



Upcoming Events:

- January 4th - Co. Govt. Day Planning
- January 6th - Green Team 4-H Club Mtg. & 4-H Council Mtg.
- January 12th - Co. Supervisor Mtg.
- January 14th - York Ag Expo
- January 14th - Project N Sense Mtg.
- January 15th - FCDC Board Mtg.
- January 16th - Beef Weigh-In
- January 18th - IYCC Judging.
- January 18th - Extension Bd Mtg.
- January 20th - Cow/Calf College
- January 22nd - IYCC Banquet
- January 25th - Annie's Project
- January 26th - HR4AG Program
- January 26-27th - Statewide 4-H In-service

Narrative Report - December 2015

Brandy VanDeWalle, Extension Educator
Fillmore County

Crops for the Future

Crops & Risk Management

Field to Market Program was held December 8th, which I facilitated where 8 people attended. This calculator tool allows growers to better understand and communicate how management choices affect overall sustainability performance and operational efficiency.

I developed a presentation and face-to-face curriculum for the Human Resources for Ag and Main Street program on the area of leadership, motivation and employee engagement.

The first *Farmers & Ranchers College* set a record attendance of 202 people with featured Dr. David Kohl. Kohl provided strategies for producers to implement during this economic downturn. He shared global updates on how key countries' policies; production, etc. how will affect agriculture in Nebraska. A special treat was a visit from Nebraska Extension's Market Journal staff dialog regarding ag careers & Market Journal updates.



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Crops for the Future - Youth

A team of us representing the issue team focused on **encouraging and preparing youth for careers in science, technology, engineering and math** participated in the Regional Science Teacher Association conference in Kansas City, MO. I obtained ideas and resources for implementing crop science, soils and other related agricultural topics into school enrichment and other agricultural literacy programming. This is a large effort in the science education field for youth to be able to provide scientific argumentation, which will be critical to our young scientists and can be helpful in promoting agricultural literacy.

I worked on a Journal of Extension article with colleagues from Iowa State University and Purdue University, which compared results and the outcomes of our state **Youth Crop Scouting Competition**.

4-H Youth Development

Holly and I hosted a 4-H Council Social that reflected on the success of the 2015 4-H programming year. New council members for 2016 were invited to meet other council members and start dialogue.

I worked with the 4-H Council on the new 4-H & FFA livestock identification rules go into effect in 2016.

Professional & Organizational Development

I attended the statewide **Extension Unit Leader** conference, where I was also asked by administration to serve as a panelist. Updates on financial policies, program marketing and leadership development were given. A visit from Wayne Moore, Associate Dean of Extension was conducted with discussion on programming in Fillmore County. A large amount of time was devoted towards the hiring process of a new Extension Assistant with candidate screening, interviews, and other hiring procedures being conducted.

News Columns

December 7th - Holiday Greenery

December 14th -Annie's Project

December 21st - Cow/Calf College

December 28th - CropWatch Feedback & Crop Production Clinics