



EXTENSION

2022 Impact Summary

Engaging with
Nebraskans
wherever they
are, connecting
them with the
resources,
research and
innovation of
the University of
Nebraska.



What began as a simple idea to share with 4-H youth about life in South Sudan evolved into a **robust STEM learning experience** and student competition. Nebraska 4-H in Douglas and Sarpy counties partnered with Aqua Africa, an Omaha-based non-profit, to create “Build a Hut”—an innovative program involving hands-on skill development with problem-solving, planning and teamwork.

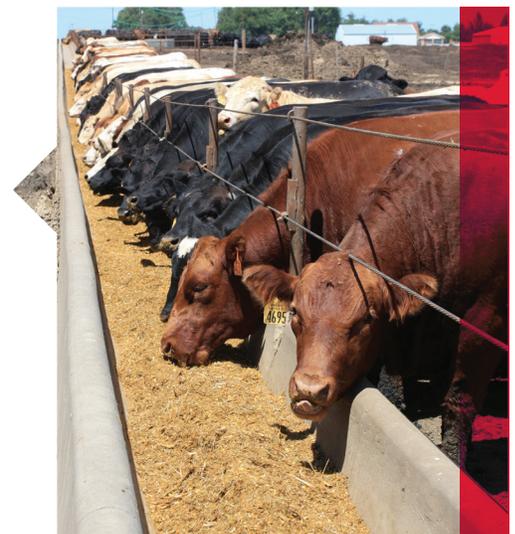
Youth were tasked with **designing and constructing a solid structure** similar to a hut found in South Sudan, while also ensuring it had immediate access to clean running water and energy for heat and cooking. UNL Engineering professors, Extension professionals, and Douglas-Sarpy 4-H staff helped create curriculum and skill training in construction, civil engineering and solar technology.

Students gained **hands-on experience** in a variety of construction skills and were tasked with finding **innovative ways to solve very real challenges** related to basic human existence. Six five-member teams made up of 4th through 8th grade youth—primarily from underserved populations—earned the right to take part in the 2022 pilot program after a pre-program camp that **involved 71 students**.

Teams were judged on the quality of their hut structure, creativity of design, teamwork, efficient use of allotted budget dollars, and their ability to overcome unexpected challenges such as disease and weather events.

In 2023, **Build a Hut will expand to additional communities** and scale up include additional program partners and trained instructors.

Nebraska is the global epicenter for beef production, so it makes sense that a **Nebraska Extension podcast** devoted to the beef industry has become a **top-rated program** not only in the U.S, but around the world. With some 100 episodes each year, the “BeefWatch” podcast provides insight on research, management practices and real-time responses to challenges and opportunities. Launched in 2015 when podcasts were just emerging, “BeefWatch” has grown to become a leading resource for beef producers, industry stakeholders and academia. During 2022, the podcast saw **144,000+ unique downloads** across **all 50 states** (including the District of Columbia) and **78 countries** spanning every continent but Antarctica. By some industry metrics, “BeefWatch” ranks in the **top 10% of all podcasts**—helping beef producers improve their operations while strengthening Nebraska Extension’s global leadership in beef research and education.

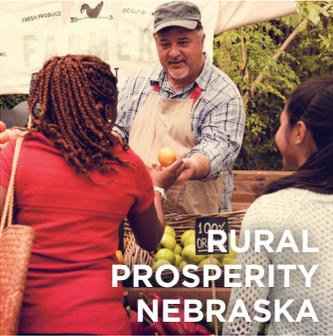




Strengthen Nebraska Agriculture & Food Systems By connecting with Nebraska Extension, Nebraska amplifies its strengths in agriculture, food production, and natural resources stewardship in ways that are environmentally and economically sustainable—ensuring that all Nebraskans have access to safe and healthy food, abundant water, and the benefits of Nebraska’s outdoor spaces.

Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities By connecting with Nebraska Extension, Nebraska has a robust, diverse population of well-prepared, innovative and productive people—beginning with Nebraska youth—living in thriving, vibrant communities that are contributing to the sustained success and growth of the entire state.

Enhance the Health & Wellbeing of All Nebraskans By connecting with Nebraska Extension, Nebraskans are healthier in every respect—physically, mentally, and economically—leading to an even better quality of life greater prosperity, and a promising future for all.



8

Farm-to-School programs created in the first year of the initiative supported by Rural Prosperity Nebraska

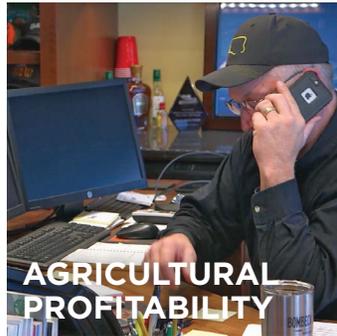


7000+

Youth statewide participated in college and career readiness programming

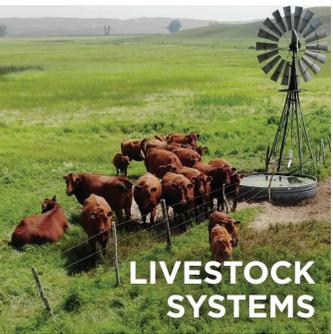
196,400

Page views on cap.unl.edu for resources on finance, succession, ag policy and other subjects



202,922

Children and 15,172 caregivers reached directly and indirectly by Early Childhood programming



\$6.2M

In economic impact to their operations, reported by participants in Extension programs targeted to livestock producers

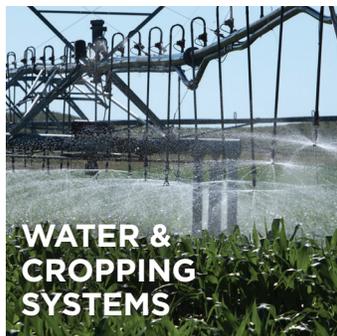


4,320

Meal kits delivered across 9 school districts to fill food access gaps among youth and their families

132,220

Acres farmed/managed by producers who attended a 2022 On-Farm Research Network (OFRN) Results Meeting



440,000+

Nebraskans attended programs or contacted local Extension professionals related to pest, insect and landscape/horticulture topics



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