

QUARTERLY NARRATIVE

McIntosh County Extension
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October - December 2020

Crystal Schaunaman - Agriculture
Vacant – Family & Community Wellness
McIntosh County Extension

NDSU

EXTENSION
 McINTOSH COUNTY

The NDSU Extension Service extends education to North Dakota residents of all ages and walks of life. The PURPOSE of Extension is to create learning partnerships that help adults and youth enhance their lives and communities. The VISION of Extension is to be the premier lifelong education network that helps North Dakotans improve their quality of life. Extension ACHIEVES their purpose and vision through diverse programs and partnerships that extend research, technology and knowledge to many audiences.

AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY, YOUTH, HORTICULTURE & GENERAL EXTENSION

By: Crystal Schaunaman

Agriculture/Community

Fall Meetings

Generally during this time-frame McIntosh County hosts the Ag Appreciation Banquet and beef backgrounding meeting and I travel to various in-service trainings on a wide variety of topics. Covid-19 cancelled the fall meetings for the most part and in-service trainings have been held via Zoom or other remote learning platforms since the whole state was in a high risk designation until January when it was moved to 'yellow' meaning moderate risk. 2020 Harvest Bowl winners – Gary and Cindy Jenner will receive their awards at the 2021 Harvest Bowl.

General Ag

Lots of questions regarding silage and alternative feeds, grazing crop aftermath, rations, hay sampling, ruminant affect on soil microbes after grazing cover crops, supplementing on pasture and crop aftermath, soil problems, weed identification, crop varieties, websoil survey, and custom feeding economics.

The beautiful fall weather allowed producers to work on lots of 'extra' farm projects which normally get pushed to the side. This allowed for several months of extended grazing and late weaning for some. As the price of corn continues to climb some producers have asked about rations with a substitution for corn. Producers have also begun to request new variety trial guides, custom and rental rates, the new crop budgets, etc. I also helped find several producers with wet corn or earlage who were willing to participate in a three state research project. Karl Hoppe and I collected samples from each and will continue to do so throughout the winter.

County Conditions, Correspondence

I continue to provide weekly agriculture condition reports to National Ag Statistics, do various radio interviews as requested, and complete local FSA yield reports and native/seeded grass and annual small grain forage condition reports. I attend Soil Conservation District meetings when requested along with monthly Ashley Chamber of Commerce and JDA meetings (when they are held).

NDSU EXTENSION

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE >> CHANGING LIVES

Virtual NDSU Extension Update for District 28



Crystal Schaunaman
McIntosh County



Sheldon Gerhardt
Logan County



Acacia Stuckle
Emmons County



Emily Trzpic
Emmons County

Legislative Update

A legislative district 28 meeting was held virtually October 15, 2020. We provided an update from Logan, Emmons and McIntosh County Extension offices. Each agent spoke about a segment of our programming which let us highlight a specific area a bit more in-depth. Although we had a small audience online the information, questions and feedback were excellent! The session was recorded for anyone wishing to view later.

4-H & Youth Development

4-H Awards, 4-H Council meetings & New Year

Another 4-H year ended and a new one began the beginning of September. The 2019/20 year ended with 66 enrolled members and 8 leaders. So far for 2020/21 we have 55 members and 8 leaders. We had plans to hold an in-person awards banquet, following proper Covid guidelines but that all changed when the state moved to the 'orange category' the week before our event. In the end we held a virtual awards banquet and announced winners, recognized leaders, and showcased pictures of youth from throughout the year. Gifts, plaques and premium checks were then distributed by individual appointment in Ashley and Wishek.

Clubs are continuing to meet both small group and virtually as leaders can appropriately and safely schedule. As the old year ended and the new one began, Patti did a great job collecting everyone's year-end paperwork and answering enrollment questions. We also did our best to help find creative ways for leaders to have meetings virtually by sharing ideas. Two 4-H Council meetings were held during this time also to discuss regular business and to plan the awards banquet including gifts and recognition. Archery has begun in Wishek with lots of renewed interest from members throughout the county. I look forward to helping facilitate this program and will probably be seeking grant funding again for more equipment.

Upcoming McIntosh County Events

Crop Meeting/Commodity Elections

Tuesday, January 26, Ashley Legion, 3-5 p.m.

Beef Nutrition Q/A Panel

Friday, February 5, Wishek Legion, 10 a.m.

