utilized in starting or expanding a business. **Results:** Ninety-three participants were contacted to participate in the survey and twenty-eight surveys were returned. The most valued risk management strategies were: farm succession, understanding women and money, direct marketing regulations, selling strategies, developing a business plan and a farm mission statement. The value placed on the six week course ranged from \$50 - \$3,000 with all responses far exceeding the \$40 fee that was actually charged. 20% (n=5) started a new enterprise and 44% (n=11) expanding an existing enterprise. **Conclusions:** 64% of the farm management participants responding to the survey either started a new business or expanded an existing one. As extension agents seek methods for agricultural business incubation, this series should be of interest as a way to minimize farm risk and increase entrepreneur’s confidence in starting a business.

The SFBFP Livestock Education for Law Enforcement

B. Carlisle, Polk County Extension; **L. Baucum**, Hendry County Extension; **S. Crawford**, Hendry County Extension; **C. Davis***, Okeechobee County Extension; **R. Gornto**, Highlands County Extension; **M. Hersom**, Animal Science Department; **P. Hogue**, Okeechobee County Extension; **E. Jennings**, Pasco County Extension; **C. Kirby**, Manatee County Extension; **T. Prevatt**, Glades County Extension; **L. Wiggins**, Hendry County Extension

Law enforcement officers that handle at-large animals and investigate animal welfare cases need training to better prepare them for these cases. **Objectives:** The objective of the Livestock Education for Law Enforcement program is to provide law enforcement personnel with knowledge regarding generally accepted livestock production practices, skills to discern acceptable animal well-being, and ability to apply acquired knowledge and skills in the field. This includes knowledge in evaluating body condition of cattle and horses; livestock identification; animal housing, behavior and handling; animal disease and bio-security; and proper livestock tranquilization, euthanization, and disposal. **Methods:** The Livestock Education for Law Enforcement Program was offered in two counties in South Florida to personnel including sheriff's deputies, highway patrol, and animal control officers. Each program included both classroom and hands-on lab activities. The programs were attended by a total of forty-six (46) law enforcement officers from sixteen (16) different agencies across the state. **Results:** Evaluations indicated a twenty-five percent (25%) overall increase in knowledge. As a result of the program, one hundred percent (100%) plan to implement new or change current practices. These practices include utilizing BCS to evaluate body condition, proper cattle handling, proper tranquilization techniques, and bio-security precautions. **Conclusion:** As a result of this training, law enforcement personnel will be better able to handle cases that involve livestock species. The expressed interest in these programs has led to efforts to develop a statewide curriculum-based Livestock Education and Certification for Agriculture Law Enforcement Program that will be accredited.

UF and FDACS Specialty Crop Block Grant: Expanding Production through new Ideas and Protected Structures

M.A. Meharg*, Escambia County Extension; **L. Johnson**, Escambia County Extension; **J. Mullahey**, West Florida Research and Education Center, Director; **R. Schnell**, WFREC, Cropping System Specialist; **W. Wendt**, WFREC Specialty Crop Program Manager; **K. Holley**, PFMA Executive Director

In the US, Florida has the highest percentage increase (27%) of small farms growing specialty crops. To meet the need of farmers and consumers, a partnership was formed between the West Florida Research and Education Center, UF/IFAS Extension, and Panhandle Fresh Marketing Association. **Objectives:** 1) To increase the supply of specialty crops by value/total sales and by extending the growing season from 7 to 12 months to provide year round sales opportunity and 2) expanding markets by providing at least 20 farmers with an improved regional distribution system. **Methods:** The team hosted four field days (Hi Tunnel, Shade Production, Fall Production, and Food Safety/Marketing) that reached 379 participants, 3 food safety programs that reached over 40 producers, several food safety training demonstrations to enable producers to become food safety compliant, and over 15 tours in 2011. **Results:** From post program evaluations, local producers reported an increase in the total number of protected production structures and an increase in the total number of growers applying for NRCS Loans for new structures. In 2011 and early 2012, 39 number of specialty crop farmers signed up to participate in the PFMA, with a total value of \$97000 of local produce reaching regional consumers. **Conclusions:** Consumers are demanding locally grown food and production has increased with an increase in total farms. The projection based on acreage planted in 2012 is that sales will reach into hundreds of thousands locally. This has become a program that provides hands on training for local specialty crop farmers.

Educating Homeowners on Stormwater Management in Deep Sand Soils

N. Demorest, Columbia County Extension

Deep sand, little organic matter, and a high groundwater table results in rapid downward movement of stormwater. Underground karst formations in springs areas add to the danger of pollutants moving into the aquifer without degradation or filtering. **Objectives:** Increase knowledge and understanding of the fragile relationship of polluted water movement above ground and water quality entering the aquifer below ground. Introduce methods which filter and slow water movement across and into the soil. Increase the use of these stormwater management practices on homeowner properties. **Methods:** Basic soil science was taught to 162 participants during rain garden and rain barrel workshops to help develop the concepts involved in pollution, bio-filtering, and degradation. The dry detention pond at our partnering public library was retrofitted into a native plant bio-filtering basin. A poster presentation on the pond project was made to 300 attendees at the UF Water Institute Symposium. The educational poster was then installed in the library by the windows overlooking the project. Approximately 14,000 patrons have visited the library since the basin was retrofitted. The local newspaper printed two different articles with pictures about our home rain garden installations. **Results:** Master Gardeners assisted in the installation of three home basins. 49 exit surveys were completed by participants from two workshops. All reported learning new information and 78% plan to use a new stormwater management practice on their property. **Conclusion:** People are very receptive to new ideas when they understand the concepts and science giving them value.

Osceola County Agricultural Awareness: "Farm-to-Table" Locally Grown Dinner

J. Sullivan*, Osceola County Extension; **E. Foerste**, Osceola County Extension; **K. Miliffe**, Osceola County Extension; **J. Pelham**, Osceola County Extension

Objectives: 72% of Osceola County is in agricultural production, yet 91% of the County's 270,000 residents live in urban and suburban areas. Many residents are not aware of the diversity and value of local agriculture. Agricultural awareness is a critical step towards increased understanding and cooperation among rural and city residents. Local support of agriculture builds stronger economies and food systems. Objectives: 1) Coordinate a dinner utilizing local resources 2) Raise agricultural awareness 3) Encourage communication among producers and city residents. **Methods:** The UF/IFAS Osceola County Extension coordinated a dinner in celebration of National Farm City Week with community leaders in attendance. The dinner was prepared by professional chefs and featured local food and entertainment. Contributing farmers were introduced and an educational visual presentation highlighting local farms and agricultural facts was played throughout the dinner. Farm Bureau presented a Farm Family of the Year award at the dinner. Guests were given a handout of locally produced food sources. **Results:** 82 community leaders and residents purchased \$25 dinner tickets, exceeding the previous year's attendance by 21% and demonstrating interest and support for locally grown food. Farmers interacted with dinner guests, sharing information about their agricultural successes and challenges. Many dinner participants commented during and after the event that they were not aware of various aspects of local agriculture and Extension resources prior to the dinner. **Conclusions:** A "Farm to Table" dinner is an effective way to educate about local agriculture and build cooperation and communication among diverse rural and city residents.

Control of House Flies on Florida Dairy Farms

M. Sowerby*, Suwannee County Extension; **J. Hogsette**, USDA-ARS-CMAVE, Gainesville, FL.

House flies are a health and general annoyance issue for both cattle and humans. Unfortunately dairy farms are endowed with odors and breeding sites which naturally attract house flies, making their control essential for healthy cattle and happy neighbors. **Objective:** Evaluate the relative effectiveness of three house fly management devices – the Farnam Captivator trap, Quikstrike scatter bait, and Quikstrike bait station. **Methods:** Three northeast Florida dairy farms were selected, each having three locations known to be highly attractive to flies: calf rearing, feed storage (specifically wet brewers' grains) and feeding barn. One device was placed at each location of each farm based on a pre-arranged random rotational schedule for 24 hours, then dead flies were counted. Devices were rotated through the other two locations after 24-hour trapping intervals. This constituted 1 of 6 replications of a 3-by-3 Latin square design. **Results:** When numbers from the three dairies were combined, the Captivator trap captured significantly more flies (avg. 624) than were killed by the scatter bait (138) or the bait strip (95). The location with the greatest number of flies killed at each dairy was the wet brewers' grains storage area (avg. 2782) versus calf pens (1448) versus feed barns (641). **Conclusion:** Chemical fly baits and sprays worked well when first introduced, but flies developed resistance to them. This study demonstrates a house fly trap can out-perform baits and gives producers an added reason to reduce use of chemical pesticides for more effective results in ultimately controlling house flies.

Advanced Bug Camp

J. Davis*, Sumter County Extension; **B. Moffis**, Sumter County Extension

Objectives: "Advanced Bug Camp" is a program that was developed to increase the knowledge and importance of common arthropods found in Florida's environment to Sumter County youth. Activities introduced include the scientific method, lab skills and writing skills being delivered in a fun, interactive, non-formal environment. Skills such as these will help students adapt and succeed in higher education levels. **Methods:** The camp is a 3-day event, ages ranging from 9 to 12 years. "Advanced Bug Camp" is for youth that have attended and passed "Junior Bug Camp". "Advanced Bug Camp" youth are given a professional Entomology collecting kit. Youth learn collecting methods, insect classification, internal and external morphology, pinning and dissecting. "Advanced Bug Camp" youth also go on a one day field trip to the Butterfly Rainforest in Gainesville, Florida. An oral exam is delivered by both agents. The exam is comprehensive, testing students on the material they have learned. **Results:** 19 out of 20 "Advanced Bug Camp" youth received a score of 80% or higher on an oral examination, thus receiving their Junior Entomologist Certificate. **Conclusions:** Bug Camp has been established in Sumter County for six years. The addition of "Advanced Bug Camp" has been an overwhelming success, based on the return of our original students and the knowledge they have gained. We will continue to add new and challenging activities for "Advanced Bug Camp" youth.

