Making a Difference
in Every Corner of the State

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University, delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

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Our success is measured in the improved quality of life and economic well-being of Alabamians.

2012 Annual Report

www.aces.edu
Sustainable Agricultural and Forestry Systems

- $70.4 billion to the state’s economy and 580,295 jobs in agriculture, forestry, and related industries identified in impact study by ACES and the Alabama Agribusiness Council.
- 1.5 million increase for cattle producers and their communities through improved herd genetics.
- $505,267 savings secured for Alabama cattle producers participating in the Alabama Grazing Management Clinics.
- $34.2 million economic impact on state poultry and allied industries with recommendations on energy conservation, bird performance, and structural improvements from the National Poultry Technology Center.
- $3.3 million worth of forage grass savings for producers through Sweep Net Armyworm Surveillance Program.
- 97% of producers participating in pesticide meetings motivated to change production practices.
- $25 million in savings secured for producers who adopt precision farming practices.
- $2 million economic impact generated by vegetable IPM program.
- Approximately 95% of Baldwin County’s 2012 soybean crop valued at $7.5 million safeguarded in part by fungicide recommendations, with an estimated $135,000 loss to growers who failed to spray per suggestions.
- $44,000 gross receipts for Clarke County Farmers Market, an increase of $26,000 over last year.
- Estimated $511,500 saved by producers in Escambia County, Alabama, and Escambia County, Florida, reducing total spray volume by 5 percent.

Safe and Secure Food Supply

- $2.75 million added to Alabama poultry industry through windrow composting; $360,000 with improved footpad quality; $4.5 million with improved processing plant efficiency and nutritional programs; $6 million parts with trim reductions at processing plants.
- 32 small food processors FDA certified through Better Process Control School; 35 products and 70 nutrition facts labels developed.
- 1,084 food service workers certified through ServSafe.
- 285 goat and sheep producers increased profitability by up to 15 percent through the Alabama Ethnic Food Security Network.
- 10,000 people introduced to gardening and home food production through the Cane Creek Community Garden Project in Calhoun County.

Environmental Stewardship

- 50,800 gallons of water saved through Water Wheels interactive mobile learning lab.
- More than 535,000 advanced stocker oysters grown for restoration by volunteers since inception of the Mobile Bay Oyster Gardening Program.
- 141,000 pounds of electronic waste diverted from landfills and $100,000 profit for recyclers through the E-Waste Institute partnership.
- More than 10,000 students increased their interest in and passion for science, renewable energy, and environmental stewardship through the Urban Environmental Sciences Education Program.
- 35,000 students since 1997 increase environmental stewardship standards through Mobile County’s Forest in the Classroom.
- 1,386,000 gallons a year of stormwater diverted from area waterways through the Coastal Alabama Rain Barrel Program.
- Short TV videos alert millions with educational messages about coastal issues and best stewardship practices.

Health and Wellness

- 204 licensed child care providers enrolled in the Family Child Care Partnership received assessment scores of high quality from the National Association of Family Child Care.
- 5,300 people educated about prostate cancer risk factors through community events and health fairs; 10,000 promotional items disseminated; 25 county meetings; 522 attended seminars.
• An estimated $377,280 generated in local economies through PROSPER/CYFAR programs that reduce risky teen behavior and strengthen families.

• 80% of 2,937 limited-resource families improved food decisions and 44% increased physical activity through Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

• 85% of CentSible Nutrition and Have A Healthy Baby participants showed significant improvements in nutritional behavior.

• 1,674 of the 2,477 Alabama third graders in the Body Quest: Food of the Warrior obesity prevention program improved body weight management by eating more fruits and vegetables.

• 96% of 425 Spanish-speaking participants improved nutritional habits through the Urban Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (UEFNEP).

• $71,250 saved by seniors through the Successful Aging initiative health screenings.

• 90% of 3,500 youth in Just Move Alabama reported healthier lifestyle and food choices.

**Workforce Development**

• 20 Gulf Coast seafood processors trained to receive Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) certification.

• 61,820 hours donated to Service Learning Network on behalf of 56 community partners.

• Off-bottom oyster farming developing as a “blue green” industry for Gulf Coast; $60,000 in total sales that fully or partially supported 3 businesses.

• 71 of 871 participants secured jobs through Promoting Readiness for Employment Possibilities (PREP).

• Economic development alliance and strategic plan developed for 5 Alabama Black Belt counties.

• More than 500 east Alabama high school students exposed to career opportunities through Classroom-to-Careers.

• 1,797,981 reached through the online Virtual Entrepreneurship Center with training to rural, nontraditional, and underserved populations.

• 40 Cullman County residents prepared to become farming entrepreneurs through Farming 101.

• $80,000 in 70 scholarships awarded to students through the Jackson County Leadership Development Program.

• Vietnamese-American fishermen on the Gulf Coast certified as commercial fishing vessel safety drill conductors through AUMERC and Sea Grant courses.

**Financial Literacy**

• 1,150 limited-resource individuals improved money management, stress conflict, and communication skills through face-to-face Family Advocacy through Caring Engagement Strategies (FACES); 11,034 others received information.

• 7,181 youth improved knowledge of budgeting, lifestyle choices, and careers in Financial Education for Youth, known as Reality Check.

• 89% of the 784 participants in the Consumers Score with Credit in Check Through Responsible Spending program changed negative spending behavior within 3 to 5 months.

**4-H and Youth Development**

• 107,246 benefited from Alabama 4-H—34,905 in clubs; 25,278 at 4-H Center; 47,063 in youth development programs.

• $2.1 million worth of time provided by 2,627 volunteers in 4-H programs.

• 5,500 urban youth participated in the National 4-H Council—funded Health Rocks program with 9 of 10 expressing confidence that they will say “no” to drugs and alcohol.

• More than 2,300 military youth reached through Operation Military Kids.

• 5,474 youth master new skills in 15 subject areas at Alabama 4-H Center.

• 4,600 learn gardening, science, health, community service in 4-H Master Gardeners.

• 500 youth in 7 counties participated in 18 4-H Robotics Clubs, supported in part by Lockheed Martin.

• 300 military professionals and families assisted with quality of life issues and other critical needs at St. Clair County Military Fair.
ACES Administrative Team

Gary Lemme, Extension Director
109 Duncan Hall, Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-4444  glemme@aces.edu

Paul Brown, Associate Director
109 Duncan Hall, Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-4444  pbrown@aces.edu

Virginia Caples, 1890 Administrator
P.O. Box 967, Alabama A&M University
Normal, AL 35762
(256) 372-5710  caplevi@aces.edu

Colvia Stovall, Associate Director, Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs
P.O. Box 967, Alabama A&M University
Normal, AL 35762
(256) 372-5710  ces0038@aces.edu

Chris McClendon, Director, Human Resources and Strategic Partner Initiative
119 Duncan Hall, Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-5326  mcclecm@aces.edu

Stacey Walker, Director, Financial Services
117 Duncan Hall, Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-5326  swalker@aces.edu

For information about programs, to volunteer, or ask a question, call or go by your county Extension office. Look in your telephone directory under your county’s name to find the number.

To reach state headquarters, call Auburn University at (334) 844-4444 or Alabama A&M University at (256) 372-5710. To send a question to your local Extension agent, visit www.aces.edu/questions/

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