Pesticide Trainings

February/March 2020— In-person and a virtual option. Letters will be sent

*As of January, meetings will be held using these guidelines

Yellow County Designation

 <p>Mask required when cannot social distance* <small>*Governor's and local mask mandates overrule</small></p>	 <p>Maximum 100 ppl or 50% room occupancy</p>	 <p>Extension events with >25 ppl – DD approval</p>
 <p>Sanitize restrooms every 2 hours</p>	 <p>4-H club approval by Extension agent</p>	 <p>Food allowed Lines must social distance <small>Boxed, served, or plated meals only</small></p>

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MEETINGS/EVENTS HELD/ATTENDED

October 2020

- 5-9: Lead21 Conference
- 12: Legislative Planning meeting, Annie's Project national meeting, Lead21 small group
- 14: Commissioner meeting, Lead21 small group
- 15: Legislative Meeting for District 28 via zoom
- 16: JDA meeting
- 19: Lead NDAAEA Ag Economics meeting
- 20: Personal & Family Finance meeting, Tri-County Fairboard
- 22: Ag Outlook for Lenders
- 26: Financial Counseling small group discussion
- 27-29: Virtual Extension Fall Conference
- 30: Tools for small business webinar, radio interview

November 2020

- 2: Commodity Election webinar
- 3: Lead Farm Business Management meeting
- 5: Central District update
- 9: Lead21 coaching session, PEARS advisory meeting
- 10: 4-H Council meeting
- 12: Livestock Risk Management meeting, NDSU Extension program planning meeting
- 17: Mental Health Awareness conference
- 18: State of the ND Economy conference
- 19: Estate Planning workshop
- 22: McIntosh County 4-H Award Ceremony via zoom
- 30: DYSP team meeting

December 2020

- 1: NDCISA Crop Improvement meeting, Income Tax Management workshop
- 3: Central District update, Pesticide/Commodity Election planning meeting
- 4: Tri-County agent planning meeting
- 7: Virtual Training on communication, evaluation, teaching virtually DIRT WORKSHOP, SCD meeting,
- 9: Facilitate virtual small group for DIRT workshop
- 10: Ashley Chamber of Commerce meeting
- 15: Pesticide/Commodity Election In-Service
- 16: Lead Statewide Annie's Project planning meeting
- 21: Lead Statewide Annie's Project planning meeting
- 22: Beef Meeting in Wishek – cancelled (no registrations), collected earlage and wet corn samples in the county
- 29: Quad county pesticide, crop and beef planning meeting

State & General Extension Projects

Statewide Extension Teams & Programs

Extension teams are charged with creating plans for other agents to use to deliver programs in the new year. As the co-lead of the personal and family finance as well as farm business management teams we updated several plans including Design Your Succession Plan, Annie's Project, Risk Management and farm bill programs. These plans are entered into our Extension reporting system called PEARS, which I also sit on the advisory board for. As part of these teams we also make sure to create in-service opportunities for Extension agents. I also lead the ND Ag Extension Agents ag economics sub-committee which held a meeting and submitted a report for our annual meeting which was held during our virtual Extension fall conference. As part of all of these groups I continue to help develop useful resources for ND producers. I also helped draft a statewide survey to capture the affect of NDSU Extension's efforts towards educating producers about the farm bill signup which happened the first part of 2020. McIntosh County held two meetings in the county last spring to help provide guidance, along with providing one on one assistance.

Annie's Project

I continue as the state coordinator for Annie's Project. I am currently in the process of providing guidance for teaching Annie's Project in 2021, including two virtual listening session which were held in December for Extension agents. During December ten new agents were trained as Annie's Project facilitators which was exciting for ND. The national Annie's group has issued guidance and approval for offering these workshops virtually in our Covid-19 environment. I am optimistic that several counties throughout the state will offer this valuable program in 2021.

Design Your Succession Plan

I continue to be part of the Design Your Succession Plan (DYSP) program team. We have created a distance learning opportunity for producers who cannot attend an in-person program. The program will be delivered using a flipped classroom style of instruction. Participants will receive the binder and workbook but all content will be delivered to their email weekly. These emails will include links to short videos (voiced over PowerPoints) and instructions on what workbook pages or resources to review. Every week for three weeks, there will be a one-hour Zoom meeting in which participants can join to take part in the more interactive pieces of the program. The registration cost of the program will be \$80 and the live Zoom meetings will be March 4, 11, and 18 from 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. CST. I plan to advertise this opportunity here in McIntosh County.

Mentoring & Performance Appraisals

I agreed to mentor returning Extension employee Tyler Kralicek, Burleigh County Agriculture Extension Agent. Tyler had formerly been in Burleigh County for a year. His decision to return was based on various family reasons and he was one of the agents I helped to hire during my interim District Director role. Mentoring him has provided me an opportunity to reflect on how Extension has changed in the short time since Tyler left until now.

I have been working to complete my Extension year-end reports and will begin preparing for my yearly performance appraisal to be held with our new District Director, Dena Kemmet. I look forward to this and will be inviting a commissioner to attend when the date is set.

Office News

NDSU Extension employees are still being encouraged to work remotely due to Covid-19, which I have been doing. Patti Herr, administrative assistant is also working remotely during this time (as of January will be on maternity leave). Calls have been forwarded to our phones and we are handling any face to face questions, deliveries, etc. that needs to happen while the physical office is closed. Patti continues to be in contact via email with 4-H families, post on Facebook both 4-H related and other items, working on records retention of computer files, along with preparing as much as possible for the upcoming pesticide season. She also spent quite a bit of time getting ready for the 4-H awards banquet, which in the end was held virtually. Crystal still picks up the mail and visits the office when items are needed or copies need to be printed.

Patti had originally been due to have her baby the end of January but got a New Year's surprise on December 28! While early, her baby girl Eleanor is doing great.



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