South Florida Beef-Forage Program Reproductive Management School

B. Carlisle*, Polk County Extension; **L.E. Baucum**, Hendry County Extension; **S.C. Crawford**, Hendry County Extension; **C.B. Davis**, Okeechobee County Extension; **R. Gornto***, Highlands County Extension; **M.J. Hersom**, Animal Science Department; **P.J. Hogue**, Okeechobee County Extension; **C.S. Holcomb**, Dairy Science Department; **K. Johnson***, DeSoto County Extension; **C. Kirby**, Manatee County Extension; **T.R. Prevatt**, Glades County Extension; **L.F. Wiggins**, Hendry County Extension

Reproductive efficiency has long been recognized as the most important factor influencing the economic viability of commercial cattle operations. Income in the beef cattle operation is based on pounds of weaned calves. Therefore, profitability of the beef cattle operation is directly related to reproductive efficiency in the cow-herd. Studies have indicated that reproduction efficiency can be increased between 5% and 20% by implementing recommended management practices in nutrition, forage management, reproduction, herd health, calf husbandry, and performance records. **Objectives:** To increase knowledge of reproductive management principles and adoption of management practices. **Methods:** A total of 67 South Florida cattle ranchers representing approximately 14,723 head of cattle attended three Reproductive Management Schools that lasted three-days each. Each day began with an on-ranch lab in pregnancy diagnosis. This was followed by additional labs on reproductive physiology, obstetrics, and bull soundness evaluation; as well as classroom instruction. **Results:** Program evaluation indicated a 51% overall increase in knowledge of participants. Of surveyed participants, 95% indicated that they had adopted two or more management practices. **Conclusions:** As a result of their knowledge gain and subsequent adoption of management practices, reproductive efficiency in their herds can increase between 5% and 20%. This translates to approximately 368,000 more pounds of calves weaned annually. Depending on the cattle market, this could translate to an annual economic increase of from \$533,600 to \$588,800. Increased use of profitable management practices improves reproductive efficiency thus improving profitability of the beef cattle operation.

4-H and Youth

Captain/Yeoman

Sarah Hensley, FAE4-HA Abstract Chair

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
8:50	Moderator	Introductions & Procedures
9:00	J. Lilly, M. Boston, W. Sheftall, S. Rosenthal, J. Dillard & C. Washington	The 4-H Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Day Camp
9:15	J. Corbus	You Be Jammin' 4-H Day Camp
9:30	H. Kent, Y. Goode	District Forums: One Stop Shopping for Volunteers
9:45	B. Knowles, A. Griffin	Global Cuisine 4-H Day Camp
10:00		Break
10:15	J. Bearden	Distance Learning Can Be Effective for Volunteer Training
10:30	B. McKenna	4-H Growing Green School Garden Program
10:45	V. Spero-Swingle	4-H Vet Tech Crew
11:00	K. Miliffe	4-H Camp Counselor Training: Teaching Workforce Skills
11:15	T. Pehlke, J. Gross, E. Pardo	Urban Gardening Programs as a Means of Extending 4-H Youth Programming
11:30		Break for Box Lunch

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:00	G. Bender	Building the Capacity of 4-H/Youth Development Programs in Iraq
1:15	K. Popa, L. Adams	Citrus Extravaganza
1:30	T. Prevatt	Teen Leadership Teams for Large Clubs
1:45	B. McKenna, S. Michael	“Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp
2:00		Break
2:15	V. Spero-Swingle, E. Shephard, J. Butterfield, C. Weston, S. Duda	UnitedHealthcare 4-H Youth Voice: Youth Choice
2:30	K. Wilson, J. Gellermann	4-H Kids Fishing Tournament and Educational Outreach
2:45	W. Cherry	Cloverbud Salsa Fiesta

*For a complete list of authors see the full abstract.

The 4-H Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Day Camp

J. Lilly*, Jefferson County Extension, **M. Boston***, Leon County Extension, **W. Sheftall***, Leon County Extension; **S. Rosenthal***, Leon County Extension, **J. Dillard***, Jefferson County Extension, **C. Washington***, Jefferson County Extension

Objective: 1) To teach participants how to enjoy being outdoors while engaging them in “hands on” educational sessions that focus on forestry, wildlife, shooting sports and natural resources, 2) Teach participants how to become environmental stewards; respecting and protecting our environment. **Methods:** Fifty-three 4-Hers between the ages of 10-15 from Leon and Jefferson Counties participated in a weeklong environmental educational day camp. Youth were divided into 3 color-coded groups (red, yellow, and blue). Monday-Wednesday morning youth attended hands-on sessions in with forestry, conservation, and wildlife. The afternoon, youth participated in the shooting sports component. Each group participated in air rifle, shotgun (skeet) and archery. A day was devoted exclusively to Aquatic Science. Fisheries Specialist from UF allowed youth to seine for aquatic insects and plants and later identify them. The week concluded on Friday with shooting competitions in archery, air rifles and Eco-challenge. **Results:** As a result of the youth participating in this program, 86% of them acknowledge a better appreciation, respect and willingness to protect our environment. All 53 youth agreed to share what they learned with others in their respective communities. **Conclusion:** This is our fifth year conducting the multi-county day camp.

You Be Jammin’ 4-H Day Camp

J. Corbus, Washington and Holmes Counties Extension

Washington and Holmes Counties have seen a renewed interest in learning home food preservation techniques. Since many parents and grandparents of today’s youth have little or no canning experience, the Holmes County 4-H program held a Summer Day Camp to teach youth how to preserve strawberry jam. **Objective:** Fifty percent of youth participating in the *You Be Jammin’ 4-H Day Camp* will increase their knowledge of safe food preservation methods as indicated by increasing their test scores from pre to post by at least 30 percent. **Methods:** The 4-H Agent and FCS Agent taught a one-day Day Camp at the Holmes County Extension Office using a PowerPoint presentation and hands-on activities. Eleven 4-H members learned basic food safety and food preservation skills while preparing strawberry jam using a boiling water bath canner. Three adult volunteers, including a Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer, assisted with the Day Camp. **Results:** Each participant prepared two half-pint jars of jam; one to take home and one to enter in the 2011 Holmes County Fair. All 11 participants completed both a pre and post test to measure knowledge gain in safe food preservation methods. The post test score was an average of 7 points (66%) higher than the pretest score. **Conclusions:** The Day Camp provided youth with an experiential learning opportunity to learn about food preservation techniques while making a product to use at home and to enter in the Fair. The Day Camp will be repeated in Washington County in August, 2012.

District Forums: One Stop Shopping for Volunteers

H. Kent*, Northwest Regional Specialized 4-H Agent; **Y. Goode***, Gadsden County Extension; **P. Davis**, Bay County Extension; **K. Brown**, Escambia County Extension; **A. Meharg**, Escambia County Extension; **V. Mullins**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **J. Bearden**, Okaloosa County Extension; **S. Wilson**, Walton County Extension; **N. Bomann**, Holmes County Extension; **J. Dillard**, Washington County Extension; **M. Taylor**, Gulf County Extension; **B. Knowles**, Jackson County Extension; **W. Cherry**, Calhoun County Extension; **M. Brinkley**, Liberty County Extension; **S. Kraeft**, Wakulla County Extension; **M. Boston**, Leon County Extension; **S. Duda**, Leon County Extension; **J. Lilly**, Jefferson County Extension; **B. Terry**, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Objectives: Due to the geography of our large state, volunteers located in the fringes of Florida often do not engage in state forums or trainings because of the time and money required to travel 6 or more hours to Gainesville or Camp Ocala. The objective of this program was to increase capacity of 4-H volunteers by providing geographically convenient, high quality training. **Methods:** Over the last seven years, the northwest 4-H Program Implementation Team (PIT) has implemented district volunteer forums at 4-H Camp Timpoochee. The most successful forums have attracted over 80 volunteers and included shooting sports certification as well as positive youth development and subject matter training. Networking was encouraged with share fairs and mixers. Tracks for new and experienced youth and adult volunteers were offered. Grants from the internal and external sources kept the cost reasonable. **Results:** Volunteers reported that the forums increase their knowledge and skills, and the average overall rating of the form was 4.57 (5-point Likert scale). Although they valued opportunities for interacting with specialists and volunteers, they were not willing to travel more than 2-3 hours. They appreciated the number of workshops available, and the flexibility to come for the entire weekend, or for just one day. **Conclusions:** Future forums will include chaperone certifications and live scan fingerprinting for camp volunteers, creating a “one stop shopping” experience for volunteers. District forums make training more accessible to volunteers by reducing cost and travel time and cultivate collaborative programming within the administrative district.

Global Cuisine 4-H Day Camp

B. Knowles*, Jackson County Extension; **A. Griffin***, Jackson County Extension

Objectives: The objectives for the Global Cuisine 4-H Day Camp were to teach youth food preparation techniques and skills and how to use kitchen equipment safely. Healthy living activities were incorporated to increase youth’s knowledge and skills in the areas of nutrition and physical fitness. **Methods:** A two-day day camp was offered to 21 youth, ages 8-14. Jackson County Extension 4-H Staff and 4-H Volunteers planned and executed the cooking activities. The Family Consumer Science Agent provided lessons on reducing consumption of drinks with added sugar and choosing proper food portions. A local fitness center provided free aerobic and strength training classes each day. Recipes made included: banana crepes, sushi, ratatouille, bangers and mash, tomato salsa and fruit salsa. Cost was \$20.00 per child. **Results:** Post surveys showed that 21 youth increased their knowledge about nutrition, learned useful food prep skills, and learned to try new foods. Nineteen youth agreed that camp helped them learn to make healthier choices and how to get more exercise daily. Youth identified learning responsibility, leadership skills, self-appreciation and how to listen to others. **Conclusions:** Due to the positive response from campers and parents, Global Cuisine will be offered again in June of 2012. Food prep stations will incorporate educational activities on different cultures. A new component will include cooking with Florida seafood and educational activities on the Florida seafood industry.

Distance Learning Can Be Effective for Volunteer Training

J. Bearden*, Okaloosa County Extension; **N. Bomann**, Holmes County Extension

Objectives: To develop a distance learning course for Northwest District 4-H volunteers. To decrease the financial burden on 4-H volunteers and 4-H programs while providing required training. **Methods:** Created online learning modules using Blackboard Learn. Modules were completed by volunteers prior to a face-to-face training. Modules included homework assignments that were turned in at the face-to-face training. **Results:** Twenty-four Shooting Sports Volunteers received training in 2012 using a combination of distance education and face-to-face training. Cost of overnight stay and meals were decreased by \$50 for each volunteer. Total savings for the training was \$1200. **Conclusions:** Effective online education requires just as much effort, if not more effort but has the potential to save volunteers and county 4-H programs significant amounts of money. Online modules are best if they are interactive and connected to the local 4-H agent. There are several new tools available for 4-H agents to use to educate and counsel volunteers through online methods such as Prezi, Facebook, Blackboard Learn, Youtube and more.

