

# Madison Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

January-March 2012

## 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

Nutrition programs, such as FF-NEWS, Smart Choices and others provide research-based information to help individuals and families increase their nutrition knowledge, gain skills in healthy food preparation, and improve eating and activity habits in order to live a healthy lifestyle. The issue of Childhood Obesity has been adopted as a major initiative. Programs such as Family Nutrition Night and Smart Bodies address this issue and promote healthy lifestyles through hands-on educational activities for children, parents and caregivers. School garden projects teach the value of food and enhance skills in health, math and social growth for youth and families.



### 4-H Youth & Family Development

Program initiatives strive to promote innovative learning-by-doing educational experiences to engage a diverse population of youth, families and volunteers. 4-H programs promote literacy and life skill development utilizing a research-based curriculum, a mobile technology lab and project-based hands-on learning experiences. Southern University Y.E.S. program strengthens learning in reading, writing, math and science by developing new skills, increasing self-confidence and encouraging youth and families to contribute through service to their community. Youth and families also benefit from outreach efforts in resource management, financial literacy education, parenting and childcare series.



### Agriculture & Natural Resources

Located in the Northeast Louisiana in the heart of the Mississippi River Delta, Madison program efforts include working with innovative producers to utilize precision agricultural farming methods, making recommendations for row crop commodities and researching irrigation problems resulting from salt water intrusion in irrigation wells. On-going collaboration with Ag Economists includes collection of data on production loss as a result of high river levels and continuing drought. As one of two GIS specialists for the AgCenter in North Louisiana, our local programming efforts have provided training for producers on how to better utilize precision agriculture technology in farming operations. Special programs include field days, demonstration plots on local farms and at the Northeast Research Station, and regular farm visits. With data collected on local farms, producers are able to make better management decisions to increase returns on investments.



## Madison Parish Extension Office

**Address:** 114 N. Cedar  
Tallulah, LA 71282

**Phone:** 318-574-2465

**Fax:** 318-574-9509

**Email:**

Madison@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Web site:**

LSUAgCenter.com/Madison

**Hours:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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Administrative Coordinator

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## Programs

### 4-H Youth & Family Development

- Healthy Living
- Science, Engineering and Technology
- Citizenship/Leadership
- Nutrition and Health
- Parents Preparing for Success
- Family Resource Management

### Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR) GIS/GPS

#### Production Agriculture

- Row Crop Production
- Animal Production
- Environment/Watersheds
- Horticulture/Lawns and Gardens
- Pest Management

## Who we reach.

2850 - Youth (includes 4-H Club members in 5 schools and all community outreach programs)

## 3450 - Adults

227 Ag & Natural Resources  
3223 4-H & Family Development

## How we reach them:

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 4-H clubs         | Class series   |
| School Enrichment | Demonstrations |
| Field days        | Workshops      |
| Newsletters       | Web sites      |
| Publications      | Social media   |

## Expanding our efforts:

150 Volunteers - 4-H, Master Gardeners, Master Horsemen, Family & Community Partners

## Parish Facts

LSU AgCenter County Agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Madison Parish clientele. The 2011 total dollar amount from these commodities were:

- Plant enterprises - \$97,903,940 .
- Aquaculture and wildlife - \$250,103.
- Animal enterprises - \$2,221,133.

TOTAL Farm Gate Value \$100,375,176

## Data from the Louisiana Ag Summary

Web site: [LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary](http://LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary)

Population - 12,093

Land area (square miles) - 624

Persons under 18 years old - 25%

Persons 65 years old and over - 11.9%

Median household income - \$26,441

## Local Issues & Plans for this year.

### 1. Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana Agriculture.

- Conduct parish Ag Day
- Conduct on farm variety trials for evaluation of specific varieties in local production environment
- Conduct verification field with LSU AgCenter specialist to assure recommendations are effective/economical
- Develop a precision agriculture demonstration/to help producers become more proficient with emerging technology
- Conduct farm and home visits with ag producers and home owners to assist as needed

### 2. Promote the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment.

- Work with producers to evaluate irrigation wells for performance and salinity content
- Youth to increase an appreciation for agriculture and how food is produced utilizing school garden projects

### 3. Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth and Family development.

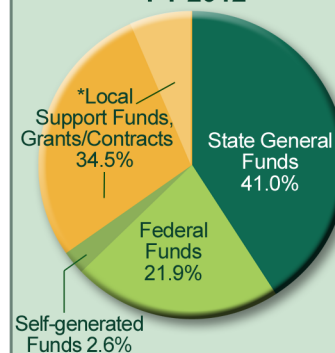
- Community partners to collaborate to enhance year-round learning opportunities for parish youth and families
- 4-H members to build belonging, independence, mastery and generosity through heightened learning opportunities utilizing technology-based resources and hands-on activities

### 4. Strengthen families and communities

- Youth and families to gain knowledge of how to incorporate healthful foods into their diets
- Adults to learn the importance of establishing healthy eating and physical activities, food safety, budgeting, and healthy practices to prevent chronic diseases and improve resource management
- Referral and court-ordered clientele to gain skills needed to raise their children from birth through adolescence



## Extension Funding FY 2012



\*Local Funding  
Parish Police Jury  
Parish School Board

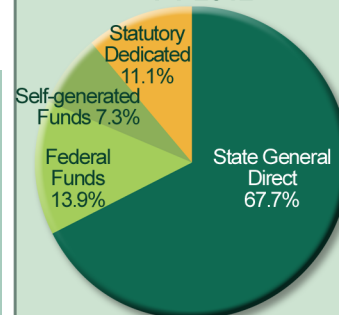
## How we are funded.

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter's 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, health and community development to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana citizens.

## LSU AgCenter State Appropriated Funds FY 2012



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site:  
[LSUAgCenter.com](http://LSUAgCenter.com)