



June/July 2019 Narrative Report

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Extension Educator, Fillmore & Clay Counties

Upcoming Events:

August 12 – FC School Health Fair - promote school enrichment

August 16th – AgVenture Day planning

August 21st – Haul exhibits to State Fair & Serve as Co-supt. of Agronomy/Range exhibits

August 25-26th – Regional Youth Crop Scouting Competition – Iowa

August 28th – Present at Corteva – Mental Health & Stress

August 30th - Farmers & Ranchers College meeting

Aug. 30-Sept 2nd – Help with breeding beef & swine at State Fair

September 8-12th – NACAA National Conference, Indiana

September 17-20th – National Extension Leadership Development Conference, MN

September 23rd – Fillmore Co. Ext. Board

September 24th – Fillmore Co. Clover Kid Mtg.

September 25-26th – Water Jamboree

September 28th – Present at KS Women in Ag conference

Crops – Youth (STEM-Careers)

This year's theme for the **Excellence in Ag Sciences Day**

(professional development for ag teachers) focused on the new computer simulation game, **AgPocalypse** and a Preservation card game. This newly developed game takes a systems-approach to planting, managing and harvesting crops. Forty-four ag teachers

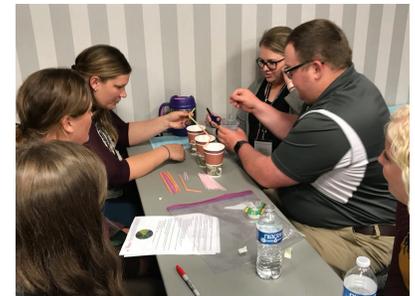


participated and the follow-up survey and 100% agreed that the Preservation game will be useful in their classroom & 97% felt the career and innovation session which I taught was useful. Eighty percent plan to utilize **AgPocalypse** in their classroom and the other 20% plan to modify or expand practices utilizing the gaming tool.

I presented at the **Nebraska Career Education** conference on irrigation management to 36 agriculture education instructors.

Using lessons I had developed to compliment the Nebraska

Agricultural Water Management online publication, teachers piloted the hands-on lessons. Overarching comments included how much the teachers liked that the supplies to use them were inexpensive and easily accessible.



I coordinated the 6th **Nebraska Youth Crop Scouting Competition** which had 7 teams (32 youth) participate. Teams of students (completing 5-12th grades) participated by completing a written knowledge test and seven crop scouting exercises in field plots. The purpose of the competition was to provide students an opportunity to learn crop scouting and principles of integrated pest

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management (IPM) for corn and soybeans in Nebraska, to obtain knowledge and skills that will be helpful in future careers and to demonstrate newer crop scouting technologies.



Mental Health/Rural Stress

I conducted a **Pure Nebraska** Interview on mental health and resources available. I presented to 33 people at the Four Corners Health Department, Keep Rural Worksites Strong Mental Health workshop in Seward. My presentation was on stress and set the stage for the conference. Several participants, reported that my presentation was “just what they needed”.

I attended the Great Plains Disaster Behavioral health conference and became certified in Stress Health First Aid.

4-H Youth Development

We moved the 4-H Fillmore County **Community Garden** next to the extension office this year which will take a couple of years to enrich the soil. Youth also planted vegetables in the raised beds out front which have been donated to Blue Valley and the Geneva Senior Center.

I helped with the Fillmore and Clay **County fairs** which went smoothly. I also worked with Madalyn Kamler on the Ag-Innovator Native Pollinator workshops. She presented to several different counties.

Professional Development or Organizational Citizenship

As a participant of **National Extension Leadership Development (NELD)** program, professional development was continued with a Washington D.C. seminar. This program focused on communicating effectively, following and leading dynamics, framing situations and managing group dynamics.

News Columns/Blogs

June: Field Days, Irrigation Lessons, Mosquitoes, Good Farmer or Great Manager

July: 4-H Friendships, County Fair, FSA Elections, Soybean Management Field Days, Managing Stress