4-H Growing Green School Garden Program

B. McKenna, Seminole County Extension

The majority of youth have no concept where their food comes from and do not realize that food production starts with a farmer, who begins the food supply chain. The target population has been 3rd – 5th graders in Title I Elementary Schools. **Objective:** 75% of program participants will demonstrate knowledge of where their food comes from as demonstrated by pre/post assessment. **Methods:** The 4-H Growing Green School Garden program has been accomplished through the collaboration of 4-H, Family and Consumer Sciences, our Master Gardener Volunteers, and the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Extension Programs. Curriculum and gardening materials were developed to assist in the implementation and maintenance of the school gardens. The program follows a 16 week time frame. Agents train teachers and volunteers in constructing the garden and aligning the program with their math and science lessons. **Results:** 80% of students increased knowledge of agricultural awareness. Teachers reported an increased engagement of math and science. Cafeteria Managers and Physical Education teachers utilized the gardens to stress healthy eating habits. One school used produce to supplement their food pantry. This program has reached 10 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 2 community centers. Senior citizens have become involved with youth for intergenerational learning. **Conclusion:** School Gardens can increase agriculture awareness, increase academic skills in students, teach sustainability, and encourage intergenerational experiences. All areas of Extension can help to make a difference through this program.

4-H Vet Tech Crew

V. Spero-Swingle, Brevard County Extension

Objectives: Career courses for high school youth “provide opportunities for in-depth study and hands-on career experiences, such as role playing and job shadowing (Hughes & Karp, 2004).” **Methods:** Brevard County 4-H launched a new animal science career seminar series called the 4-H Vet Tech Crew to address the need for career courses for high school age youth. This program began through a partnership between the Brevard Community College (BCC) Veterinary Technology Program, 4-H, and local veterinarian practices. The 4-H Vet Tech Crew program consists of four seminar series and field trips for 14-18 year old high school students, as well as shadowing opportunities for high school juniors and seniors. **Results:** Upon the conclusion of the second seminar series, youth responded (n=19) to a follow up survey regarding their perceived knowledge gain and experiences in the program. All enjoyed the seminar series. 89% of the youth (n=19) responded that they were still interested in veterinary science as a career choice with two youth saying they were no longer interested in this field of study. Comments included youth being more equipped to enter into this career field after the seminar series, as well as finding out more about the different veterinary fields. **Conclusions:** By teaming up with a local resource, BCC and veterinarians, this program was able to create a community connection and get youth thinking about their college careers and career choices. Many of the youth involved in the program expressed interest to continue with programs such as this.

4-H Camp Counselor Training: Teaching Workforce Skills

K. Miliffe, Osceola County Extension

Declines in revenue and tighter budget constraints have required justification of public funds, evidence pertaining to return on investment and economic development. 4-H has numerous programs that contribute to the economy, including Workforce Preparation, through activities such as 4-H Camp Counselor Training, contributing to the skills of the future workforce, including communication and problem solving. **Objective:** To present teens with a real-life learning experience of acquiring and performing a job. **Methods:** Over three years, 49 youth participated in a 4-H Counselor workforce development experience. A youth submits an application, interviews for a 4-H Camp Counselor position, and chooses to accept or deny a job offer. Twelve hours of mandatory training is required. Throughout the work experience as a 4-H Camp Counselor, youth receive feedback from Agents and a nightly meeting is held to answer questions and troubleshoot issues during 4-H Camp. **Results:** A post-reflective Likert survey of 49 youth indicated that participants increased their workforce preparation skills. 76% of youth increased skills in giving clear directions, 71% increased skills in working with others & group dynamics and 68% increased skills in organizing groups and information. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of youth (n=44) learned time management and workforce skills. **Conclusion:** The 4-H Camp Counselor Training Program presents teens with a real-life learning experience of acquiring and performing a job. These program results justify support for 4-H program resources, as teens develop skills which subsequently contribute to a more qualified workforce.

Urban Gardening Programs as a Means of Extending 4-H Youth Programming

T. Pehlke*, Orange County Extension; **J. Gross***, AmeriCorps VISTA; **E. Pardo***, Orange County Extension

Research by the After School Alliance highlights the need for expanded informal youth educational programs. In a study entitled *America After 3 PM* (2010) researchers found that 25% of Florida youth are unsupervised from 3-6 PM, the peak hours of delinquent activity. **Method:** Orange County 4-H partnered with Real Men Outdoors and the City of Orlando and on *The Garden*. *The Garden* is a crime prevention program designed to teach youth ages 11-16 life skills through hands-on gardening educational programming. This ten week initiative, based in a predominantly African American neighborhood, utilizes teambuilding exercises, guest speakers, and adult mentoring. Participants have the opportunity to grow a container garden in partnership with adult volunteers. The resulting produce is then used to make pizza in a culminating Harvest Celebration. **Results:** To date, a total of 101 youth have completed *The Garden* over the course of three sessions. Post-test analysis indicates that 100% of participants demonstrated a gain in at least one life skill as a result of their involvement. Knowledge gains were found in (1) learning the value of eating fresh produce (92%), (2) understanding the link between work ethic and results (81%), and (3) awareness of agri-science career opportunities (66%). **Conclusions:** *The Garden* has opened 4-H programming to urban audiences, resulting in an infusion of new volunteers and expanded media coverage. Plans are in place to launch a second site in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood in the summer of 2012.

Building the Capacity of 4-H/Youth Development Programs in Iraq

G. Bender*, University of Florida, South Central District Extension; **M. Balschweid**, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Professor and Department Head, Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication; **M. Kreifels**, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Assistant Professor of Practice in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication; **P. Ingram**, Penn State University, Professor of Agricultural and Extension Education

Objectives: To increase the knowledge and understanding of Iraqi youth workers of the essential elements of 4-H youth development programs, and to strengthen Iraqi youth workers' skills in curriculum development and delivery. **Methods:** A U.S. youth development team was invited by the U.S. Foreign Agriculture Services to conduct a week-long training workshop in Iraq on program planning, curriculum development for seventeen Iraqi youth workers. Two in-country college students also assisted the team during the workshop. Their role was to assist with training and be able to transfer the curriculum to other groups. The team used National 4-H Council's *Essential Elements of 4-H Youth Development Programs* which focus on the use of an experiential learning model. A pre-post-evaluation was used to evaluate the objectives of the training. The evaluation was designed to measure the knowledge, attitudes, and intentions of Iraqi participants related to youth development programming. **Results:** Our data will show that participants felt they had learned a significant amount about youth development. The efforts of the team built upon existing 4-H efforts currently underway in Iraq. Iraqi, Kurdish, and U. S. relationships were established or strengthened among the participants. Groups that don't normally interact were able to connect and, establish relationships, provide contact information and plan future communications. **Conclusions:** This project creates a solid foundation upon which to build future youth oriented curriculum development efforts in Iraq. Recommendations include focus on longer term arrangements; provide opportunities for Iraqi youth workers to work along with youth partners in other countries to strengthen their programs.

Citrus Extravaganza**K. Popa**, DeSoto County; **L. Adams**, Indian River County

Objective: For 4-H'ers to gain knowledge about a dynamic industry (citrus) in both our respective communities of DeSoto and Indian River Counties, but also how important citrus is in providing us with healthy eating opportunities as well as jobs within our areas. In addition to these objectives, the Citrus Project will also allow us to gain additional members of diverse backgrounds as it is an affordable project for many families. **Methods:** Beginning with a pre-test, where knowledge pertaining to citrus and the citrus industry is measured. Members are then supplied with their own tree, pot, soil and fertilizer to start their project. Over the next 6-12 months the members are required to care for their tree, attend workshops, participate in skill-a-thons, write buyers letters, conduct research and create an educational backboard on a topic related to citrus, participate in a field trip and maintain a record book. **Results:** Although this project is just beginning in DeSoto County, it has been successful in Indian River County for 15 years, and has allowed many 4-H'ers to essentially learn by doing. **Conclusion:** Through this process, 4-H members with little to no knowledge of citrus trees become well-informed citizens not only about how to care for the citrus project, but how verbal and non-verbal communication work, as well as the vital impact that citrus has on our communities, the economy, and our health. This project will conclude with a post-test (skill-a-thon) to test 4-H members' knowledge of the above aspects of "citrus."

Teen Leadership Teams for Large Clubs**T. Prevatt**, Glades County Extension

In Glades County the 4-H Swine Club is the largest club, making it hard for the leader to manage and accomplish tasks. For the past 2 years the club leader has broken the club into teams that consist of one teen leader and several 4-Hers in each team. **Objectives:** To make large 4-H clubs more manageable while promoting leadership, cooperation, teamwork, record keeping and problem solving in 4-H youth ages 8-18. **Methods:** The leader broke the large group into color coded teams consisting of several club members and a teen leader. Each team sat together at their team table for the meeting, then when the club meeting was over the teams would work on homework such as record book pages, parts of the swine, and plan team visits to look at each other's project. A point system was set up and used allowing team to collect points throughout the year. The winning team would receive \$250 to be spent on a fun activity or trip for the team. **Results:** Youth in the swine club have become more involved in projects and programs outside of their club in order to earn points. Parents often comment on how much easier record books are since they work on them together and how the kids pay attention during the meeting in order to earn points. **Conclusion:** By allowing teens to take on a leadership role in the club the club leader now has a more manageable group while the youth learn leadership and responsibility.

“Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp.

B. McKenna*, Seminole County Extension; **S. Michael***, Seminole County Extension.

The “Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp provides real world, hands on activities on how to earn, manage and spend money responsibly. The day camp offers a real world simulation of matching career expectations with a potential monthly budget. Youth are guided through a series of activities of making a monthly budget and paying bills to demonstrate the importance of responsible money management. Participants also have the opportunity to learn about personality characteristics and talents that lend to career exploration and entrepreneurial endeavors. **Objective:** As a result of participating in the “Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp, youth will demonstrate an increase in life skills as evidenced by post program surveys. **Methods:** The agents used a day camp setting involving hands on activities, lectures, guest speakers and field trips. Topics included: College Preparedness, Credit Cards, Checking Accounts, Buying a Car, and entrepreneurship. **Results:** As a result of participating in the day camp, 95% of surveyed youth (n=14) demonstrated increases in knowledge related to personal finance and budgeting their money. The survey also indicated that 85% (n=13) of the surveyed youth learned the importance of goal setting. **Conclusion:** The “Show Me the Money” 4-H Financial Day Camp teaches youth about financial responsibility in order to ensure that they have the skills to obtain meaningful employment and lead financially sound lives.

