

# LSU AgCenter Grant Parish Profile

Report to Stakeholders January 2025



## ABOUT THE LSU AGCENTER

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a 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

### 4-H Youth Development

The Grant Parish Youth 4-H Development program is a co-curricular program which conducts monthly 4-H educational programs in the Elementary, Junior High and Senior High schools. During the last reporting cycle, 2023-2024, there were over 400 youth enrolled in 11 Organizational Clubs and 3 Clover Bud Clubs. Grant Parish 4-H has a long-standing history with the Shooting Sports program whereby youth participate in the following disciplines: Rifle, Shotgun (including Advanced and Modified) and Archery. Over the past several years, multiple youth have excelled through Shooting Sports and were members of the Louisiana 4-H delegation at the National competition where Louisiana brought home the National Championship. Grant Parish 4-H provides project clubs such as Junior Leaders, Livestock, and Healthy Living/Culinary Club. Over the past several years, youth have had experiences and opportunities through delivery modes such as camps, contests, school clubs, workshops, project clubs, STEAM programs, social media, and newsletters.

### Nutrition and Community Health

Through SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education), participants learn how to prepare nutritious, affordable meals the whole family can enjoy, while improving their overall health. Participants in SNAP-Ed learn valuable information through food taste-testing, as well as parenting/childcare Education. As a result, many residents of Grant Parish have reported an improvement in their quality of life. All SNAP-Ed programs follow the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and USDA MyPlate.

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

Grant Parish has a varied group of agriculture producers. These include forestry industries and those with small acreages of row crops, beef producers, and home gardeners. Safe and proper uses of pesticides and fertilizers as well as general horticulture (gardens, ornamentals, and turf) are of great interest to all. To help producers and the public alike, the LSU AgCenter offers the latest research-based recommendations through home visits, publication correspondence, mass media, and social media.



## PROGRAMS

### 4-H and Youth Development

- Shooting Sports
- Junior Leaders
- Culinary Club
- Livestock Club
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics)

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Forestry
- Livestock Production
- Horticulture/Lawn and Garden
- Crop Production

### Nutrition and Community Health

- Healthy Communities
- SNAP-Ed
- Flavors of Health

## EXTENSION OFFICE

### Grant Parish Extension Office

513 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Colfax, LA 71417

Phone: 318-627-3675

Fax: 318-627-5039

### Email:

[grant@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:grant@agcenter.lsu.edu)

### Office Hours:

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

### Website:

[www.LSUAgCenter.com/Grant](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/Grant)

### Social Media:

Facebook: Grant Parish 4-H

Instagram: grantparish4h

### Parish Chair/Regional Director:

Dr. Daniel Stephenson

[dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu)

### Additional Contact:

Lesley Moreau

[lmoreau@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:lmoreau@agcenter.lsu.edu)

## WHOM WE REACH:

2,743 youth (includes 400 4-H members and 11 4-H Clubs)  
17,529 adults through Agriculture and Natural Resources and Nutrition and Community Health programming

## HOW WE REACH THEM:

4-H Clubs, school enrichment, field days, publications, newsletters, class series, website, social media and workshops.

## EXPANDING OUR EFFORTS:

150 volunteers from 4-H, Master Gardeners, Master Horseman, family and community.

## PARISH FACTS:

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on forestry, livestock, and horticultural and row crops to Grant Parish residents. The total dollar amount from these commodities in 2023 were: Forestry - \$20,604,895; Animal Enterprises - \$10,308,697; Horticulture Enterprises - \$4,118,190, and Row Crop Production - \$3,871,300. Land area - 665 square miles; Population as of 2023 - 21,911; Population under 18 years old - 26.6%; Population 65 years old and over - 16%; Median household income - \$61,112; Persons in poverty - 20.4%

## LOCAL ISSUES AND PLANS FOR THIS YEAR:

### ***Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana agriculture.***

- Use regular mail, email distribution, web pages, social media, home/farm visits, newsletters, and news columns and publications
- Webpage content and seminars on livestock, horticulture, and row crop practices
- Assist Grant Parish stakeholders with gardening, lawn, and horticultural questions
- Assist Grant Parish stakeholders with livestock and forage production questions
- Provide research-based information on home grounds and gardens

### ***Promote the wide use of natural resources and protection of the environment.***

- Provide Master Cattleman and Master Gardener Certification opportunities
- Recruit schools to participate in youth wetlands week
- Private Pesticide Re-Certification Classes

### ***Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H Youth Development.***

- Junior Leaders work to assist in conducting educational activities and workshops for younger youth and have implemented a Service Project to assist various community organizations
- Build awareness of issues facing youth in relation to life skills incorporated in club meeting lessons.
- Encourage youth to participate in parish, regional, and state events, workshops, and contests
- Train Adult Volunteers in shooting sports to reach over 75 youth participants educating them in firearm safety and marksmanship
- Encourage pride in the community and develop leadership skills among youth
- Promote healthy living for all youth
- Recruit, train, and retain adult and youth volunteers

### ***Strengthen families and communities.***

- Conduct nutrition programs that create healthy communities by improving overall nutrition and increasing physical activity levels, in youth and adults, which will produce long-lasting behavior changes
- Provide education on food safety and healthy lifestyle changes for better health
- Provide training to SNAP Ed families on feeding their families nutritionally from a budget



## HOW IS EXTENSION FUNDED?

- Federal funding from the USDA/NIFA.
- State general funds from the Louisiana Legislature.
- Local support from parish government, including police juries and school boards.
- Self-generated funds.



## WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY?

Our stakeholders at the parish level are the local supporters and beneficiaries of the LSU AgCenter cooperative extension programs. Their support keeps these critical programs in their communities.



## EACH PARISH OFFERS PROGRAMMING IN:

- 4-H and Youth Development.
- Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- Nutrition and Community Health



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

[www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com)