

Grant County Annual Report 2020

Putting Knowledge to Work!

The West Virginia University Extension Service works to provide solutions in your community through key programs and resources, including agriculture and natural resources; 4-H and youth development; food and nutrition; health and wellness; financial planning; and home gardening. These research-based programs and services are available to all Grant County residents thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners, including the Board of Education and County Commission.

Highlights

- More than 150 school-aged youths were reached through the Get Experience in Mindfulness curriculum.
- The 2020-2021 WVBEF concluded with the 53rd annual sale, where 88 bulls were cataloged and 84 were sold for a gross of \$293,800 or \$3,498/head.
- Conducted ultrasounds (locally and statewide) on more than 1,000 ewes and does for pregnancy, preformed breeding soundness exams on rams and answered questions across the state on small ruminant nutrition, breeding and general husbandry.
- Delivered 21 hours of nutrition education and virtually taught 21 sessions to 70 fifth graders at Petersburg Elementary School using the Show Me Nutrition curriculum.

4-H/Youth Development

Camping

- In summer 2020, Grant County WVU Extension Service partnered with Pendleton County WVU Extension Service to offer a combination of virtual (Camp URLinked) and kit-based camps (Camp in a Box).
- More than 40 youths in Grant County picked up a “Camp in a Box” that offered sports equipment, mask-sewing kits and more.
- Two dozen youths joined for live virtual sessions for Camp URLinked.

4-H School-based Programs

- In early 2020, the Get Experience in Mindfulness curriculum was offered in-person to more than 150 school-aged youths.
- In early 2020, the Grant County 4-H agent partnered with West Virginia State University to offer Lego robotics to more than 50 elementary students.
- Grant County WVU Extension Service secured a grant to provide 750 take-home STEM kits, plus additional kits, to 4-H’ers.
- 500 MaskUp STEM kits were distributed to local 4-H’ers and high school students.

Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs

- All six Grant County 4-H clubs, consisting of approximately 180 youths, continued in a hybrid state meeting through Zoom, parking lot meetings and drive-through sessions.

Special Interest Programs

- Grant County 4-H partnered with the Potomac Region to offer statewide Cooking 101 SPIN clubs, as well as multi-sessions of the Global Foods SPIN club, reaching approximately 50 youths.
- Potomac Region virtual SPIN clubs covered a wide variety of topics and were able to reach more than 80 youths around the state.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Youth Livestock

- 25 participants trained in statewide Quality Assurance Program were documented.
- Tri-County Fair 2020 had 122 youth livestock exhibitors with a sale total of \$159,600:
 - 27 steers - \$71,050
 - 39 lambs - \$27,900
 - 59 hogs - \$39,800
 - 40 goats - \$20,850
- Two youths from Grant County competed in the animal safety challenge.
- 15 youths competed in the weed identifying challenge.
- Four youths joined the youth livestock SPIN club lesson.
- Three high school seniors toured the Virginia Tech campus and competed in the equine contest.

West Virginia COVID Market Hog Project

- Due to the pandemic, many slaughterhouses were closed in the Midwest. There was a large supply of hogs ready for slaughter and no way to process them. Many market-ready hogs were being euthanized to make room for the next crop of piglets.
- The West Virginia COVID Market Hog Project brought some of the hogs to West Virginia. Potomac Highlands brought in and sold more than 800 hogs in Moorefield and Elkins.

West Virginia Bull Evaluation Program

- Took in 156 bulls from 22 consigners and evaluated them from January to March.
- The 2020-2021 WVBEP concluded with the 53rd annual sale, where 88 bulls were cataloged and 84 were sold for a gross of \$293,800 or \$3,498/head.

Army Special Forces Food Animal Husbandry Program

- Only the top six to eight Special Forces medical sergeants and Special Operations independent duty corpsman candidates are awarded the opportunity to go to WVU's Health Sciences Center for a 24-day clinical medicine program.
- As part of the program, the candidates are exposed to 1.5-day modules in the handling and production of livestock species. This module is facilitated and co-taught at Wardensville.
- This year, the Grant County Extension Service held 11 sessions with 66 individuals.

Small Ruminant Production

- Conducted ultrasounds (locally and statewide) on more than 1,000 ewes and does for pregnancy, preformed breeding soundness exams on rams and answered questions across the state on small ruminant nutrition, breeding and general husbandry.
- As adviser for the West Virginia Purebred Sheep Breeders Association Show and Sale, Grant County WVU Extension Service decided to hold the sale online in 2020 due to the pandemic. In doing so, we were still able to offer buyers and sellers an outlet for their animals.

Families and Health

Family Nutrition Program

Grant County Report 2020

- Assembled and delivered 400 FNP-designed activity kits to libraries in Grant and Pendleton counties over the summer.
- Delivered 21 hours of nutrition education and virtually taught 21 sessions to 70 fifth graders at Petersburg Elementary School using the Show Me Nutrition curriculum.