UnitedHealthcare 4-H Youth Voice: Youth Choice

V. Spero-Swingle*, Brevard County Extension; **E. Shephard***, Brevard County Extension;
C. Chen-Luke, Brevard County Extension; **J. Butterfield***, State 4-H Office; **C. Weston***, Miami-Dade Extension; **S. Duda***, Leon County Extension

Objectives: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years, with more than one third of children and adolescents considered to be overweight or obese. In order to address these concerns, UnitedHealthcare (UHC) piloted a grant program in Florida to promote healthy lifestyles through hands on activities that teach nutritional messages. Youth Voice: Youth Choice utilized teenage youth in order to help spread the message. **Methods:** Three counties in Florida participated. Each county used the grant money to purchase supplies, hire additional staff, and/or create program materials and activity guides in order to make their programs more successful. Deliverables for the grant include items such as The Nutrition Edition Manual (created by Brevard County 4-H Agents, FNP, and UHC staff), which brings nutrition principles together in an easy format for teaching adult and youth volunteers activity plans that supplement lessons. Leon and Miami-Dade County used funding to create nutrition kits and provide materials for volunteers to assist in teaching (items included the new food plate modules, pedometers, incentives for youth to get fit, etc.) while using existing curriculum. **Results:** Preliminary surveys captured that youth who participated in the program were reported by staff as having been engaged in the lessons, learning something new related to nutrition and health, and having the lessons reinforced through hands on games and activities. **Conclusions:** With over 15,000 youth reached, the program has been successful in teaching healthy eating habits, physical activity, and nutrition.

4-H Kids Fishing Tournament and Educational Outreach

K. Wilson*, Education Specialist, 4-H Sarasota County Extension; **J. Gellermann***, Sarasota County Extension

Sarasota Extension and 4-H have partnered to create a 4-H Kids Fishing Tournament an opportunity to bring families together for a day of fishing, community, and education. **Objective:** 40 participants will attend the tournament to better understand the importance, diversity and issues surrounding Sarasota Bay. 80% of these participants will increase their knowledge of marine animals and basic marine biology. **Methods:** Day 1 -participants learn about marine diversity through a seining activity then classify their catch into their proper scientific classes and present their specimens to the group. They will then be given a tour of the Mote Marine Aquarium where they will learn about diverse marine habitats. The day will end with a short "beach clean-up". Day 2 -participants arrive at the fishing pier, explained the rules (catch and release) of the tournament and taught basic fishing skills and the importance of circle hooks. At the conclusion of the tournament each child is given their prize and a certificate of being an ethical angler. **Results:** Forty participating youth achieved an 85 % gain in knowledge relating to coastal ecosystems, were able to identify and classify 15 different species of marine fish and invertebrates, developed collecting skills of live coastal species, learned to determine the age of fish and developed an understanding of fish habitat restoration projects. 100% of participants practiced ethical angling principals. **Conclusion:** Development of a two day tournament has enabled educators to provide a more intensive learning experience for the participants.

Cloverbud Salsa Fiesta

W. Cherry, Calhoun County Extension

Objectives: Youth will demonstrate acceptance of others who are different from themselves, try one or more new things, work together as a team to successfully accomplish a goal, and demonstrate qualities of a leader including clear communication of ideas, delegating responsibilities, conflict resolution, and democratic decision making. **Methods:** During a two day Mexican themed day camp, cloverbud aged youth (5-8 years old) explored Mexican culture through language, guest speakers, books, traditional games, dances, foods, clothing, and toys. **Results:** According to a post reflective survey, leaders observed the following: 100% of 12 youth demonstrated acceptance of others who are different from themselves. 100% of 12 youth tried one or more new things. 100% of 12 youth worked with a team to successfully accomplish a goal. 58% of 12 youth demonstrated qualities of a leader including clear communication of ideas, delegating responsibilities, conflict resolution, and democratic decision making. **Conclusions:** This day camp originated with the cloverbud club's gardening project. Per their request, they planted and maintained a salsa garden throughout the year. Rather than just making fresh salsa with them, a fiesta was planned with additional education and character oriented objectives in mind. The camp was a huge success and can be easily replicated in a variety of settings with or without the gardening aspect.

Family and Consumer Sciences**Knave/Scribe****Jacqueline Schrader, FEAFCS Abstract Chair**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
8:50	Moderator	Introduction & Procedures
9:00	A. Hinkle, M.A. Meharg	Falling Into Healthy Habits
9:15	M. Gillen	Understanding the Health and Personal Finance Informational Needs of Older Adults
9:30	M.S. Gutter	Florida Master Money Mentor (FMMM) Program
9:45	A. Hinkle, M.A. Meharg	Escambia County 4-H Enrichment Programs
10:00		Break
10:15	L. Leslie	Partners for Prosperity
10:30	W. Dahl, N.J. Gal	Food and Nutrition Practices and Education Needs in Florida's Adult Family Care Homes
10:45	N.C. Jensen	Communities Putting Prevention to Work
11:00	G. Murza	Food Safety Training for the Osceola County Fair 4-H Food Booth Fundraiser
11:15	R. Law, J. England	Live and Virtual Food Preparation Education Teaches Sound Nutrition Practices
11:30		Break for Box Lunch

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:00	S. Taylor	Master Money Mentors Provide Financial Education to Local Communities
1:15	R. Law, L. Duncan	Revival of Urban Food Preservation
1:30	M. Payne	Extension Can Help Achieve Weight Management Success
1:45	M. Rometo, J. Gellermann	Teaching Home Owners Associations how to host Productive Meetings through Parliamentary Procedures
2:00		Break
2:15	S. Bartolomeo	GGrandS: Grandfamily Resilience and Sustainability Project, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG)
2:30	J. England, J. Taufer	Volusia and Lake Counties Provide Successful Brain Health Programs
2:45	A. Hinkle, D.C. Lee	Supper and Snippets

*For a complete list of authors see the full abstract.

Falling Into Healthy Habits

A. Hinkle*, Escambia Extension; **M.A. Meharg***, Escambia Extension; **C. Stevenson**, Escambia Extension; **L. Johnson**, Escambia Extension; **P. Allen**, Escambia Extension; **B. Bolles**, Escambia Extension; **D. C. Lee**, Escambia Extension; **K. Brown**, Escambia Extension

Objectives: Escambia Extension was asked for more hands-on learning opportunities for youth in the areas of health/nutrition, natural resources, agriculture, and conservation. This program's objectives were to increase knowledge of nutrition and physical activity, increase awareness of local and global environments, and increase positive healthy habits for fourth graders. **Methods:** Through a unified, multi-disciplinary, hands-on approach, youth were exposed to environments and opportunities beyond their own community. Extension agents and volunteers engaged the youth and got them excited about healthy lifestyles. The fourth grade focus at this school was South America, so each program rotation included a South American component including nutrition, physical activity, natural resources, and agricultural awareness. **Results:** Post-tests from 112 youth showed increased knowledge in nutrition/physical activity, animal camouflage/habitats, and carnivorous plants. Post-program evaluations showed increase in physical activity, walking through the woods and exploring, eating more fruits and vegetables, and taking care of animals and growing plants. These youth are now more aware of the benefits of eating healthy and of physical exercise and how they can learn more about their natural surroundings while getting more physical activity. Teachers observed positive healthy behavior changes in the children weeks after the field trip. **Conclusion:** Youth showed a greater understanding and appreciation of both their local and global environment. The children learned how they are both different and alike from those outside their neighborhood. Increase in knowledge combined with skills learned and behaviors changed helped the children increase healthy habits – with a local and a South American flair.

Understanding the Health and Personal Finance Informational Needs of Older Adults

M. Gillen, Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Objectives: The growth in the number and proportion of older adults is unprecedented in the history of the United States. In 2010, 24% of Florida's population was age 60 and over compared to 13% for the United States. Additionally, the older adult population is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse. This increase in the number and diversity of older adults has monumental implications for healthcare spending and retirement planning and management of funds. The objective includes enhanced knowledge regarding the health and personal finance informational needs of older adults. **Methods:** Consumer focus groups were conducted with older adults (60 years and older) to better understand their health and personal finance informational needs. A semi-structured approach was used during the focus groups. The questions asked include: 1) What health topics would you like more information about?; 2) What personal finance topics would you like more information about?; and 3) Do you see your health and finances as being related and if yes, how? **Results:** Results from this study will inform Extension programming aimed at meeting the needs of older adults. **Conclusions:** Extension nutrition education programs help people improve their lifestyles in ways that promote health and reduce health care costs. Extension financial management programs help people improve their economic well-being in ways that promote healthy financial behaviors and increased savings. A curriculum addressing both health and financial management for older adults does not currently exist. Knowledge obtained from the focus groups will be used to fill this gap.

Florida Master Money Mentor (FMMM) Program**M. S. Gutter***, FYCS; **S. Garrison**, FYCS

Objectives: The main objective of this program is to provide peer-to-peer support and financial education to low- and moderate-income Florida families to promote positive financial practices.

Methods: Mentors provide one-on-one consultations for individuals and families who are experiencing financial difficulties. Mentors receive 20 hours of comprehensive financial training, including utilization of community resources, strategies for dealing with financial problems, and the mentoring process. Each volunteer agrees to provide at least 50 hours of one-on-one mentoring or group financial education within one year of training. Volunteers are required to complete continuing education throughout the year to be re-certified each year. **Results:** 27 counties are currently participating in the program, with 323 trained volunteers across the state. 3,126 clients have received assistance through one-on-one or group financial education. 98.4% of clients are below the median income level for their area.

Measurable results have been obtained in the areas of budgeting, saving/investing, and credit/debt management. **Conclusions:** FMMM, launched in 2010, began a one-on-one financial mentoring program where participants can receive assistance with creating spending plans, organizing financial records, understanding their credit, and planning for their futures. Our research-based development design emphasizes one-on-one peer education in rural and lower income communities. This is the first widespread program in Florida to deliver financial mentoring and education, in a one-on-one capacity, to individuals and families who traditionally do not have access to basic financial services.

Escambia County 4-H Enrichment Programs

A. Hinkle*, Escambia Extension; **M.A. Meharg***, Escambia Extension; **C. Stevenson**, Escambia Extension; **L. Johnson**, Escambia Extension; **P. Allen**, Escambia Extension; **B. Bolles**, Escambia Extension; **D. C. Lee**, Escambia Extension; **K. Brown**, Escambia Extension; **J. Spiker**, Escambia Extension EFNEP PA; **K. Faulkner**, Escambia Extension EFNEP PA; **J. Geri**, Escambia Extension EFNEP PA; **C. Sunday**, Escambia Extension EFNEP PA; **C. Verlinde**, Santa Rosa Extension

Objectives: A series of Escambia 4-H Enrichment programs were designed for youth to understand and appreciate core areas of the Healthy Living and Science mission mandates. Youth would increase knowledge of health and nutrition, farm food production, horticulture, natural resources, and local and global environments; make healthy behavior changes in their daily lives; and experience hands-on opportunities that engage them in many Healthy Living and Science missions using assets provided by the county. **Methods:** Through a unified, multi-disciplinary approach, youth were exposed to multiple aspects of Extension programs. Hands-on learning opportunities for youth addressed Animal Science and Agriculture, Environmental Science and Natural Resources, and Nutrition. Eight agents, a variety of program assistants, and volunteers engaged youth and got them excited about Science and Healthy Lifestyles through a variety of program rotations. Programs included: *Fall Harvest Days*, *Spring Into Spring*, *Growing a Pizza*, *Growing Nachos*, *Falling Into Healthy Habits: South America*, and *W.A.T.E.R. (Water and the Environment Rock)*. **Results:** Attendance included 846 youth from diverse backgrounds and locations. Post-tests, post-event evaluations, and leader observations showed knowledge increased in nutrition, farm food production, horticulture, natural resources, and local and global environments. The children increased fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity, and intended to decrease the amount of household water used. **Conclusions:** The 4-H Enrichment programs are adaptable for multiple agent disciplines, for multiple counties, and across state lines. Youth became aware of how all these Healthy Living and Science enrichment areas are connected and how they are personally involved.

