

# Pendleton 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 Pendleton 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

- 177 adults and youths were provided more than \$3,000 worth of fresh fruits and vegetables, along with educational materials throughout the summer of 2020.
- Active Pathways were added to all elementary schools in the county.
- Pendleton, Tucker and Randolph counties' beef producers marketed 436 head of calves through the West Virginia Assurance Sale at a \$71/head advantage over calves sold in the special graded sale. This sale generated more than \$430,000 with a total advantage of \$30,000 returned to producers for their efforts.
- 42 producers reduced the use of commercial-purchased fertilizer with a savings in excess of \$175,000 over the past five years.

## 4-H/Youth Development

### *Camping*

- 40 youths participated in a virtual camping experience through a joint camping experience with Grant County.

### *4-H School-based Programs*

- 60 first grade students at Franklin Elementary School were taught "Ag in the Classroom" lessons, as well as handwashing lessons throughout the school year.
- Active Pathways were painted at every elementary school in the county thanks to the efforts from the Family Nutrition Program, giving youths more options for play during recess while helping them build skills that they need in the classroom.

### *Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs*

- Traditional clubs met in exciting ways throughout the year. New places were explored for club meetings that meet the outlined guidelines set to make sure we were staying safe. A lot of hikes and outdoor meetings occurred during this time.

- Members learned about new topics by participating in virtual learning through SPIN clubs and project workshops.
- Enrollment continued to maintain great levels, despite the hardships faced from the pandemic.

### *Other Programs*

- 40 families received more than \$3,000 worth of fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the summer of 2020. Along with the food, they were provided children's books and take-home activities to provide an educational aspect to this program.

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### *Grazing Management Evaluations*

- Field demonstrations were conducted on six winter feeding areas in 2020. Revegetated sites were evaluated for forage growth, ground cover, weeds versus planted crop, forage yield and animal unit grazing days produced when grazed. Individual case studies were written for each site to quantify the cost of revegetation and the value in terms of ground cover and forage production.

### *Agriculture Management Practices*

- 10 producers planted 505 acres of cover crops with a cost sharing of \$27,014 during 2020.
- 42 producers reduced the use of commercial-purchased fertilizer with a savings in excess of \$175,000 over the past five years.
- 137 West Virginia producers participating in educational programs have adopted practices that protect natural resources including woodland, cropland, pastureland, water and air.
- Consulted with four producers on nutrient management plans.
- Seven producers participated in the litter transfer program with a cost sharing of \$37,000 during 2020.

### *Cattle Marketing*

- Worked with West Virginia producers in sending 355 cattle to Tri-County Beef Carcass Futurity in Iowa. The principle objective of the TCSCF program is to provide information to beef producers that they can use in managing and marketing their product.
- Pendleton, Tucker and Randolph counties' beef producers marketed 436 head of calves through the West Virginia Assurance Sale at a \$71/head advantage over calves sold in the special graded sale. This sale generated more than \$430,000 with a total advantage of \$30,000 returned to producers for their efforts.
- More than 675 head of stocker cattle were marketed through the Riverton Yearling Board Sale for a \$45/head advantage over calves being sold out of the field. This service effort returned more than \$23,760 to producers in Pendleton County.