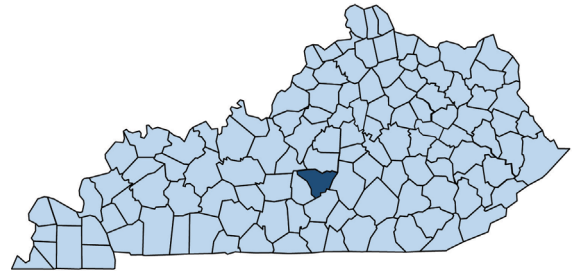


REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



Taylor County 2021



DID YOU KNOW... Taylor County has a population of approximately 26,000 people and 23,000 cattle: almost equal!



Website: taylor.ca.uky.edu



Facebook: '@Taylor County Cooperative Extension Service

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4-H Youth Development



Grand Champion Three Cheese Muffin at the Kentucky State Fair submitted by a member of Taylor County 4-H.

275

Number of youth who gained an understanding of the role of agriculture in the production of food and fiber.

30

Number of youth who improved their communication skills by completing a speech, demonstration, or other public presentation.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Cereal rye in Kentucky is known as a cover or silage crop. On-farm research through the Kentucky Commercial Rye Cover Crop Initiative is being conducted to test agronomic practices to demonstrate if Kentucky can be a reliable source of rye for distillers, millers, and bakers. Temperature and humidity are two climate parameters which greatly affect quality and yield during pollination and grain fill. To record these parameters, the Taylor County Extension Service purchased a weather station and placed it at the pilot project field on a producers farm in Taylor County. The agriculture agent, in cooperation with the producer, is recording data and making agronomic notes as to help gather information for the initiative. Hopefully, the rye initiative will prove quality rye can be grown in Kentucky in a profitable and sustainable manner. Producers need alternate crops to further diversify and furnish end users Kentucky rye.



Rye plot before harvest.

241

Number of producers incorporating technology to effectively manage their farming operations.

50

Number of producers who incorporated best practices recommended by Extension.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic this past year has been difficult, especially for our youth. We worked to keep the youth and volunteers involved in Taylor County 4-H. With 166 4-H enrollments, our members were able to compete at multiple events at local, regional and state levels.

They competed in events ranging from livestock judging to speeches and everything in between. We also continued in person workshops as well as zoom to continue educating the youth. Take home kits were created to keep members engaged during the tougher months of the year also. The office and community are excited to welcome Kimberly Thomas as the new 4-H Agent. She is excited to jump in and get working with the youth of Taylor County. She looks forward to continuing to increase enrollment, involvement, and educating our members.

Family and Consumer Sciences



Taylor County Homemakers flocking a home.

215

Number of volunteers who practice personal and interpersonal leadership skills in clubs, schools and community outreach.

35

Number of Extension programs/activities conducted by Extension Homemaker members.

The Family and Consumer Science program has been instrumental in community service projects throughout the year. The Taylor County Homemakers made and donated approximately 800 masks, 370 surgical caps, and 25 bibs for face shields to the Taylor County Regional Hospital. They also made 26 no-sew blankets that were donated to the local cancer center and 228 heart shaped pillows for the surgery patients at the hospital. They were also able to volunteer for Feed Me Fridays, a local food pantry where they feed approximately 100 people from the community and have donated 356 desserts. During the month of September 2020, Taylor County Homemakers planned their first Flocking for a Cure event. This event raised money for Ovarian Cancer Research through the University of Kentucky. With a goal of raising at least \$500, they completely surpassed that raising \$4,562. 159 homes and businesses were flocked in return of a donation to the cause.

Horticulture

COVID-19 brought many challenges to the horticulture program last year. Programming had to adapt to accommodate these challenges. The horticulture agent presented a Zoom webinar this spring on how to build a wicking garden bed. Master gardeners worked together with the agent to build it. The horticulture agent presented the building process to 169 individuals watching via Zoom through the State Horticulture webinar series. Finally, a class was taught in partnership with the local library on the building of the bed and on proper planting. The use of a hybrid in-person and Zoom teaching method resulted in maximizing the amount of people outreach through this program.



Master Gardeners are seen constructing a wicking garden bed.

356

Number of volunteer service hours completed by Extension Master Gardener volunteers in the county.

10

Number of master gardeners that have completed certification and were active volunteers in the county during the past year.

Nutrition Education

The Nutrition Education Assistant in Taylor County was looking for ways to offer classes virtually during the pandemic. The Healthy Choices for Every Body lesson Ready, Set, Cook! was the starting point for a bi-monthly class series held via Zoom. Classes were promoted through Facebook, Interagency Council, the housing authority, Adanta's counseling programs, Skills U, and the local pregnancy center. Several families as well as single adults enrolled and were provided with printed lessons, recipes and reinforcement kitchen tools for each lesson. The Nutrition Assistant did door drops with the supplies prior to class. Families often cooked together along with the assistant's demonstration. Sometimes families weren't able to log in, but they reviewed the lessons and sent pictures of the dishes they had prepared. With families cooking together in the kitchen, it was often a lively and noisy meeting.



A delicious fruit pizza made via zoom during a lesson.

23

Number of individuals who reported eating more healthy foods.

75

Number of students who recognize fruits (K-2nd Grade).

... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- **23,971** Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.
- **4,890** Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.
- **3,898** Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.
- **4,161** Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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