Partners for Prosperity

L. Leslie, Hillsborough County Extension

Low-income families have been impacted harshly by the economic recession, so the earned income tax credit and wise use of the money has become critical. In Hillsborough County, United Way of Tampa Bay established the "Prosperity Campaign" to lead an effort focused on free tax preparation, financial education, one-on-one financial mentoring, and free summer child care for low-income parents. Campaign partners include Hillsborough County Extension, the IRS, non-profits, and financial institutions. The goal is to help low-income families achieve financial self-sufficiency. **Objectives:** Participants will: 1) avoid paying unnecessarily for tax preparation services; 2) increase confidence in their ability to manage finances; and 3) commit to a savings goal. **Methods:** Extension's involvement included classes, one-on-one financial mentoring, and free tax return preparation. The free tax preparation at the Extension office was unique because residents were taught how to use software to complete their own taxes. **Results:** Extension assisted 24 tax filers, saving them an estimated cumulative total of \$3,600 dollars on tax preparation fees. Filers learned about tax credits that provided thousands of dollars in savings. 206 financial mentoring sessions have been provided. 57 parents enrolled in the free summer child care program attended an Extension class; 84% (N= 48) increased their confidence level and 65% (N= 37) committed to a savings goal. United Way provided in-kind support of \$2,500 for Extension financial education efforts and has recognized Extension's involvement at stakeholder meetings. **Conclusion:** Extension has proven itself a relevant Prosperity Campaign partner and has helped individuals move towards financial self-sufficiency.

Food and Nutrition Practices and Education Needs in Florida's Adult Family Care Homes

W. Dahl*, University of Florida Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition; N.J. Gal*, Marion County Extension

Objectives: Determine the food and nutrition practices and education needs of Florida's adult family care homes as a baseline for developing extension programming to improve the nutritional wellbeing of frail older adults. **Methods:** Contact information for adult family care homes (AFCH) was obtained from the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration website. A statewide survey was conducted targeting individuals responsible for menu planning and food preparation in the AFCH. Key informant interviews with extension faculty were conducted to identify extension's role in potential programming. The 30-item SurveyMonkey® survey or telephone interview included questions on food and nutrition education, supplement use and menu planning. **Results:** Response rate was 55%, with 86% being owners of AFCH. Most AFCH did not use a menu and reported infrequent use of supplements. Food safety education was received by 85% of homes, menu planning (35%), special diets (25%), and 20% received no food and nutrition education in two years. A strong need was indicated for education on special diets (91%), menu planning (88%), pureed food (58%) and the nutritional needs of the elderly (83%). The major barrier identified by respondents was lack of time for education, specifically onsite education. Key informants agreed that extension has a key role in this programming. **Conclusions:** There is a significant need for food and nutrition education in Florida's adult family care homes. Extension programming to meet this educational need may result in improved nutritional wellbeing of frail older adults in care. However, training of extension agents is needed.

Communities Putting Prevention to Work

N.C. Jensen*, R. Bailey, K. Eckhoff, Pinellas County Extension

Two thirds of Pinellas County residents are obese or overweight and the numbers continue to grow. The result is an alarming uptick in diabetes, heart disease, and other obesity-related health conditions. Preventing obesity will save lives and help reduce health-care costs. **Objective:** To reduce chronic disease related to obesity by creating access to healthy food and physical activity through policy and environmental changes. **Methods:** To help encourage physical activity and healthy eating, a coalition of community partners including Pinellas County Extension was formed and funded through a 2 year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Communities Putting Prevention to Work is implementing environmental and policy changes to make healthy living easier. These include media campaigns promoting healthy choices for food/drink, public transit and bicycling/walking; increasing access to healthy food and beverage options, safe, attractive, accessible places for activity, as well as safe routes to school and working with local governments on increased signage for neighborhood destinations, public transportation and bike lanes. **Results:** Increased volunteer patrols on the Pinellas Trail, established standards for physical education classes for secondary schools, provided fitness equipment at 11 community locations, installed 53 new school and community gardens, opened up one new farmer's market with another to open in the fall, increased acceptance of SNAP benefits at produce stands and farmer's markets, provided training and guidelines to promote healthy child care and before and after school environments. **Conclusions:** These efforts will produce broad, high-impact, sustainable health outcomes for Pinellas County.

Food Safety Training for the Osceola County Fair 4-H Food Booth Fundraiser

G. Murza, Osceola County Extension

Each year, the Osceola County 4-H Youth Development Program and its clubs are given the opportunity to fundraise at the Osceola County Fair by placing them in charge of three food booths during the 10-day event. Every active club consisting of club leaders, youth, and parents is involved in preparing and serving food for sale. To ensure that the products sold are cooked and handled properly, and to limit the incidence of food-borne illness among fairgoers, each club is required to attend one of two food safety trainings taught by the Agent. **Objectives:** Participants will incorporate the principles learned in the food safety trainings into their behaviors at home. 50% of participants completing a follow-up survey will report at least two of the following three principles at home: proper personal hygiene, time-temperature control, and lowering risk of cross-contamination. **Methods:** Two food safety trainings are offered to club leaders, 4-H youth and adults. Training sessions cover proper hygiene, time-temperature control, handling and cleaning equipment, and preparing and handling food. **Results:** In 2011, individuals were sent a survey to assess use of food safety practices at home. Forty four (44) of the 187 follow-up survey respondents reported adoption of at least two of the three principles: proper personal hygiene (88%), time-temperature control (76%), and lowering risk of cross-contamination (89%). Follow-up data from 2012 will be presented. **Conclusions:** Annual food safety training ensures lowered incidence of food-borne illnesses among fairgoers. The skills learned also translate to using proper food safety practices at home.

Live and Virtual Food Preparation Education Teaches Sound Nutrition Practices**R. Law**, Seminole County Extension; **J. England**, Lake County Extension

Teaching what and how much to eat is part of the solution to the obesity epidemic. Lack of understanding of healthy food choices and preparation techniques is the missing link to addressing the problem. The results of Basic Food Preparation classes demonstrates the need for teaching basic preparation methods, however the reach of these programs is limited by agents' time, class size constraints and participants' ability to attend. **Objectives:** To increase participants' knowledge and self-efficacy in healthy eating practices and food preparation techniques. **Methods:** Educational sessions were conducted through traditional in-person classes as well as lunchtime interactive web conferences. In-person participants learn and practice hands-on techniques such as bread baking, stir-frying, pressure cooking, and slow cooking. Programs emphasize many MyPlate Tips such as meal planning, smart shopping, reducing sodium, increasing fruits, vegetables and whole grains, using low-fat dairy, portion size awareness and food safety. Web conferences visually demonstrate food preparation techniques while providing similar nutrition education as the in-person programs. **Results:** Post test results for 2011 in-person programs: 62% of class participants had no prior experience with the demonstrated cooking technique. In the follow-up survey, 72% had saved money as a result of taking a food preparation class and 69% stated they now prepare food for their family that is higher in nutritional value. Web conference results are pending. **Conclusions:** Teaching food preparation techniques through traditional and non-traditional methods provides the opportunity to improve nutritional status and reduce spending on food purchases.

Master Money Mentors Provide Financial Education to Local Communities**S. Taylor**, Hernando County Extension

Objectives: One of the primary goals of the Master Money Mentor program in Hernando and Pasco Counties is increasing basic money management skills of residents. Mentors are able to achieve this through money management programs, expo exhibits, and educational partnerships throughout the year. Often, a Mentor does not have an active client but wants to continue to offer assistance. Through Hernando County Extension's partnership with Career Central to provide money management programming, Mentors assist in teaching these money management seminars. **Methods:** Extension and Money Mentors have developed and present comprehensive programming on goal setting, budgeting, credit and debt management to Welfare Transition Program participants. Mentors provide money management expertise to the audience that can most benefit from the information being presented, while Career Central gets research-based educational materials presented by knowledgeable, professional educators. It becomes mutually beneficial, as both are striving to provide helpful, possibly life-altering, materials to residents within ever-challenging budgetary constraints, and Mentors immediately establish the "trust factor" of the mentor/mentee relationship. **Results:** Of 735 attendees, knowledge gain, as demonstrated through pre and post testing, is 14% (103 of 735); positive behavior change, as evidenced by signing up for Florida Saves 2020, is 46% (338 of 735), and continued educational pursuits through the FMMM program is 35% (258 of 735.) **Conclusions:** This collaboration allows Career Central and the Master Money Mentors the opportunity to influence a greater number of residents while increasing money management skills of Hernando and Pasco County residents in tough economic times.

Revival of Urban Food Preservation

R. Law, Seminole County Extension; **L. Duncan**, Orange County Extension

Revival of Urban Food Preservation is a cooperative program between Family and Consumer Sciences Agents in Orange and Seminole counties. Due to the downturn in the economy, agents introduced safe food preservation methods to a new generation. Through interviewing former Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agents from central Florida it was learned that food preservation techniques had not been taught here in over 30 years. **Objectives:** Participants will learn and practice research based food preservation methods which produce safe, quality products. **Methods:** The methods used to teach the classes were demonstration, video and hands-on experiences. Participants were able to sample products and take home complete directions and preserved food. **Results:** In two years 663 adults were trained in hands-on classes in pressure canning, water bath canning, freezing foods and dehydrating foods. A follow-up survey was sent to program participants. Among responses, 70% followed the canning guidelines taught in the class to preserve food, 39% have changed from the way they preserved food in the past and 71% saved money by preserving food as a result of taking these classes. According to foodsafetysite.com, individuals who preserve their foods correctly and prevent food borne illness, have a potential cost savings average of \$612.00 per person. **Conclusions:** Of those evaluated 96% noted that the class was valuable and helpful to them; 100% wrote comments that their experience in the hands-on class made them aware of the potential dangers of improper preservation procedures and experience in class gave them confidence to follow safe procedures.

