

UF/IFAS Extension, St. Johns County

2021 Annual Report

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Note From the Director

As we reflect on the challenges and successes in 2021, I would like to thank you for your continued support. Agents, support staff and volunteers in our office have the education, training and the experience necessary to provide unbiased, scientifically sound educational information for the citizens of St. Johns County. When you have questions, we will help you find the answers. Please feel free to stop by, call, email or visit us on the web at <http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu>. In this Annual Report, you will find selected economic impacts, awards and programmatic highlights that benefited St. Johns County.

Timothy W. Wilson, Director
St. Johns County Cooperative Extension

Selected Economic Impacts

- Received more than **\$199,603 in grants** to support programming.
- Agents working through collaborating partners received **in-kind/monetary donations** with a value of **\$35,548**.
- Volunteers donated 10,112 hours** to St. Johns County residents to assist programming. This is equivalent to **\$266,147** of value (based on 2020 Independent Sector data; \$26.32/hr.) or **4 full-time and 1 three quarter time employees for 1 year**.
- Agents developed **326 unbiased, scientifically sound, educational pieces** for the public related to their subject matter.

Awards/Honors

- Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents - Achievement Award (P. Fletcher)
- UF/IFAS Extension - Blogger Award: Central District Freshness Award (T. Freeman)
- Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents - Search for Excellence in Livestock Production - Equine Institute (T. Wilson - Team Award)
- National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences - Excellence in Multi-State Collaboration Award - (W. Lynch - Team Award)

Meet our Team

Tim Wilson	Director, Production Ag Agent
Prissy Fletcher	Commercial Ag Agent
Terra Freeman	Commercial/Residential Horticulture Agent
Julia Kelly	4-H Youth Development Agent
Allie Anderson	4-H Youth Development Agent
Wendy Lynch	RSA/FCS and Food Systems Agent
Amy Law	Office Manager - Admin Spec.
Harriet Fleming	Administrative Support Asst.
Kellie Anderson	4-H Program Assistant
Joe Kirby	Horticulture Program Assistant
Angela Barrineau	Custodial Worker
Margret Cruz	FNP Extension Program Manager
Kathy Ponce	FNP Extension Educator
Susan Layfield	FNP Extension Educator
Geralyn Sachs	Hosting - Central Dist. 4-H RSA
Greg Dunn	Hosting - Florida Forestry Service

Selected 2021 Programmatic Highlights



- Fifteen-hundred and ninety-two (1,592) students and thirty-six (36) teachers participated in the **UF/IFAS Chicken Embryology Projects**, that is led by our 4-H Agent. Teachers who participated in the project reported that students gained a deeper understanding of the life cycle and needs of a developing embryo, increased skills in observation and recording data, and increased their love of science.
- Our Horticulture agent **partnered with St. Johns County Librarian** to create 5 interview videos for social media for their segment on **Edible Gardening in St. Johns County** that included topics such as composting, fertilizer, and organic gardening.
- Our Production Agriculture Agent conducting **49 logged flights** for a duration of **7 hours and 4 minutes** using UAS (drones) for various research and demonstration projects that included potatoes, artichokes, sweet corn, sunflowers, pastures, sweet potatoes, sod, fresh market green beans and pumpkins in the Tri-county Area.
- As the **4-H State Archery Chair**, one of our 4-H Agents planned, coordinated, and managed two state archery matches. A total of 59 youth from around the state participated in these matches. By youth participating in 4-H Shooting Sports, they learn environmental science, decision making, engineering, personal safety, and communication skills.
- The UF/IFAS Extension Associate Dean for Ag Programs recruited our Commercial Agriculture Agent to participate in the **statewide pesticide leadership team – PEET (pesticide extension education team)**. This group helps to train other agents on how to offer exams and CEU programs, while **updating our clients on new pesticide laws and label changes**. The agent was chosen for her background in pesticide fate and transport in citrus.
- Two hundred (200) participants attended 24 community education, health and wellness classes such as **“Lets Walk Florida”, “Exploring your Health Indicators – Inflammation and Diseases webinar”, “Nutrition for Women”, and “Elements of Healthy Aging”**, led by our Family and Consumer Sciences/ Food Systems agent.
- **The Hastings Triage Lab**, managed by our Commercial Ag Agent provided diagnostics for 66 crop and soil samples, including eggplant, potatoes, artichokes, beans, soil sniffing for fumigants, and processing Brassica samples.
- One-hundred and forty-six (146) participants attended 4 **Florida-Friendly Landscaping workshops** taught by UF/IFAS Extension SJC Horticulture Department. Participants learned about selecting the right plant for the right place, plant morphology and identification, and mangroves.
- In collaboration with UF/IFAS NFREC-Live Oak, the Commercial Ag Agent teamed up with local extension agents and Harrell’s Fertilizer to conduct a trial utilizing **controlled-release fertilizers in snapbeans**. Bean production is expanding and is up to 500 acres in SJC.
- **Our Horticulture Agent trained fifteen (15) participants for the 2021 Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) Training program**. This program provided over 50 hours of education and hands-on training to participants, who will in turn, donate 75 hours of volunteer service during their first year as MGVS to educational gardening programs and projects throughout the county.
- Two-hundred and ninety-six (296) participants attended two in-service trainings for Extension faculty and health and nutrition related professionals, **Elements of Health Aging Dietary Guidelines for Americans: Recommendations for Adults for Healthy Aging and Building Bodies and Balance: Healthy Aging Programs** taught by our FCS/Food Systems Agent.
- Our Production Ag Agent assisted the State-wide **Livestock Education and Certification for Agriculture Law Enforcement (LECALE)** by providing educational materials related to body condition scoring and Animal Handling to 25 Agriculture Deputies from 19 Florida Sheriff’s Departments.
- The Commercial Ag and Food Systems Extension Agents took the **4-H Pumpkin Project** youth to the St. Augustine Amphitheater’s Farmer’s Market on October 30th. The youth acquired survey data, from more than 200 participants, on the public’s most eye-catching pumpkin variety grown by HAEC. From this data we learned that the ‘Porcelain Doll’ variety was the fan favorite.
- Fifty-Eight (58) attendees took part in the St. Johns County **4-H Holiday Craft Teaching Night** where youth and adult volunteers partnered in teaching a variety of crafts. This event required the craft teachers to use their communication and public speaking skills and the learners to utilize their problem solving, creativity and decision-making skills.

