

Catahoula Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

November 2017

About the LSU AgCenter

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a unique statewide network of parish extension offices, research stations and academic departments, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of natural resources, protect the environment, enhance agricultural enterprises and develop human and community resources.



Program Highlights

Family, Nutrition & Health

Obesity and Childhood Obesity are huge issues for the state of Louisiana. The LSU AgCenter has many nutrition programs available to individuals and families that will help increase their nutrition knowledge, gain skills in healthy food preparation, improve eating habits and increase physical activity in order to live a healthy lifestyle. Family and Consumer Sciences is conducting a research based, technology driven program with 3rd graders throughout the state called Body Quest. This program is taking place at Sicily Island and also at Central. Programming at Catahoula Head Start is in full swing, with both students and parents receiving education nutrition lessons. The FCS nutrition educator also partners with Catahoula WIC office to provide nutrition educations and food demos once a month with WIC recipients.



4-H Youth Development



During the 2016-2017 school year, the Catahoula Parish 4-H school club program, 4th – 12th graders, was a participant in a National 4-H pilot study with 4 other states. The goals of the pilot study were to view a transformational and sustainable professional development model in different 4-H contexts and to collect and analyze formative data to be used to improve that model. Educational programs were taught each month to cover topics related to living healthier lifestyles. The 4-H Cloverbuds Program, targeting Kindergarten thru 2nd graders, also focused on healthful eating, tasting new foods, and physical activity. 4-H youth

were able to strengthen their leadership skills while teaching nutrition lessons to youth and adults as part of a joint effort between Tensas and Catahoula parishes which has received grant funding for the past 7 years. The TEN CAT: Making Families Fit program received funding through a Walmart Healthy Living grant, a Healthy ABCs grant through LSU Food and Nutrition Sciences, 4-H Yoga for Kids grant, and a National 4-H mini-grant funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Four TEN CAT teen leaders attended the National Healthy Living Summit at National 4-H in Chevy Chase, MD where they wrote a grant application for the National 4-

H mini-grant. Through service-learning projects, youth were taught the importance of giving back to others. They participated in canned food drives, creating a therapeutic activity station at Spirit Reins Equine Center, Inc., Christmas in a Box for underprivileged youth, Christmas cards for the U. S. Military, can tab drives for St. Jude Research Hospital, dollar days for foster care and caroling at local retirement centers. Youth also participated in regional and state events throughout the year including Ag Expo, 4-H Camp, 4-H University, livestock shows, horse shows, and healthy living trainings. Catahoula 4-H'ers were also participants in 3 other national events: the North American Invitational Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky; the 4-H Educational trip in Dallas, TX; and the National 4-Forestry Invitational in Weston, West Virginia. The Youth Wetlands project reached over 1,200 Catahoula youth and science teachers by providing materials and lessons on Louisiana wetlands.



Catahoula Parish Extension Office

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Programs

4-H and Youth Development
Citizenship/Leadership
Science, Engineering &
Technology
Healthy Living

Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)
Animal Production
Beef Cattle
Environment/Watersheds
Horticulture/Lawns and
Gardens
Pest Management

Family, Nutrition & Health
Smart Portions
Smart Bodies
Healthy Beginnings
Community Nutrition

Who we reach:

8,417 - Youth (4-H, FCS, ANR) Includes TEN CAT, Youth Wetlands, Ag Alley, Ag Magic, Ag Adventures, Cloverbuds, Body Quest, Library Programs, Head Start, and 11 4-H Clubs

3,086 - Adults (4-H, FCS, ANR)

How we reach them:

4-H clubs	Class series
School Enrichment	Demonstrations
Field days	Workshops
Newsletters	Web sites
Publications	Social media
Home/Farm/Office Visits	

Expanding our efforts:

178 Volunteers - 4-H, FCS, ANR

Parish Facts

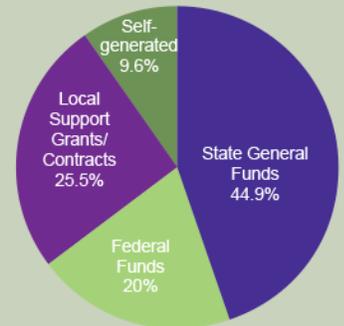
LSU AgCenter County Agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Terrebonne Parish clientele. The 2016 total dollar amount from these commodities were:

- Plant enterprises - \$83,040,308.
- Aquaculture and wildlife - \$4,290,761.
- Animal enterprises - \$4,020,124.

Data from the Louisiana Ag Summary
Web site: LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary

Population - 9,921
 Land area (square miles) - 708.03
 Persons under 18 years old - 21.8%
 Persons 65 years old and over - 16.7%
 Median household income - \$34,904
 Persons below poverty - 27.2%

Extension Funding FY 2017-2018



**2018 Local support goal 20% of salaries and benefits*

How we are funded.

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter Extension programs. Just 20 percent support keeps these programs in your community.

Your parish extension office offers programs in:

- Sustaining Louisiana's agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
- Building leaders and good citizens through 4-H youth development.
- Family, nutrition and health to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana citizens.

Agriculture & Natural Resources



It is the AgCenter's focus and goal to provide the people of Catahoula Parish with science-based research to address the problems and needs in the area of Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR). These methods are carried out through a variety of production meetings, educational workshops, field days and one-on-one consultation. Among the needs of ANR are cattle and pasture management, row crops, forestry production, wildlife management, and home gardens. Cattle and pasture management information will be provided through various field days. On-farm demonstration trials will continue to be held across the parish to learn more about site specific management practices. Forest production needs are met through one-on-one consultations, as well as forums held across the state. Home garden publications can be found in our office to answer the many problems that arise throughout the growing season. Home garden enthusiasts are also encouraged to participate in Master Gardener classes that take place across the Northeast region. The LSU AgCenter remains well rooted in Catahoula Parish and looks forward to serving the needs of its residents.

Local Issues & Plans for this year.

Ag and Natural Resources: Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana Agriculture

- ◆ Conduct crop production meetings for producers
- ◆ Conduct timber and wildlife management workshops through extension forestry
- ◆ Write news articles, newsletters, and update social media websites
- ◆ Conduct farm and home educational visits

4-H Youth and Family Development: Building strong leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development

- ◆ Conduct activities to strengthen leadership skills of youth (TEN CAT Club, Livestock Program, Shooting Sports Program)
- ◆ Conduct youth programming to combat the national epidemic of childhood obesity
- ◆ Offer programming to increase communication skills of youth and engage youth in service-learning
- ◆ Promote gardening and physical activity through school and community gardens

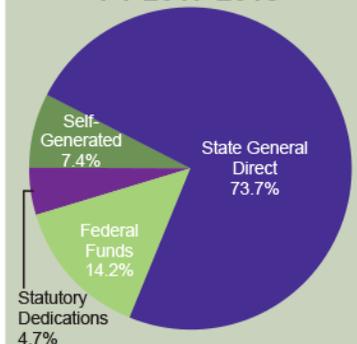


Family and Consumer Sciences: Strengthening families and communities

- ◆ Target school age children with research based nutrition education to help combat the national epidemic of childhood obesity.
- ◆ Provide research based nutrition education to senior adults to improve their knowledge of making better food choices that will affect their overall general health, and also meet specific health needs
- ◆ Provide introductory nutrition education to pre-school aged children to begin their knowledge base of the 5 food groups and what it means to live a healthy lifestyle and eat healthy



LSU AgCenter State Appropriated Funds FY 2017-2018



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our website:

LSUAgCenter.com