Extension Can Help Achieve Weight Management Success

M. Payne, Citrus County Extension

Dietary Guidelines for Americans (2010) indicate that poor diet and physical inactivity are the most important factors contributing to the epidemic of overweight and obesity of Americans. According to Citrus County Disease Profile, 65.9% of Citrus County adults are overweight or obese. To address this local concern, a series of weight management programs, were planned, implemented and evaluated. **Objective:** The main program objective was to assist participants in increasing their physical activity and making gradual adjustments to their eating behaviors to decrease body weight. **Methods:** Weight management classes offered from 2006-2012, ranged from eight weeks to twelve weeks in length. Participants weighed in weekly, learned methods of healthy eating, and walked at least ½ mile to establish healthy habits. Body Mass Index (BMI) was calculated for all participants. Healthy food samples were offered to encourage participants to try healthier choices. **Results:** The sixty-two participants who completed the classes had a combined weight loss of 405 pounds. This is an average weight loss of eighty-one pounds per class and an average weight loss per person of 6.5 pounds. Ninety-two percent of program participants indicated that they were likely to continue these lifestyle changes. **Conclusions:** Making small, gradual lifestyle changes make a difference in reaching a healthy weight. Eight to ten week classes resulted in better program participation and greater weight management outcomes.

Teaching Home Owners Associations how to host Productive Meetings through Parliamentary Procedures

Dr. M. Rometo*, Sarasota County; **J. Gellermann***, Sarasota County

Parliamentary Procedure provides a group with a structured, logical, consistent format under which to make decisions so that meetings can achieve their goals and objectives through a democratic process. Today, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised is the basic handbook of operation for most clubs, organizations and other groups. Sarasota County Extension is utilizing materials developed through the "Strengthening Extension Advisory Leaders" or (SEAL) program to assist Home Owner Associations conduct meetings in a more efficient and productive manner. **Objective:** Defining parliamentary procedure and identify reasons for its use; Identify and describe how to adopt these procedures to meet the specific need of the Home Owners Association (HOA). **Methods:** Two 2hr workshops were held to establish the basics of parliamentary procedure with two home owner associations in Sarasota County. The meetings also included a consultation on how to determine the most appropriate application options of parliamentary procedures. A discussion on Robert's Rules was discussed and a mock scenario was completed by the participants. **Results:** Twenty five post review surveys have resulted in 91% indicating a knowledge increase of basic parliamentary procedure knowledge, 87% having a greater understanding of the value of these procedures and 80% indicating that they are planning to utilize procedures in future meetings covered in this course they had not previously utilize. **Conclusion:** The increase knowledge gain of parliamentary procedures has enabled audiences to host more efficient and successful group meetings. This has resulted in greater satisfaction and higher attendance at HOA meetings.

GGrandS: Grandfamily Resilience and Sustainability Project, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG)

S. Bartolomeo*, Palm Beach County Extension; **L. Forthun**, Dept. Family Youth & Consumer Sciences; **K. Fogarty**, Dept. Family Youth & Consumer Sciences

Objectives: To help grandfamilies build strong, resilient families, encourage positive youth development and achieve sustainability. Factors such as incarceration, death, addiction, abuse, abandonment, economy and deployment, contribute to nearly 10,000 Palm Beach County grandparents taking care of their grandchildren. **Methods:** The GGrandS Project is funded through a SCP CYFAR grant from NIFA. It is a one-of-a-kind project. Two curriculums – PASTA (Parenting The Second Time Around) and Family Treasures are used to conduct programs addressing parenting skill, child & teen development, qualities of strong families, and community resources. GRG's meet in six groups/locations county wide. Community partners provide expertise on legal, school, health and other issues. Participants use technology eg. facebook to communicate. A monthly newsletter is distributed to GRG's and partners and a lending library has been established. **Results:** Results show that GRG's are (1) using positive communication skills and discipline strategies, (2) have improved family relationships and (3) have greater knowledge of and benefit from use of community resources. The program reached over 300 GRG's through various activities. The GRG's are writing stories for their newsletter; exchanging phone #'s to help each other and are producing valuable information for a "new GRG" brochure. A sub-caregiver: GRG alliance has been established. **Conclusion:** GGrandS participants are actively thinking about and exploring project sustainability. The project can be replicated state and nationwide as it reaches GRG's of all ethnic and financial backgrounds.

Volusia and Lake Counties Provide Successful Brain Health Programs

J. England*, UF/IFAS Lake County Extension; **J. Taufer***, UF/IFAS Volusia County Extension

Situation: There is a growing aging population in Florida. In 2011, the percentage of state residents age 60 and older was 23.9%. Volusia and Lake Counties have a greater concentration of older adults with 28.9% and 33.7% respectively. These older adults have shown interest in education on lifestyle strategies to maintain brain health and function. Two FCS agents from Volusia and Lake Counties modified the *Nourish Your Brain with a Healthful Diet* program from North Dakota State University to address these concerns. **Objectives:** Participants will learn specific foods that promote brain health and lifestyle strategies that exercise the brain and body. **Methods:** Hands-on, interactive programs were adapted and promoted for older residents. The agents adapted the base program to meet the needs of their individual county residents. Length and content of the educational programs varied from 30 to 90 minutes, dependant on venue and participant requests. **Results:** Nineteen programs were presented with a total of 722 participants. Ninety-two percent (490 of 533) of participants intend to use at least one technique learned to improve/maintain brain health. Ninety-five percent (499 of 526) of participants plan to increase consumption of antioxidant rich foods. **Conclusion:** As the elder population increases so does the need for science-based information on lifestyle strategies that help seniors with memory and cognitive skills. Extension brain health education programs empower individuals with practical tools to improve nutrition and maintain or improve memory.

Supper and Snippets

A. Hinkle*, Escambia Extension; **D. C. Lee***, Escambia Extension

Objectives: Increase nutrition knowledge and healthy, economical family meal planning behaviors of local church families and their surrounding communities. **Methods:** Most families in the targeted communities are limited in their availability of monetary and educational resources. To focus on the idea of the healthy, economical family meal and solidify its effectiveness for local church communities, the FCS and EFNEP agents began teaching classes at churches. Friday night lessons started with a meal that adults and their children planned, prepared, and ate together. After the meal, the family nutrition and wellness lessons began. Topics included: using herbs to replace salt; label reading; antioxidants; sugar substitutes; whole grains; and stretching food dollars. Lessons were taught using a variety of techniques to increase retention of material and positive healthy family behaviors. Fun, interactive, hands-on activities reinforced the information. **Results:** Pre- and post-results, game scores, participant evaluations, comments, success stories, and observations of planned and prepared meals showed increases in knowledge and healthy, budget-conscious behaviors. Knowledge increased most in the areas of sodium and whole grains. Participants began to add more vegetables to their meals. Healthier snacks were traded for less healthy snacks. Meals offered during the program became healthier as the weeks progressed – more vegetables, whole grains, lower-fat items, and leaner cuts of meat were incorporated. Participants shared how using coupons and planting herb and vegetable gardens helped them eat more nutritiously and economically. **Conclusions:** Participants learned and enjoyed first-hand in a fun, encouraging environment how to economically feed their families healthy meals.

Natural Resources

Senate/Gallery

Brooke Saari, FANREP Abstract Co-Chair

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker(s)*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
8:50	Moderator	Introduction & Procedures
9:00	D. Rainey	Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMP) Training
9:15	D. Griffis	The Educational and Economic Impact of the 6th Annual Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival
9:30	J. Bradshaw	Implementing an Educational Campaign: New IPM Strategies for Hydrilla Management
9:45	B. Jarvis, J. Hink	Spiders and Snakes: Busting Myths Through Real World Awareness
10:00		Break
10:15	E. Linkous	Community and School Gardens
10:30	H. Abeels	Brevard County Ecotourism Boating Program
10:45	R. Madhosingh-Hector	Sustainable Floridians in Pinellas County – Attracting New Audiences to Extension through Volunteerism
11:00	S. McGee, M. D’Abreau	Watershed Education for Elected Officials, Resource Managers, and Concerned Citizens
11:15	M.P. McGuire	What Do Teachers Want?
11:30		Break for Box Lunch

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker*</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:00	D. Mudge, M. Lollar	The Importance of Agricultural Agents Involvement with CISMAs
1:15`	M. Orfanedes	Property Managers: A Critical Audience for Extension and Key to Furthering Sustainability of Urban Landscapes
1:30	A. Post	Negotiating Organizational and Social Interests in Extension Education
1:45	W. Sheftall	Tree Identification Labs Teach Skills that Are Prerequisite to Applying Management Recommendations
2:00		Break
2:15	Singleton	Incarceration to Liberation: Reducing Recidivism through Horticulture Training & Certification
2:30	E. Linkous	Collaborative Strategies for Water Quality
2:45	L. Barber	Backyard Composting

*For a complete list of authors see the full abstract.

Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMP) Training

D. Rainey, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program

Objectives: Green Industry Professionals will receive the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Certification to meet the requirements of local fertilizer ordinances. Between 2006 and 2011, approximately 15,000 Green Industries professionals will learn the GI-BMP, which address fertilizer, pesticide and natural resource management to reduce non-point pollution in urban communities. They will attain at least a 10% knowledge gain, and an 80% pass rate as measured by pre/post-exams. After passing the post-exam, these individuals will receive their required BMPs Certification as mandated by local fertilizer ordinances. **Methods:** 1) Engage in extensive joint planning, teaching and evaluation with county and state faculty, industry representatives, and advisory committees. 2) Integrate with other county departments as the lead educational facilitator. 3) Train support staff to produce uniform registration and other administrative procedures. 4) Train Green Industry agents and volunteers to teach Spanish BMPs classes. 5) Organize class handouts and online materials to provide additional information and post-class support. 6) Post certified participants on statewide website. 7) Evaluate impacts using one year follow-up surveys. **Results:** Through March 2012, 18,971 professionals attended the BMP program. Average pass rate 86%, achieving a passing grade; knowledge gain 19.5 point difference; thereby demonstrating the positive impact the BMP program has on our target population. **Conclusions:** Based on high attendance, pre/post-exam results, class evaluations, and a one-year follow-up survey, our collaborative efforts demonstrate a successful BMP Certification Program.

