

**USDA-CSREES FY 2004 STATE ANNUAL REPORT
REVIEW TEAM SUMMARY**

State: Tennessee

Institution: University of Tennessee (Research & Extension)
Tennessee State University (Extension)

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Type of Report: (Combined 1862 Research, 1862 & 1890 Extension)

NPL Reviewers: Basil R. Eastwood and Liang-Shiou Lin

This Review Team Summary reflects the consensus opinion of the review team members regarding the Annual Report.

The Tennessee Combined Report addresses all five National Goals and is well organized and complete.

Strengths of the Impact Statements in the Planned Programs: (Related to important impacts and any other statements that highlight programmatic strength)

The basis for impact statements are well defined and this adds greatly to their credibility. There is also a good mixture of these, including pre-and post-survey regarding knowledge gained and intentions; interviews and observation; survey and collection of hard data; questionnaires, farm visits; sampling, testing and estimates; sales receipts, Farm Service Agency records, follow-up by Extension agents; testimonials and teacher observations. Impact statements are especially strong for Goal 1 as more hard data was available, but individual program efforts in each of the other four goals also stand out. Among these are Safe Food Handling in Goal 2; in Goal 3, Human Nutrition, Improving the Lives of Food Stamp Families and Madison County 4-H Healthy Choices; in Goal 4, Water Quality and 4-H Natural Resources, Environment and Wildlife Projects; and in Goal 5, Teaching Young Tennesseans to Manage Money, Helping Tennesseans Build Wealth, Tennessee 4-H Builds Workforce Skills, Better Tennessee Parenting, Child Care and 4-H Leadership and Volunteerism.

Weaknesses of the Impact Statements in the Planned Programs:

Few of the impact statements are considered weak. Several examples to consider include Selenium Nutrition of Tennessee Beef Cattle which consists of research results, Small Farm Viability illustrates potential future impact, Food Quality and Foodborne Pathogen Protection are research results, Food Security is a potential future impact, Preserve and Enhance the Quality of Soil and Water in Tennessee is a potential impact, Agricultural Waste Management consists of results as is Testing and Evaluation of Off-road Utility Vehicle and Lawn Mower Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS).

Continue to strive for measured impacts and develop base data for measuring change brought about by

the programs.

Stakeholder Input Process Comments: (make comments on the three requirements on the checklist)

The stakeholder input process is well developed and includes good communication between research and extension and between institutions. Special efforts were made in 2004 to improve input and to broaden contacts seeking this input. Phone interviews were conducted with 1,635 citizens selected at random through a process ensuring representation from counties where a branch station is located as well as from the remainder of the state. Contacts with County Agriculture Committees and local Extension Advisory Committees reached 12,520. This is a 28% increase over 2003. Special efforts were also made to secure input from limited resource and small farmers by organizing a representative group of these individuals. Increased efforts to assist vegetable producers were one result from this part of the effort. Input was sought from a number of specialized groups and program changes were made as a result of these contacts.

Program Review Process Comments:

The protocol for program review was described in the 2000-2004 Plan of Work and has not changed.

Evaluation of the Success of Multi and Joint Activities Comments:

Multistate and integrated joint activities are promoted to improve the research and extension delivery to Tennesseans. A number of exemplary accomplishments of these programs are described. Programs in this category are described and include multistate programs and projects with other states in the southern region as well as with states throughout the nation and national programs.

Multistate Extension Comments: (If Applicable) (provide comments on Accomplishments, or lack thereof, in spending formula funds)

Multistate Extension activities are discussed along with the Multistate Research and Extension programs and include a broad range of agricultural production, sports turf, household/structural IPM, 4-H, indoor air quality and Latino health education.

Integrated Research and Extension Comments: (provide comments on Accomplishments, or lack thereof, in spending formula funds)

The Experiment Station increased Hatch expenditures for Integrated Research and Extension 13% over 2003. There was a 72% increase in Smith-Lever expenditures for Integrated Research and Extension. An overview of the Integrated Research and Extension programs was provided. Programs described are mostly in production agriculture and include work on the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation in use in each of the 2,500 USDA-NRCS offices.

Suggested Improvements for Next Year:

It would be helpful if the pages were numbered. The Table of Contents provided page numbers, however they didn't show on the pages.

Continued efforts are needed to gather more data on impacts that will stand the test of the most critical reader.

Required Improvements for Next Year:

None indicated.