

# Beauregard Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

April 2011

## 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

### 4-H Youth Development

The 4-H program in Beauregard Parish utilizes stakeholder input through advisory meetings to ensure growth of the 4-H Youth Development program. The top issues include a continued focus on character development and work ethic. During fiscal 2009-2010, 800 youth and adults increased their knowledge of the importance of being a person of good character and an ethical employee through a series of Character Counts club programs. The Beauregard 4-H program increased 4-H University enrollment of Beauregard youth 13-19 years old by 25 percent. 4-H enrollment increased by 17 percent during the 2010-11 club year. At 2010 Achievement Day, more than 240 4-H youth received recognition for their mastery for completed project work.



### Agriculture and Natural Resources

Beauregard Parish has ranked second in forestry receipts statewide in 2009 and 2010. The 2011 Southwest Louisiana Forestry Forum educated forest landowners about the state of Louisiana forestry, optimal timber rotations, emerging markets for wood energy, cogon grass and Natural Resources Conservation Service forestry programs. Other forestry programs included a federal timber tax workshop, eucalyptus workshop and adult ATV safety workshop.



Master Gardeners (MG) started its first MG classes for 15 recruits and one of the Beauregard Master Gardeners wrote a curriculum for Advanced Master Gardeners for Louisiana. These Master Gardeners have started a demonstration garden at the Fairgrounds in DeRidder. They are also recruiting speakers for the 2011 state Master Gardener meeting in Lake Charles.

Local beekeepers have partnered with the AgCenter to start the Southwest Louisiana Beekeepers Association, which has seated a board of directors to serve as an advisory committee regarding educational programs for aspiring and experienced beekeepers.

### Family and Consumer Sciences

Parents Preparing for Success programs are provided on a weekly basis to clientele referred by the Department of Child and Family Services. Quarterly programs are provided to the general public on nutrition and health topics at various locations in Beauregard Parish. Last year's programs presented by Family and Consumer Sciences Extension nutrition agents included "Facts about Fat and Fast Food," Smart Choices series of adult and youth lessons and OrganWise lessons for Head Start and elementary youth.

## Beauregard Parish Extension Office

**Address:** P.O. Box 609,  
203 West Third St.  
DeRidder, LA 70634

**Phone:** 337-463-7006

**Fax:** 337-463-7007

**Email:**

Beauregard@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Website:**

LSUAgCenter.com/beauregard

**Office Hours:**

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Keith Hawkins

Parish Chair, Southwest  
Area Forester, County Agent  
khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu

### Mike LaVergne

County Agent, 4-H, Environ-  
mental Science  
mlavergne@agcenter.lsu.edu

### Lisa Johnson

Administrative Coordinator  
ljohnson@agcenter.lsu.edu

## Programs

### 4-H & Youth Development

Livestock Shows  
Shooting Sports  
Challenge Camp  
Hands-on Field Day Activities

### Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

Beef Cattle  
Beekeeping  
Forestry and Wildlife  
Horticulture/Lawns and  
Gardens  
Master Gardeners  
Pest Management

### Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Volunteers for Family and  
Community

**Who we reach:**

Youth: (includes 600 4-H members in 18 school 4-H clubs)  
 Adults: (includes forest landowners from Louisiana and six states); calls and office visits: 1,009; site contacts: 76; meeting contacts: 1,148; emails and postal mailings: 56,772

**How we reach them:**

4-H clubs	Class series
School enrichment	Demonstrations
Field days	Workshops
Newsletters	Websites
Publications	Social media

**Expanding our efforts:**

160 Volunteers - 4-H, Master Gardeners, Volunteers for Family and Community, Southwest Louisiana Forestry Association, Southwest Louisiana Beekeepers Association, Beaugard cattlemen.

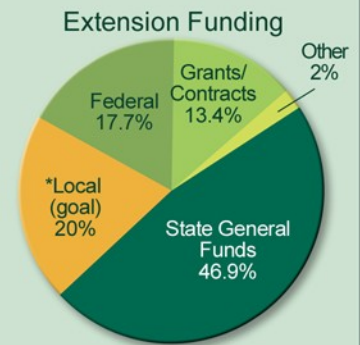
**Parish Facts**

LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, and animal enterprises to Beaugard Parish clientele. The 2010 total dollar amount from these commodities was:

- Plant enterprises - \$59,767,276
- Animal enterprises - \$12,399,781

**Data from the Louisiana Ag Summary Website: [LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary](http://LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary)**

Population - 35,419  
 Land area (acres) - 755,772  
 Persons under 18 years old - 26%  
 Persons 65 years old and over - 13.1%  
 Median household income - \$43,398  
 Persons below poverty - 14%



*\*Local Funding  
 Beaugard Police Jury  
 Beaugard 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.

**Local Issues and Plans for this year**

**1. Promote the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment.**

- Collaboration with Southwest Louisiana Forestry Association to bring an annual forestry forum and other natural resource education: Sponsorship of Teachers Forestry Tour and 4-H Forestry Invitational in West Virginia.
- Deliver a workshop about eucalyptus for landowners.
- Deliver a program to instruct adults on ATV safety.

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

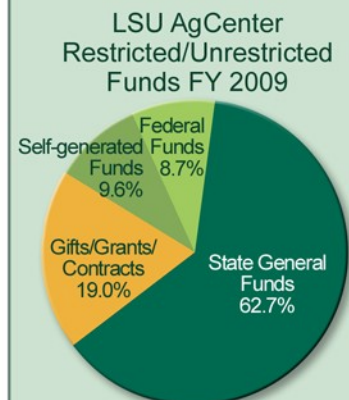
- Advise landowners on optimal timber sale practices.
- Continue providing training for private pesticide applicators. Enable new applicators to obtain licenses.
- Advise producers on safe, effective pest control.
- Support Beaugard Cattlemen's Association by scheduling various livestock and forage specialists.
- Enabling local Master Gardeners to support horticultural education.
- Enabling local beekeepers by providing apiary education.

**3. Build leaders and good citizens through 4-H youth development.**

- Through the assistance of youth and adult volunteers; train club officers on the importance of being a good leader and prepare them to perform their 4-H club officer duties while teaching life skills in various 4-H educational activities.
- Through efforts of Master Gardener volunteers and 4-H volunteers, continue gardening educational activities to help youth increased their knowledge of gardening and plant propagation and learn about healthy living.
- Through the advisory process, continue conducting timely 4-H club educational programs and Field Day activities to meet the 4-H youth development needs.

**4. Strengthen families and communities.**

- Collaborate with the Christian Women's Job Corp to educate young ladies about healthy eating and healthy lifestyles and about careers in horticulture and natural resources.
- Offer Parents Preparing for Success series to Dept. of Family Services clientele.



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