The Educational and Economic Impact of the 6th Annual Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival

D. Griffis, Volusia County Extension

Situation: The UF/IFAS Volusia County Extension office was looking for a way to promote eco-tourism and offer an alternative crop for area growers. After attending the National Extension Tourism Conference, this agent met with the West Volusia Tourism and Advertising Authority, the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor and the DeLand Mainstreet Association, to discuss the idea of a wildflower festival. Now six years later, thousands of people have been educated on the importance of growing wildflowers, and have purchased and planted wildflowers. **Methods:** The festival conducts five, forty-five minute educational programs and five one hour demonstrations. This year, 65 vendors participated in the annual festival. **Results:** Pre-post test survey results of program participants indicated 91% (N=291) increased their knowledge of landscape practices and 98% (N=291) would share this knowledge with others. The Mainstreet DeLand Association estimated total economic impact of the 2012 6th Annual Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival to the city of DeLand was \$142,000. Downtown businesses were surveyed and showed a minimum of 30% increase in business the day of the festival. Some restaurants even ran out of food. **Conclusions:** The Annual Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival has become a fixture in downtown DeLand. Festival attendees learn the benefits of planting wildflowers and Florida Friendly Landscapes, while growers and vendors were provided a venue to promote and sell their products and the shops and restaurants of downtown DeLand also benefit from having over 12,000 people downtown. The festival was also recognized and received the Secretary of State's Award for Outstanding Special Event.

Implementing an Educational Campaign: New IPM Strategies for Hydrilla Management

J. Bradshaw, * Citrus County Extension; **J. Cuda**, Entomology and Nematology Department;
K. Gioeli, St. Lucie County Extension; **J. Gillett-Kaufman**, Entomology and Nematology Department

Objectives: Hydrilla is an invasive aquatic weed, and millions of dollars are spent each year managing it. Thanks to a new 4-year grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, UF / IFAS research and extension faculty, FAMU faculty and an ARMY Corps researcher are studying new chemical and biological control methods as part of an overall hydrilla integrated pest management (IPM) plan and transferring the information to stakeholders. The goal is to increase stakeholder awareness of research-based information regarding the hydrilla miner and other sustainable strategies for managing hydrilla.

Methods: Materials have been developed to help resource managers understand how new strategies for managing hydrilla fit into a hydrilla IPM plan. The information distribution platform includes field tours and demonstrations, educational publications and exhibits, promotional items, project websites, and presentations at professional and stakeholder meetings. **Results:** SurveyMonkey was used to determine hydrilla stakeholder perceptions and preferred information delivery methods. 541 stakeholders completed the survey. Responses indicated that the internet, boat launch signage, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and Extension Offices in Florida were the preferred outlets for stakeholders to receive information about Hydrilla IPM. Extension faculty developed 10,000 Hydrilla IPM RAMP 1-yd Vinyl Fishing Rulers, 70,000 6-in Rulers/Bookmarks, and 17,000 web cards for distribution to Extension offices and collaborators. A web portal was developed and 6,694 hits were recorded in 2011. **Conclusions:** By 2014, new tactics such as the hydrilla miner will be incorporated into Hydrilla IPM programs throughout Florida.

Spiders and Snakes: Busting Myths Through Real World Awareness

B. Jarvis, Pasco County Extension; **J. Hink**, Pasco County Extension

Objectives: For youth to be able to differentiate between harmful or helpful animals, to know how to respond when encountered, and to raise awareness of the beneficial impacts of commonly-feared spiders and snakes. **Methods:** Through hand's-on activities, guest speakers, and make-and-take activities youth engaged their senses, beyond just observation, in this day-long summer camp. **Results:** By the end of camp, knowledge gain from surveyed participants showed that 100% (n=19) expressed a greater understanding of the role that spiders and snakes play in our environment, and could recite the proper steps to avoid injury when encountering spiders and snakes. 90% (n=17) could name the venomous species found in this county. 94% (n=18) could demonstrate how to safely remove themselves from the area of a venomous snake. **Conclusions:** This program educated youth, who are often unaware of which animals can be harmful to people, pets or to the environment, of how to respond when face to face with nature and beneficial impacts of these animals. This camp is easily recreated in an Extension environment and allows different Extension disciplines to play a role in the education process. Since this camp, positive comments shared by participating youth with their peers have resulted in requests for a repeat of this camp for additional youth and agents have received requests by adults for additional information about this program and the wildlife that youth learned about.

Community and School Gardens

E. Linkous*, Sarasota County Extension; **J. Gellerman**, Sarasota County Extension; **R. Kluson**, Sarasota County Extension; **P. Porchey**, Sarasota County Extension

Nationwide, interest in community and school gardens is growing. However, many local governments do not have a program in place to support a sustainable and cohesive community and school garden program. **Objectives:** To create a comprehensive community and school garden program for Sarasota county that 1) provides space, training, and support for community and school gardens; 2) reduces food costs, improves nutrition, and increases food access; 3) promotes community pride, fellowship, and capacity; 3) increases awareness of sustainable agriculture and local food systems; and 4) provides recreational and therapeutic benefits. **Methods:** A team of two community development agents, one horticulture agent, and one agriculture agent work with program assistants to provide 1) technical assistance to county and school board staff for garden policy development, 2) provide administrative oversight of gardens, 3) develop and implement gardener/volunteer training, and 4) provide technical assistance to gardeners for edibles production. **Results:** A county process guide for community garden procedures was developed. Other Florida local governments and Extension offices have requested this process guide, demonstrating the program's adaptability. Sarasota County Extension will implement a volunteer training program that educates community gardeners on the county garden process, assists in edibles production, and creates a pool of trained volunteers able to assist in education for various Extension garden and local foods initiatives. We anticipate training 12 volunteers twice a year through this program. **Conclusions:** Sarasota County Extension provides a replicable model for a cohesive community and school garden program offered through the Extension service.

Brevard County Ecotourism Boating Program

H. Abeels, Brevard County Extension

Objectives: The UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Office partnered with the Space Coast Office of Tourism and Florida Sea Grant to develop an ecotourism program for local boat captains that will promote economic development in Brevard County. The program is designed to introduce boat captains to ecotourism in Florida and the necessary information needed to start a nature-based tourism business. **Methods:** The training program consisted of 12 hours of classroom work and included information on wildlife in Brevard County, principles of environmental interpretation, business creation and practices, and eco- and nature tourism practices. The captains continue to have trainings once a year to keep their certification up to date and include topics such as social media based marketing, outreach plans and opportunities, business plans, and current research in the Indian River Lagoon. **Results:** The seven captains who completed the course created an incorporated business called Space Coast Boating Adventures. All the captains participate in development of the business to promote nature, historic, and fishing tours. This business will allow the captains to supplement the fishing charters they already do and allow them to work together in development of this ecotourism business. **Conclusions:** The captains continue to work in development and marketing of the business and see the benefits of working as a group instead of individually. They will continue their education through Brevard County Extension as we work with them in developing a registration program for their website and marketing within local hotels and businesses.

Sustainable Floridians in Pinellas County – Attracting New Audiences to Extension through Volunteerism

R. Madhosingh-Hector, Pinellas County Extension

Objectives: The Sustainable Floridian volunteer training program attracts new audiences to Extension through a structured educational program focusing on sustainability awareness. The program seeks to increase participants' knowledge about sustainability; provide information that identify Florida specific actions for conserving energy and water; motivate participants to implement conservation and efficiency actions; and, create opportunities for community level leadership. **Methods:** Classroom training, multimedia presentations, and discussion groups. Participants receive educational portfolio, sustainable living devices, and participate in weekly evaluations. Participants also receive ongoing training and mentoring through monthly meetings. **Results:** Since 2011, the program has been offered three times with 57 participants logging 1,596 hours of volunteer training. Seventy percent (70%) of graduates logged 700 volunteer hours in 2011 and more than 550 volunteer hours in 2012. Participants also reported installing rain barrels (41%), CFLs and LEDs (100%), replacing old appliances (41%), and performing energy audits (33%). Through pre/post tests, 94% participants reported increased knowledge of sustainable living, 94% participants are motivated to reduce ecological footprint, and 88% were introduced to Extension resources not previously known. **Conclusions:** The Sustainable Floridians Volunteer program has proven successful at filling the need for sustainability education and creating motivated volunteers that are interested in promoting sustainable living behaviors and practices in Florida.

Watershed Education for Elected Officials, Resource Managers, and Concerned Citizens

S. McGee*, Polk County Extension; **M. D'Abreau***, Manatee County Extension

Water quality and quantity will be significant factors in the future of Florida's public policy decisions. Extension water schools in Manatee and Polk counties provide the local political voting body and decision makers with the background information needed to make informed decisions about water resource issues. **Objectives:** The primary goal is to increase participants' awareness and knowledge of local and regional water issues; regulatory stakeholders (e.g. WMDs, estuary programs, etc.) and their responsibilities; available resources like Extension and the land grant universities; and the role of public policy and civic engagement. The hope is that elected officials will use this knowledge as they make future planning, development, and policy decisions. **Methods:** Both schools bring in experts from partnering agencies and offer tours that illustrate real-life applications of the principles discussed in class. The evaluation process involves a self-assessment of knowledge gained over the course and informal feedback after each class. Each county's format is unique, but has its own advantages and disadvantages. **Results:** Data collected from post-evaluations indicate that participants gain a better understanding of water systems and their interconnectedness to human activities within the watershed, learn of resources available to communities and governments to help make better decisions regarding water management, and acknowledge the need to consider potential impacts of future policy decisions on local and regional water supplies. **Conclusions:** Water School, which can be implemented in any county, is one tool to ensure that Florida Extension becomes the leading educational authority on the future of water in our state.

What Do Teachers Want?

M.P. McGuire*, Flagler County Extension; **R. Francis-Floyd**, UF College of Veterinary Medicine.

Extension faculty members often have access to great educational resources that they would like to have K-12 teachers incorporate into their lesson plans. However, it is often challenging to get teachers to use new lessons, especially when they feel pressured to meet state-established goals for reading, writing and mathematics. **Objectives:** To get elementary teachers to utilize extension-produced classroom lessons as part of their curriculum. **Methods:** Extension faculty members wrote 18 lessons based on manatees. These lessons were carefully planned to incorporate current Sunshine State Standards for science, language arts, mathematics and social studies. **Results:** In the 2011-12 school year, third grade teachers at three schools (one each in Duval, St. Johns and Flagler Counties; a total of 19 classes) were utilizing the manatee curriculum. The lessons are downloaded from the internet an average of 3,500 times per month (all lessons combined). Teachers have given the lessons very positive evaluations and are eager to continue using them. **Conclusions:** K-12 teachers need lessons to be correlated to state standards that are appropriate for their grade level. Extension faculty need to be aware of state standards when developing teaching materials and must correlate activities to these standards if they want teachers to use them. When developing materials, it is helpful if extension faculty members target a particular grade level and specific skills that need to be addressed at that grade.

