

Agriculture & Natural Resources **IMPACTS**

Partnering with State and Federal Agencies

WHAT WE DO

University of Illinois Extension provides training and services in support of Illinois priorities and regulatory requirements in areas including food safety, plant health, water quality, and natural resource protection. Extension services address emerging needs, such as new food safety requirements, emerging plant pests, or new label application requirements for pesticides.

KEY PROGRAMS

Pesticide Safety Education Program. Training programs on the safe and effective use of pesticides to prepare private, commercial, and public pesticide applicators and operators required by law to be certified. Supports the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act and the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Plant Clinic. Diagnostic services to track critical and emerging plant pest as part of the USDA-supported National Plant Diagnostic Network. The Clinic also provides diagnostic services used to issue phytosanitary certificates in partnership with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Certified Livestock Management program. Fulfills the 1996 Illinois Livestock Management Facilities Act requirement to train livestock producers in environmentally sustainable and safe management of their facilities. Partnership with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Food Safety Modernization Act training. Federally-approved training to help Illinois growers meet new requirements to safeguard against the risk of food-borne disease.

Smart Grid outreach. Outreach aimed at hard-to-reach populations on how smart meters can help save energy and money helps support reduced energy use and a stable state electricity grid. Supports the Illinois 2011 Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act.

Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy implementation. Education and support to help agricultural producers and others reduce nutrient losses and protect water quality. Supports the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy facilitated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Extension supports state and federal initiatives to *protect Illinois residents and their environment and natural resources.*



photo: Russel Higgins

IMPACT

- **13,461** participants trained to meet State certification and licensing requirements in 2018.
- **419** phytosanitary analyses in 2018 helped certify seed for export with an estimated value of over **\$40 million**.
- **426** participants representing an estimated **750,000 animal units** were trained in Certified Livestock Management in 2018. On average 76% correctly answered questions about nutrient facts and required practices.
- **96** participants representing an estimated **\$12.5 million in annual produce sales** were trained in food safety requirements in 2018.
- **82%** of participants of the Smart Grid outreach program, targeted to hard-to-reach populations, reported an increase in knowledge on smart meters.