

Program Impacts:

28 producers attended the Northeast Panhandle Cotton Conference representing an estimated 30,000 acres of cotton valued at \$15 million dollars.

\$750,000 was saved by Ochiltree County Wheat producers utilizing IPM tactics that were taught to manage stripe rust in wheat.

75% of the Talk Express Go 4-30 implemented 150 minutes of exercise in their weekly exercise routines.

Ochiltree County

Mission Statement

Improving the lives of people, businesses, and communities across Texas and beyond through high-quality, relevant education.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Agriculture Program Highlights

Northeast Panhandle Cotton Conference

2017 and 2018 saw a record number of acres of cotton grown in Ochiltree county at around the 40,000 acre mark. 2019 shaped up to be no different with the prospects of cotton being more profitable than the grain crops that can be produced. Therefore local producers are always interested in learning all that they can to grow the crop. The Northeast Panhandle Cotton Conference was conducted with a variety of extension specialists covering different topics such as variety selection, growth regulators, insect management, fertility, weed control and quality improvement considerations. *28 producers attended the program from three counties representing an estimated 30,000 acres of cotton valued at \$15 million dollars.*

Wheat Disease Management

Although cotton and other crop acres have been on the increase the last three years, winter wheat is still grown on more acres than any other crop in the county. Diseases are a management concern related to wheat production each year. This year with higher than normal precipitation stripe rust was a concern. Stripe rust can reduce yields as high as 25% if not properly managed. Through a variety of delivery methods such as site visits, phone calls, emails, texts, radio interviews, these producers were given timely information related to identification, economic thresholds, treatment methods and timing to manage stripe rust. Eighteen different producers looked to Ochiltree County Extension for information on how to deal with this issue in April and May. *Using IPM methods employed during these visits an estimated 50,000 acres were determined not to be treated for a total cost savings to the producers at \$750,000.*

4-H and Youth Program Highlights

State 4-H Roundup

11 4-H members attended State 4-H Roundup in June. *This was the largest group to attend from Ochiltree County in over 15 years.* The contests they competed in were Nutrition Quiz Bowl, Horse Judging, Beef Quiz Bowl, Fashion Storyboard, Public Speaking and Educational Presentations.

Ochiltree County



Health

Relevance:

The three counties (Lipscomb, Ochiltree, and Roberts) have a total population of 15,023. They have a combined food insecurity rate of 36.6%. The percentage of this population that fall under the poverty rates to receive government nutrition assistance for Lipscomb County is 54%, for Ochiltree County is 81%, and for Roberts County is 33%. It is critical that families who receive government assistance have access to education for nutritious meals with the resources they are provided.

Planning Activities:

Tri-County committee meetings (Lipscomb, Ochiltree, and Roberts)

Mental Health First Aid Training/ Planning

Educational Activities: (Target Audience- BLT, Mothers/ Topic- Health through low cost Nutritious Meals)

*5 Newsletters- Food Pantry for Roberts and Ochiltree, Texas Panhandle Professional Women (854)

*1 Radio Interview-KEYE (3,000)

*2 EFNEP recipes shared via Facebook (1,136)

*1 BLT Recipe shared via Newsletter (14)

*1 Health talk Express- TEEA Lipscomb (4)

*1 Snack & the preschool child presentation- Perryton Head Start (9)

Results:

I utilized each platform to reach out to populations in each county about programs that will be offered and opportunity to be on a committee to help plan and participate in the programs. After the Health Talk Express GO-4-30 (group of 4 people) there was a survey and a 100% response rate from that program.

100% learned something new from presentation

100% plan to utilize information learned

75% were implementing 150 minutes of exercise in their weekly routines at 30 day follow up

Future Plans

I will have my first Committee Meeting mid-July and I will have one in each county (Lipscomb, Ochiltree, and Roberts). With information compiled at the meetings I will utilize that to start planning programs for the months to follow. I am planning to do the Fresh Start to a Healthier you with GIRA of Perryton. It is a built-in audience of low-income families that will benefit from the BLT program. I will also have a Mental Health First Aide class in August.

**For more information
contact your local
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