

EXTENSION IMPACTS ON TENNESSEE

Madison County | 2008

We provide education...

that produces solutions to societal, economic and environmental issues. We teach Tennesseans in the places they live, work and play through hundreds of programs. Our efforts are based on local needs, research and a commitment to improve the quality of life.

Reaching Madison County – 148,969 total contacts

Method	Number of Methods	Contacts Reached
Meetings/ Demonstrations	3361	79,708
Client Visits	1093	2898
Targeted Mail/Telephone Consultations	4847	33,003
On-site Visits	536	9892

Extension Volunteers

Volunteers Who Served	1495
Total Clientele Reached by Volunteers	23,468

Helping Row Crop Farmers

Our programs encouraged farmers to select the top-yielding varieties of corn, cotton, wheat, and soybeans to improve yield. In various field days and farm visits, we taught practices to control production costs. Our programs in cotton, soybeans, corn, and wheat production resulted in a combined economic impact of \$5 million to Madison County.

- 1200 acres sprayed for broadleaf weed control according to Extension recommendations.
- 50 cotton producers adopted Extension recommendations for pest control.
- Producers reduced production costs and lessened their impact on the environment by choosing varieties with genetic resistance to diseases, insects and herbicides.

Fighting Obesity

Tennesseans suffer alarming rates of diabetes, arthritis, and high blood pressure – all diseases linked to excess body fat. Extension is working to reverse this trend. In fact, 450 participants in our nutrition programs lost an average of 10 pounds. Other accomplishments included:

- 360 participants walked 27,914 miles in the Walk Across Tennessee program.
- 100 participants increased their exercise routine during the program.
- 69% of participants in our nutrition programs ate more whole grains.

Helping Families in the Money Crunch

Extension promoted economic stability for families. Madison County participants in our Tennessee Saves program have averaged a savings of \$60 per month as a result of this program. Over 2000 people participated with these results:

- 92% identified ways to increase savings and reduce debt.
- 90% made a spending plan.
- 93% planned to check their credit reports.

Developing Young People

4-H helps young people to be better citizens while preparing for a demanding and fast-changing workplace. Madison County has 3,015 youth enrolled in 159 4-H clubs. Because of their 4-H experiences:

- 800 youth now understand how community leaders are elected to office.
- 2934 youth report they now make a decision by thinking about what a person of good character would do.
- 2466 youth report that they now consider the risks of their choices.
- 1128 youth report they take their job seriously as members of committees.

Helping Homeowners & Protecting the Environment

Extension programs in consumer horticulture included distance diagnosis of plant diseases and the Master Gardener program. Results included:

- 70 consumers applied fewer fertilizers and pesticides due to a better understanding of landscape best management practices.
- 145 consumers learned about plant selection and proper planting to save money and conserve water.
- 170 consumers used the results of their soil test to properly amend their soil.

Improving Beef & Forage Production

In 2008, we placed special emphasis on helping farmers to improve forage and beef production in the county with these accomplishments:

- 600 acres were planted with clover.
- 20 beef producers increased knowledge of production and economic benefits of forage testing and ration balancing.
- 10 beef producer participated in a cooperative marketing program.

Investing in People

The 2008 cost-benefit analysis of statewide programs demonstrated that for every \$1 in public funds invested in UT Extension programs, an estimated \$5.10 is returned to the people of Tennessee in increased revenue, increased savings, and one-time capital purchases.

Contact Us

Our office is located at 309 North Parkway in Jackson. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Contact us at 731-668-8543 or at any of the below e-mail addresses.

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