



Unit 8 - 2018-2019 Food: Food Production

Reporting Period	2018 - 2019
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Level	Unit
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Type	Local
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Status	Finished
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Program Areas	4H Youth Development Agriculture and Natural Resources
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Unit	Unit 8 (District)
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Grand Challenges	Food
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Situation Illinois needs a 70% increase in production to meet the global demand for food by 2050. Food production accounts for 6% of Illinois jobs. It is critical for producers to employ sound business management and marketing skills and adopt technological advances to meet growing demands. A more diverse food system is necessary to enhance production, profitability, and management. Incorporating pest and nutrient management best practices allows producers to safely and efficiently increase food production. Research conducted at the University of Illinois affords Extension the opportunity to positively impact food production and employment thus increasing the economic viability of the state.

Through our internal civil rights compliance review, we identified seven communities for targeted outreach: Mendota, DePue, Streator, Spring Valley, LaSalle, Ottawa, and Marseilles. Mendota and DePue have a high percentage of Latino families. Extension will implement 4-H and SNAP-Ed programming in these communities. In September 2018, a part-time Extension Program Coordinator was hired for Bureau County to reach 1st Generation 4-H Latino Families through a grant supported by the State 4-H Office. The program is carried out in partnership with DePue School. The Unit's 4-H Youth Development programs provide opportunities for youth and families across the Unit's four county area: to become aware of careers and workforce opportunities; to obtain knowledge and skills relating to careers and workforce; to practice work through project activities; and through participation in workshops, SPIN club involvement and more. Each year the Unit's 4-H staff convene two meetings per year of the 4-H Expansion and Review Committee to review current programming and discuss future needs. In 2018, meetings were held on June 6, 2018, and September 13, 2018. In 2018, Unit 8 established an Education Center & Community Teaching Kitchen in LaSalle. This community-based SNAP-Ed grant pilot project is one of three sites in Illinois. Program focus areas include: prevention of obesity and chronic disease, food access, food safety and workforce preparedness. SNAP-Ed and Extension educational programs will be provided to both youth and adult audiences to address the focus areas. Interdisciplinary programming will be provided including 4-H and Master Gardener/Master Naturalist and Natural Resources. The Unit's Multi-County Unit Council reviews the Unit's programming and outreach efforts on an ongoing basis. The council meets 5 times per year to oversee and conduct Extension business.

- Short-Term (Knowledge)**
- Increase awareness of food production methods
 - Increase knowledge of food production and growing techniques
 - Increased confidence of using new technologies in farming practices
 - Increase in developing strategies and plans for increasing production
 - Increase number of business plans
 - Increase number passing certification# of CEU hours for Certified Crop Advisors

Indicators *Not Specified*

Medium-Term (Behavior)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes adopted in growing techniques • Changes made that yield savings • Increase acreage planted • Increased acres using strategies to increase productivity • Increased use of business management tools • Dollar value of efficiencies and savings • Increased agricultural production (food, fiber, animal) • Increased use of market information in production decisions • Increased number of urban farmers and gardeners • Increase in number of farmers diversifying production operations • Increase in zoning rules and laws that support agriculture production
Indicators	<i>Not Specified</i>
Long-Term (Change in Condition)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase market value of agriculture industry for producers in IL • Dollar value of efficiencies and savings • Number of new businesses • Maintained or increased economic growth of agricultural and food production at all scales in Illinois. • Increased profitability of agriculture producers
Indicators	<i>Not Specified</i>
Public Value	<i>Not Specified</i>

Outputs**Activities**

- 4-H Projects (Conservation Day Programs, Ag in the Classroom, Natural Resources Programs)
- Ag in the Classroom-Teen Teachers (Schools in Marshall-Putnam Counties)
- Jr. Master Gardeners (Lettuce Bed Garden Programs (Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Counties, Community Garden (Ottawa)
- Incubation and Embryology (Schools in Marshall-Putnam Counties)

Participation*Participants/Stakeholders*

- General Public and special populations
- Homeowners, residents, gardeners
- Youth
- Schools

Clients/Stakeholders

- Commercial farmers
- Small scale farmers & urban agriculture
- Livestock producers
- Ag professionals including Certified Crop Advisors

Agencies

- IL Department of Ag
- EPA
- NRCS
- Other NGO's
- SWCD
- Farm Bureau

Decision-makers

- Government
- Agencies
- Regulatory agencies

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