The Importance of Agricultural Agents Involvement with CISMAs

D. Mudge, **M. Lollar**, Orange/Seminole Counties

Objectives: Non-native invasive species cost land owners and tax payers millions of dollars annually in Florida. Pressure from numerous sources including agriculture caused legislation to form CISMA (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) to address the problem. The Central Florida CISMA Steering Committee formed in 2008 bringing with it solutions as well as new problems. Extension Agent facilitation and participation began to address the objectives of invasive species management and public perceptions of the Agricultural Community. **Method:** Two County Extension Agents were to join the Steering Committee and do “classic community resource development work” while networking with new audiences to address environmental issues. **Results:** Public environmental agency staff, private environmental concern groups, leaders from the farm industry, Disney, parks, private landowners, Deseret Ranch, and other interested parties, are now networking through cooperative educational programs, and addressing serious and potentially confrontational issues in a positive manner. The concerns of the committee have shifted from “blaming” agriculture and “criticizing” the County Extension Programs, to addressing the issues of invasive exotics on public lands. **Conclusion:** UF/IFAS Extension’s future depends, in part, on networking with environmentalist issue work groups which can become challenging. Extension Agents are still best at leading issue-based programming, especially when agriculture is threatened. One hundred and thirty three participants attended the 2011 Central Florida CISMA Aquatics Workshop with fifty one receiving Pesticide Applicator CEUs in six different categories. A \$1000 grant from U.S. Fish and Wildlife was awarded to the Central Florida CISMA in 2011.

Property Managers: A Critical Audience for Extension and Key to Furthering Sustainability of Urban Landscapes

M. Orfanedes*, Broward County Extension; **H. Mayer**, Miami-Dade County Extension; **R. Butman**, Allstate Resource Management, Inc.

Collectively, property managers advise thousands of community association condo and HOA boards across South Florida. They and their boards manage thousands of acres of urban landscape and the resources needed to maintain these properties. Wise decisions need to be made and appropriate resources budgeted in order to maintain these properties in an environmentally-friendly and sustainable manner. This can only happen when decision makers are well informed with research-based information and the service providers they select have training in the latest best management practices. **Objectives:** 1.) to promote better understanding of landscape and tree care best practices among South Florida property managers and 2.) to encourage the adoption of UF-IFAS best management practices and thereby create more sustainable Florida-Friendly landscapes. **Methods:** Extension in Broward and Miami-Dade counties partnered with Davie-based Allstate Resource Management, Inc. to provide CAM CEU-based outreach to property management companies and their employees in South Florida. The partnership produced curriculum for six different classes each of which were awarded CEUs and promoted to the industry via electronic means. Similar to trainings conducted for the local green industry, teaching techniques included a combination of class room style presentations, group discussions and the ever popular outdoor “hands-on” demonstrations. **Results:** A total of 93 property managers representing 13 different South Florida property management companies participated. Pre- and post-tests revealed significant knowledge gains (in excess of 20%) and strong intentions to change certain landscape management practices. This newly acquired knowledge and the resultant practice changes that have accrued will be reported on. **Conclusions:** Using techniques similar to those employed in training the green industry, Extension can also train property managers and decision makers (HOA and condo boards of directors) in the latest best practices and thereby advance the goal of improving the sustainability of South Florida’s varied urban landscapes.

Negotiating Organizational and Social Interests in Extension Education

A. Post, Sarasota County Extension

Objective: To describe how through negotiating organizational and social interests, the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ program for community associations was initiated, and its survival secured through re-negotiation. **Methods:** This study draws on the theory that educational programs are constructed by negotiating organizational and social interests. It describes the approach used to identify and garner support from organizations that had the same goals, initiation of the negotiations, and data provided to the stakeholders to show how stakeholder interests had an effect on the planning and execution of this program. **Results:** At the end of the two-year pilot program 155 (90 percent) of the participating associations (n=172) made positive changes in their landscape and irrigation management practices. The program became very popular with the stakeholders, media, clients, and elected officials, and at the conclusion of a two-year pilot project, a permanent Extension position was created. At present, approximately 600 of the 1200 community associations in Sarasota County have been contacted through the program, giving evidence of its impact. In 2006, Extension was forced to re-negotiate the components of the program. Fortunately, the basic power relationships among stakeholders that had been created ensured continued support and funding. **Conclusion:** In order to remain relevant, Extension education must address a complexity of problems and work to formulate solutions with diverse interests groups. In this time of budget cuts, marketing and providing programs that consumers and politicians will appreciate and support is essential for the continued existence of Extension.

Tree Identification Labs Teach Skills that Are Prerequisite to Applying Management Recommendations **W. Sheftall***, Leon County Extension; **S. Rosenthal**, Leon County Extension

Correct species identification (ID) is a prerequisite for managing natural plant growth in urban and rural landscapes. Traditional Extension audiences who need proficiency at tree and shrub ID include arborists and loggers; public workers managing ROW, parks and greenways; managers of private game lands; Master Gardener volunteers; and citizen-naturalists. **Objectives:** We wanted field resource managers to increase their proficiency at woody plant ID through repetitive attendance at labs offered annually. At each event, learners with basic skills will master some of the species more difficult to differentiate, while those without basic skills will master the more distinctive species. **Methods:** Indoor labs on foliated woody specimens (summer/fall ID) utilize a lab practical approach to instruction. One hundred fresh specimens of native and invasive exotic species branches are collected and laid out on tables. They are grouped according to similarity in leaf shape, which means that some that are classified together end up grouped together (such as pines) while most do not. The audience is led through the lab practical as if on a field hike, with agents instructing on tips for differentiating between species having similar leaf and branch morphology. In our winter ID labs, each student is given the same 20 species of twigs for close examination. The instructor talks the class through observing twig and bud characteristics which allow ID of dormant deciduous species. A field hike following the lab provides practice, while focusing on the utility of bark and form to field ID. **Results:** Over the past 14 years, 1131 clientele have attended 26 summer/fall ID labs, and 437 have attended 7 winter ID labs and 6 hikes. Pre- and post-tests have been set up lab-practical style, using 10 species. Increase in knowledge measured in 2010-11 indicated an increase of 119% for summer/fall foliage ID, and an increase of 150% for winter twig and bud ID. **Conclusions:** Woody plant ID is not an easy skill to learn on one's own. Our ID labs have been perennially popular because of their instructional effectiveness. Repeat attendees have been pleased with the pace at which they have increased their ID skills.

Incarceration to Liberation: Reducing Recidivism through Horticulture Training & Certification **L. Singleton**, Sumter County Extension

Objectives: In an effort to save taxpayer dollars and reduce recidivism by providing inmates a bona-fide job skill prior to release, a vocational horticulture education program is offered to low security inmates of the Federal Correctional Center in Sumter County, Florida through a contract with the Department of Justice Bureau of Prisons. The objective is to train 40 inmates each quarter, with 50% earning one of two industry certifications. **Methods:** Inmates are presented with an extensive curriculum covering plant biology, plant growth, plant problems, how to properly use plants, irrigation, landscape management and safety. There is also a study of plant profiles and identification of 220 central Florida plants. Each subject area begins with a pre-test and concludes with a post-test to measure knowledge gained. Inmates work with an in-house hydroponics system. At the end of training, the Green Industries – Best Management Practices exam and the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association Certified Horticulture Professional exam are administered. **Results:** 29 inmates completed the semester of training. 100% of these earned both certifications, with an average score of over 90% (n=29). 100% of the inmates correctly identified 100% of the plants. **Conclusions:** The national recidivism rate is 67%; the rate drops to 28% for those who receive vocational training. The annual taxpayer cost of incarceration is \$28,600 per inmate. With 39% reduced recidivism from vocational training, this successful program can equate to a taxpayer savings of over \$1 million annually.

Collaborative Strategies for Water Quality

E. Linkous*, Sarasota County Extension

Sarasota County adopted a Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code in 2007 regulating the use of fertilizers within Sarasota County. A myriad of organizations in Sarasota provide education about fertilizer use and water quality, but these efforts have been largely disjointed. **Objectives:** To convene and facilitate quarterly meetings of entities involved in fertilizer education in Sarasota County, including UF/IFAS Sarasota County Extension, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program, Sarasota County Water Resources, and the Sierra Club. **Methods:** The “Collaborative Strategies for Water Quality” group meets quarterly to exchange information on legislative changes, local initiatives, and trends related to fertilizer and water quality. The group identifies unmet educational needs, and partners to more effectively fill these gaps. Sarasota County Extension convenes and facilitates the meetings, and provides leadership on development of educational materials. **Results:** Sarasota County Extension has developed three key educational/outreach initiatives during the first 12 months of the collaborative partnership. The first product is the “My Beautiful Lawn” five-part course series, which focuses on water quality issues related to lawn care. The second product is a highly-popular brochure on Fertilizer and Landscape codes for Sarasota County and all municipalities within Sarasota county. The third product is a partnership with the Be Floridian campaign to provide education to retailers and nurseries about the Be Floridian campaign and slow release fertilizers. **Conclusions:** Sarasota County Extension provides a replicable model for engaging a variety of organizations and residents about fertilizer use and water quality.

Backyard Composting

L. Barber, Hillsborough County Extension

Objectives: The current economy and renewed interest in home gardening have increased opportunities to teach Backyard Composting basics to Hillsborough County residents. Participants (n=1,298) increased their knowledge and commenced on-site composting of landscape clippings and kitchen scraps. **Methods:** Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ staff taught thirty-eight educational Backyard Composting workshops in 2011. Tours of the compost demonstration area were included in the training. Various composting bins were in use and on display with pros and cons discussed. **Results:** Eighty-seven percent of survey respondents began composting after workshop participation and 48% had finished compost within 3-6 months. Fifty-two percent are using finished compost as a soil amendment; 32% as a potting mix. Pre- to post-workshop knowledge gain reflected a 58% increase. **Conclusions:** Heightened knowledge of Backyard Composting procedures (proper mixture of carbons and nitrogens, bin type and size, appropriate moisture level, aeration, finished and unfinished compost uses) resulted in significant increases in Backyard Composting, recycling on-site and cost savings from using created soil amendments versus purchasing them. More than 75% estimate their yearly savings between \$129-\$336 from using homemade compost for soil amendments, potting soil mixes and as mulch.

NOTES

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Members of the Extension Professional Associations of Florida are encouraged to prepare program abstracts for 2013. Abstracts are ranked for selection based on a scoring system that emphasizes objectives and measurable results. The **abstract title** should briefly identify the subject and indicate the purpose of the program. The abstract should be a brief, factual summary of the content of the program and should include:

- **objectives** of the educational effort/program
- **methods** used
- the **results**
- **conclusions** or interpretation of the program's significance
- the body **should not exceed 250 words**.

CONTENT

Abstracts should describe a creative method implemented or an innovative subject researched by the author(s) as part of an Extension program.

ENTRIES FOR 2013

The Call for Abstracts is made by electronic mail in April or May. Format and entry instructions will be specified then.

Prepare now for the 2013 annual meetings!

