

Madison Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

January— March 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

Family and Consumer Sciences

Families deal with multiple issues in raising children, eating right and spending smart in order to live well. FCS focuses on these issues in providing programs for Madison families. Nutrition education provided through such programs as Families-First Nutrition Education and Wellness Program, Diabetes News and others teach how to make healthier lifestyle choices. Parenting classes teach skills needed to raise children from birth through adolescence. Child care provider training hours enrich both the provider and child care setting. Financial literacy programs help clients manage their money more wisely. Community gardening projects teach the value of food and enhance skills in health, math and social skills for children and parents.



4-H Youth Development

Madison 4-H supports innovative program initiatives to engage a diverse population of youth in learning-by-doing educational experiences. Entering the last year of a five-year grant project, the Reading to the Heart program promotes literacy and social skills of youth and families through a literature-based character development curriculum. The Southern University Y.E.S. program incorporates education and fun to strengthen the youth skills in reading, writing, mathematics and science.



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Madison is located in northeast Louisiana in the heart of the Mississippi River delta. Program efforts include working with innovative producers to utilize precision agricultural farming methods. Many producers are currently using GPS technology on their equipment for auto guidance and yield mapping. LSU AgCenter programming provides training on how to use this technology to benefit their operation. Madison and Tensas county agents assigned to work with geo-spatial technology are currently working with area producers, providing demonstrations in variable rate application and assisting with analysis of yield data to make better management decisions and increase production and profitability.



Madison Parish Extension Office

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Programs

4-H and Youth Development

Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

GIS/GPS

Production Agriculture

Row Crop Production

Animal Production

Environment/Watersheds

Horticulture/Lawns and

Gardens

Pest Management

Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Parents Preparing for Success

Family Resource Management

FNP-Family Nutrition Program

Nutrition and Health

Who we reach.

2850 - Youth (includes 300 4-H Club members in five schools and community outreach programs)

3450 - Adults

227 Ag and Natural Resources
3223 Family and Consumer Sciences

How we reach them:

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

Expanding our efforts:

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

Parish Facts

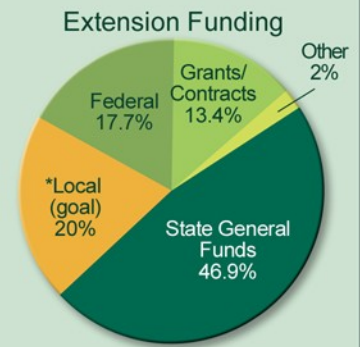
LSU AgCenter county agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to Madison Parish clientele. The 2010 total dollar amount from these commodities was:

- 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

Website: LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary

- Population - 11,385
- Land area (square miles) - 624
- Persons under 18 years old - 27.3%
- Persons 65 years old and over - 11.9%
- Median household income - \$25,788



*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.

Local Issues and 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/verification field to demonstrate benefits of precision agriculture
- Conduct farm and home educational visits from row crop production to backyard gardens

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

- Train Master Gardeners and volunteers to provide leadership to promote school and community gardening projects
- Impress upon 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 development.

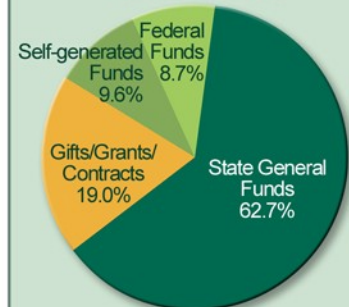
- Collaborate with community partners to enhance year-round learning opportunities for parish youth
- Help 4-H members to build belonging, independence, mastery and generosity through enhanced learning opportunities
- Assist in increasing at-home family involvement in reading and literacy-related activities

4. Strengthen families and communities.

- Assist youth and families with gaining knowledge of how to incorporate healthful foods into their diets
- Help adults learn the importance of establishing healthy eating and physical activities, food safety, budgeting, healthy health practices to prevent chronic diseases and resource management
- Participate with referrals and court-ordered clientele to gain skills needed to raise their children from birth through adolescence



LSU AgCenter Restricted/Unrestricted Funds FY 2009



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site: LSUAgCenter.com