



Upcoming Events:

December 3-5th - Regional NSTA conference, Kansas City

December 8th - Associate Dean Visit

December 7th - Chat with Chuck webinar

December 8th - Field to Market Program, Extension Office

December 10th - HR4AG curriculum writing

December 10-11th - Unit Leader Conference, Kearney

December 11th - 4-H Council Social

December 14th - Extension Board Mtg.

December 15th - F&R College: Dr. Kohl

December 18th - HR4AG conf. call

Narrative Report - November 2015

**Brandy VanDeWalle, Extension Educator
Fillmore County**

Crops for the Future

Crops & Risk Management

Annie's Project (18 hour risk management program for agricultural women) will be held January - March of 2016 at the Extension Office with local sponsorship from Flint Hills Resources.

Field to Market Program will be held in Geneva December 8th and I facilitated the **Cornhusker Economics Outlook** conference in York on November 17th which 26 people attended.

Nebraska Extension is forming "**issue based**" teams, which are multi-disciplinary in nature and covering a wide array of issues impacting Nebraskans. As teams are forming, I have participated in several of those webinars to assist in developing program outcomes. The teams I have selected include: Increasing Consumer Confidence, Improving Soil and Water Quality, Increasing Leadership Capacity across Nebraska and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics careers.

The **annual pesticide safety education program in-service** was held with a focus on nozzle selection and placement, which I participated. Future pesticide restrictions and resistance issues were also presented.

More HR4AG planning was done in addition to program promotion of winter extension programs.

Crops for the Future - Youth

I presented at the **FFA Pathways to Career** conference to fourteen youth on irrigation and groundwater quality. Presenting them with career options in the water, crops and general agriculture was a great

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I promoted the **Fillmore County Health Fair** through social media and assisted as needed. Lindsay Chichester, Extension Educator in Saunders County performed a meat cutting demonstration at the Health Fair on November 5th.

way to encourage them to consider a career in agriculture. In addition, I was asked to provide a presentation to agriculture educators. Eight teachers attended my session focusing on groundwater education. Teachers were also given water testing kits and small aquifer models to use in their classroom as part of the NET grant.

I also made revisions to the third **Irrigation Management Z-Mag** that is near completion and should be ready to launch for teachers in January. Five Nebraska Ag Water Management Network videos have been published to CropWatch's YouTube account.

Plans to pilot a **North Central Region Youth Crop Scouting Competition** have been set into motion. I'm working with Iowa State University and Purdue University to hold the competition in Iowa during August of 2016. Planning, grant writing and fundraising will take place to allow Nebraska's top two teams the chance to participate.

Planning for the **Innovative Youth Corn Challenge** Banquet and promotion occurred.

4-H Youth Development & Youth Ag Literacy

Holly and I conducted the **4-H Fall Party** that recognized youth who completed the Diamond Clover program and Career Portfolios. In addition, Flint Hills Resources presented livestock showmanship winners their jackets. Twenty-two youth attended the awards program, which was held at the Rialto Theater. Following awards, the movie "Pan" was played for youth who chose to stay.

New 4-H & FFA livestock identification rules go into effect in 2016, so a webinar and discussions on what those new rules are were held.

I participated in a **Grants Conversation** meeting, which featured Cory Forbes who is leading IANR's Science Literacy Initiative, in addition to the National Agriculture Literacy Center. Networking was great, as I was able to learn and connect on ag literacy evaluation standards and curriculum being developed.

Professional & Organizational Development

I attended the statewide **NCEA/Extension Conference**. My highlight was the presenter David Horsager on Trust and Leadership. I was elected President-Elect of the Ag Section as well.

News Columns

November 4th - Science & Research Should Matter

November 18th - Field to Market Program

November 11th - Risk Mgmt Programs

November 25th - Kohl Program